

**Public policy/industry development researches on the information technology and telecommunications industries
conducted in January 2002 to December 2004**

	Responsible bureau / department	Title of research	Scope	Reason for conducting the research	Year of study	Cost¹
1.	Commerce, Industry & Technology Bureau (CITB)/ Office of Telecom- munications Authority (OFTA)	Consultancy study for the OFTA on compatibility and interoperability between DMB-T standard and DVB-T standard	To conduct a study on compatibility and interoperability between DMB-T standard and DVB-T standard.	To enable OFTA to make informed decision on the standards to be adopted for digital terrestrial television broadcasting.	2002	\$1.3M
2.	CITB	Hong Kong Software Industry Survey 2002	To collect data on the profile of local independent software vendors.	To help the bureau formulate promotion strategies for the local software industry.	2002-03	\$0.28M
3.	Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC)	An IT and Economic Study on the Future of Hong Kong Air Cargo Industry: Long-term Impact of WTO Accession and Direct Links ²	To examine (a) the long-term economic impact of China's accession to the WTO and direct links between Mainland and	To help the industry gear up to meet the challenges arising from China's accession to the WTO and future development of direct links between the Mainland and Taiwan; to	2002-03	\$0.87M

¹ "Not Applicable (N.A.)" if study was conducted in house.

² This study was funded under the General Support Programme of the Innovation and Technology Fund.

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			Taiwan on the air cargo industry in Hong Kong; and (b) the logistics and IT infrastructure needs within the same context to help the local industry to become more competitive.	identify areas that are losing competitiveness in the air cargo industry, and investigate plausible efforts that can be initiated to support and strengthen its competitiveness.		
4.	CITB	Annual Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Business Sector 2002	To assess the extent of usage and penetration of IT in the business sector.	To update the bureau on the current usage of IT in the business sector and help it formulate programmes/ initiatives to promote further IT adoption among local companies.	2002	\$1.6M
5.	CITB/OFTA	Economic consultancy on pricing flexibility	To develop guidelines for assessing whether tariff proposals by PCCW-HKT are likely to have anti-competitive effects in the context of	To help OFTA assess the tariff regime of the local telecommunications industry, and assess tariff proposals from operators.	2002	\$0.8M

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			an assessment of the appropriate tariff regime, given the competition in Hong Kong telecom market.			
6.	CITB	Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Household Sector 2002	To assess the extent of usage and penetration of IT among local households.	To update the bureau on the current usage of IT among local households and help it formulate programmes/ initiatives to raise IT literacy of the community.	2002	\$1.25M
7.	Central Policy Unit (CPU)	Hong Kong's Creative Industries	To conduct the first baseline study on Hong Kong's creative industries, which include IT-related industries like digital entertainment, software and computing.	To map out the existing position of the creative industries in Hong Kong and assess their potential for growth.	2002-03	\$1.3M
8.	CITB/OFTA	Consultancy study on	To conduct a	To ensure that Hong Kong	2002-03	\$1.2M

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		international comparison of Hong Kong's telecommunications market development and effectiveness of liberalization policy and regulation	comparative study on the state of development of the telecommunications markets in Hong Kong and other regions, and the effectiveness of liberalization policy in promoting their growth.	maintains its competitiveness internationally.		
9.	CITB/OFTA	Consultancy study on the comparison of the technical capacity, performance and capability of local fixed and mobile networks in Hong Kong with the international best practices under emergency and severe weather condition.	To conduct a study on the network quality and capacity in terms of Grade of Service, network availability and loading, call handling capability, blocking probability, spare network capacity to handle traffic upsurge etc. of fixed and mobile networks in Hong Kong in comparison with the	To help CITB/OFTA formulate measures to improve the quality and capacity of the local fixed and mobile networks to better cope with telecommunications usage requirement under emergency and severe weather condition.	2002	\$0.6M

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			widely adopted best practices in other developed economies/ countries.			
10.	CITB/OFTA	Consultancy study on competition guidelines for merger and acquisitions	To conduct a study on the guidelines adopted in the market for merger and acquisitions.	To obtain inputs for compiling OFTA guidelines.	2002-03	\$1.2M
11.	OFTA	Review of Plug and Socket System for Connection of Single-Line Customer Premises Equipment to Direct Exchange Lines	To conduct a study on the plug and socket systems available in the market for connection of single-line customer premises equipment to direct exchange lines.	To enable OFTA to make recommendations on the adoption of the RJ system as the plug and socket standard in Hong Kong.	2002-03	N.A.
12.	Trade and Industry Department (TID)	Developing a business support program for	To compile a business guidebook on various	To enhance the competitiveness of SMEs	2002-03	\$0.41M

