

Feedback to
Government's Public Consultation on 2004 Digital 21 Strategy

Hong Kong Trade Development Council has circulated the government's consultation paper on Digital 21 Strategy to members of the ICT Advisory Committee and urged them to contribute their inputs.

Many members have indicated that they would submit their opinion directly to the government from their respective industry organisations. Two members have provided their feedback to TDC. Inputs of these two members are included in following pages for the review of the government.

(1) **Comments received from Mr. Hubert Ng (CEO, Hong Kong CSL Limited)**

- To leverage the establishment of new information infrastructure at the Cyberport to sustain HK as the leading position of IT & Telecom Industry in Asia, and act as the showcase for other countries.
- The Wireless Solution Development Centre at the Cyberport could provide the latest market and technical information to Wireless Software Developers to enable them to develop innovative applications with the most up-to-date technology.
- The Govt. could set up the Intellectual Property Trading Centre to protect HK's IT Development and prevent Pirating Issues.
- In view of the Pearl River Delta Integration and the implementation of CEPA in HK, there should be lots of opportunities for the IT industry to explore new business areas. Besides, this policy should also attract overseas high-tech companies to invest in HK's IT and Telecom industry.
- In terms of digital broadcasting, the industry should accelerate the steps to finalize the adoption of technology standard, licensing approach and transition arrangements from analogue to digital broadcasting. There are three prevailing technical standards for digital broadcasting: Advanced Television System Committee (ATSC) standard of the US, the Digital Video Broadcasting - Terrestrial (DVB-T) of Europe, and the Integrated Services Digital Broadcasting - Terrestrial (ISDB -T) standard of Japan. Singapore has already conducted trials on all three systems in 1998 and decided to adopt the European standard. China has recently tried to adopt the European standard for 10Mn cable TV subscribers. Thus, we should also learn the experiences from overseas and adopt our own technology standard in HK. We should also leverage the technical standard that China is adopting for future expansion of broadcasting services in China.