

To: Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting
From: Arcotect Limited
Date: 16 May 2014
Subject: Establish a unified information and communications technology professional recognition framework

Honorary Chairman, Legco councilors,

- 1) Arcotect is a local IT company with 100 staffs in HK since 2001.
- 2) We support to establish the unified information and communications technology professional recognition framework **資訊及通訊科技專業認可架構**
- 3) Today all vertical industries no matter banking & finance, logistics, retails, healthcare... even SME, the competitiveness of these companies and HK at large are crucial by IT providing up-to-time information to facilitate management, and make this information available to clients.
- 4) In order for HK to stay competitive, we must have sufficient IT workforce on supply side.
- 5) Companies understand they need IT to survive, and are competing limited resources. A fresh graduate starting salary has jet up to 12k+ and 1-year experience is asking for 18k, 4yrs experience demands 30k. Even if I have to pay them because of no choice, it doesn't mean the conduct of the staff can be verified and monitored.
- 6) This phenomenon is caused by the general public, as users, don't see the importance of IT and don't encourage their children to study IT and we are way under supply of IT professionals.
- 7) We hope by establishing a unified information and communications technology (ICT) professional recognition framework, parents and students can clearly see the career path and future as an IT professional. In a long run, encourage more students to major in IT in university and as a career. Gradually it will increase the supply of software engineers and programmers indirectly advance all vertical industries in HK.
- 8) As a World City, we also hope we can communicate with overseas and mainland partners/clients about IT resources on the same page.
- 9) It is also a branding of HK as the Government claimed that we are the IT Hub of Asia. We are getting slow and sooner or later will fall behind Singapore if we don't groom IT people like we did in the 90'.
- 10) Our staffs also don't want additional exams for a qualification framework like Mainland; we welcome the proposed framework, which is mapping the current certification organizations to certain standard.

- 11) More important, the code of conduct of IT professionals will have a monitoring system like engineers. In a way it is important when we enforce IP Rights, data security, etc.
- 12) Arcotect supports to have an ICT Professional Certification on top of different fragmented IT certs. However, there is one minor suggestion: we hope the certification organization will have IT SME representative(s).

Best Regards,



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Chief Operating Officer,
Arcotect Limited