HKCS IT Career Expo 2016

Attracting over 1,000 admissions for the latest news of IT industry development

Hong Kong, 2 April 2016 – The HKCS IT Career Expo 2016, organised by the Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS), was held today at the Hong Kong Productivity Council. The event yielded a very enthusiastic response, attracting over 1,000 students, fresh graduates, and young people in search for insights into the IT industry and their careers.

The IT Career Expo 2016 is co-organised by the Hong Kong Computer Society along with the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) and the Education Bureau's Business-School Partnership Programme. Aiming to provide information to people at different stages of their career through lectures, panels, and exhibitions addressing employment, entrepreneurship, and continuing education, the event simultaneously encourages young people and graduates to choose IT as their career. More than 450 IT-related job vacancies were offered today by the exhibitors to over 1,000 attendees.

At the opening ceremony, Mrs. Agnes Mak, MH, JP, Executive Director of HKPC shared her perspective on a career in the IT industry "The IT industry is rapidly developing. The time in which new technology are born has moved from 3 years to merely 3 days. Practitioners are continuously chasing and learning making our jobs extremely attractive." She furthered, "IT has disrupted different industries' operations and business model; hence, not only do we have to master new technologies, we have to solve problems from an user-centric perspective."

Mr. Chris Tam, Chairperson of the Hong Kong Computer Society's Youth Club opened the event by sharing, "We hope that through today's expo, we can deepen understanding for the IT industry, attract young talent and encourage them to pursue IT as their lifelong career."

Attending the IT Career Expo 2016 this year are over 30 multinational corporations, institutions, and IT companies, including: Cathay Pacific Airways, Octopus Holdings Limited, Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Limited Cisco Systems Inc., CLP Power Hong Kong Limited, and PCCW Limited. In addition, participating institutions also provided career training, information sessions and advisory services for the attendees.

An "Entrepreneurship Zone" comprised of major exhibitors such as CityU Apps Lab, Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation shared tips on funding and support to prospective entrepreneurs.

Exhibitor, cherrypicks, a mobile marketing and innovation company, shared that "the greatest demand is in hiring Application Developers and Quality Assurance Engineer, both requiring knowledge in and passion for app development." cherrypicks representative further shared these positions are more than merely writing apps but "require the soft skills that allow for effective communication and teamwork."

CITIC Telecom International CPC Limited shared that they hope fresh graduates going into their 3 branches: IT Network, IT Security and Cloud Computing, are willing to travel and relocate. Apart from the necessary IT background, they must possess the "can do" and "will succeed" attitude in order to adapt to the fast paced industry,

In addition to exhibiting companies, the IT Career Expo 2016 invited IT professionals, IT entrepreneurs, and other speakers to host career talks to engage participants in deeper discussions on industry perspectives, entrepreneurship, and continuing education. The speakers targeted and introduced upcoming industries such as FinTech, digital marketing, and mobile application, allowing the audience to increase their understanding of these new industries as a way participate in the future development of these sectors.

Many industry experts and young entrepreneurs from the IT industry including:.**Mr. Donald Chan**, Senior Vice President, cherrypicks; **Dr. Ray Cheung**, Director, CityU Apps Lab and Associate Professor, Department of Electronic Engineering, City University of Hong Kong; **Mr. Ken Chu**, Founder, Openball; **Ms. Vicky Wong**, Business Development Manager, YouFind; **Mr. Baniel Cheung**, Honorary Assistant Professor, The University of Hong Kong; **Dr. Jacky Ting**, Practice Leader (Digital Solutions), PCCW Solutions Limited; **Mr. Alex Cheung**, Director of Platform Strategy, Infocast Limited; **Mr. Leo Tong**, General Manager, Wellchamp Capital Limited & Vice Chairperson, Financial Technologies Special Interest Group, Hong Kong Computer Society; **Mr. Teddy Lo**, Vice President of Corporate Solutions and Business Development, HKT Ltd; **Dr. Abraham Lam**, Director, Mega Automation Limited; and **Ms. Regina Chan**, Marketing Manager, Recruit & Company Limited, attended the expo, giving valuable insights and experience to the attendees.

The IT Career Expo 2016 attracted job seekers, graduates, and students interested in pursuing a career in the IT sector. The attendees actively participated in on-site interviews, talks, and discussions to better prepare themselves for their future career planning and development. Exhibitors were also satisfied with the event's outcome, as they were able to find suitable candidates from on-site interviews and through in-person intellectual exchange.

Photo 1:

(From left to right) **Mr. Angus Ho**, Marketing Executive of Recruit & Company Limited; **Mr. Victor Kwok**, Senior School Development Officer, Education Bureau, The Government of the HKSAR; **Mrs. Agnes Mak**, MH, JP, Executive Director of Hong Kong Productivity Council; **Ms. Nicole Wong**, Chairperson of the IT Career Expo 2016 Organizing Committee and **Mr. Chris Tam**, Chairperson of Hong Kong Computer Society's Youth Club demonstrate their support for and kick starts the I.T. Career Expo 2016 with insightful speeches.

Photo 2:

Over 1,000 students, fresh graduates and young people actively engaged in seminars, onsite job interviews and career consultation.

Photo 3:

Participants benefitted from the sharing of ICT practitioners.

Photo 4:

Young people receive career consultation in search for insight into their potential career development.

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For media enquiry, please contact

DT Communications	Hong Kong Computer Society
Christy Leung	Chun Law
Tel: 36966939	Tel: 28342228
Email: christy.leung@dt-asia.com	Email: chunlaw@hkcs.org.hk