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		Hong Kong software developers ³	business operational matters.	in the IT industry.		
13.	OFTA	Review of Certification and Labelling Arrangements for Telecommunications Apparatus	To conduct a study on existing and potential certification and labelling arrangements for telecommunications apparatus.	To enable OFTA to review the certification and labelling arrangements in the light of the commencement of the new Exemption Order.	2003	N.A.
14.	CITB/OFTA	Consultancy study in relation to accounting separation for third generation (3G) mobile services	To identify and define components , nature and drivers of the costs and revenues of the 3G mobile services for accounting separation.	To help CITB/OFTA to formulate policy and regulations on accounting separation for 3G mobile services.	2003-04	\$1.1M
15.	OFTA	Technical Standard for Fixed Line Short Message Service (FLSMS)	To give an overview of available FLSMS technologies.	To facilitate standards setting for FLSMS in Hong Kong.	2003-04	N.A.

³ This project was funded by the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Development Fund.

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16.	CITB	Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Household Sector 2003	To assess the extent of usage and penetration of IT among local households.	To update the bureau on the current usage of IT among local households and help it formulate programmes/ initiatives to raise IT literacy of the community.	2003	\$1.2M
17.	CITB	Annual Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Business Sector 2003	To assess the extent of usage and penetration of IT in the business sector.	To update the bureau on the current usage of IT in the business sector and help it formulate programmes/ initiatives to promote further IT adoption among local companies.	2003	\$1.4M
18.	CITB	Hong Kong Software Industry Survey 2003	To collect data on the profile of local independent software vendors.	To help the bureau formulate promotion strategies for the local software industry.	2003-04	\$0.28M

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19.	CITB/OFTA	Consultancy study on review of the regulatory policy for Type II interconnection	To conduct a study on the effect of the regulatory policy on Type II interconnection on the development of telecommunications market in Hong Kong.	To provide inputs for the review of the regulatory policy on Type II interconnection.	2003-04	\$0.9M
20.	CITB	Survey on Open Source Software (OSS) Adoption in Hong Kong	To monitor the extent of OSS adoption among companies in Hong Kong.	To provide information for formulating OSS promotion strategies.	2003-04	\$0.36M
21.	Office of Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO)	Pilot Sound Portal of Government Websites	To study the feasibility of providing interactive text-to-speech service for selective information on Government websites and set up a pilot sound portal for four Government websites that have information of	To enhance the access of disadvantaged groups, in particular the visually impaired and senior citizens, to online information disseminated through Government websites (the portal delivers web content in Cantonese, Putonghua	2003-04	\$1.74M

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			public interest.	and English).		
22.	CITB/OFTA	Regulation of Internet Protocol (IP) Telephony --- Consultation Paper issued on 4 October 2004	To collect public views on the regulation of IP telephony in Hong Kong.	To help CITB/OFTA formulate regulatory policy that keeps pace with the international development on emerging IP telephony.	2003-05	N.A.
23.	ITC	Consultation on the New Strategy of Innovation and Technology Development	To collect public views on the new strategic framework for innovation and technology development.	To further promote the development of innovation and technology in Hong Kong and improve the relevance of applied R&D to the needs of the industry.	2004	N.A.
24.	CITB/OFTA	Consultancy study in relation to the application for a declaration of non-dominance by PCCW-HKT Telephone Ltd for business direct	To conduct a market analysis, including the design of customer surveys, and prepare expert reports on the analysis of the dominance of PCCW-HKT Telephone	To help CITB/OFTA assess the application from PCCW-HKT Telephone Ltd.	2004	\$1.6M

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		exchange line and residential direct exchange line	Ltd for business direct exchange line and residential direct exchange line.			
25.	OGCIO	Digital Entertainment Industry Specific Profile Research	To examine the current development of the local digital entertainment industry.	To help OGCiO better understand the latest state of development of the local digital entertainment industry and formulate promotion strategies.	2004	\$0.28M
26.	TID	Linux Patch Management System Linux ⁴	To develop an online information system on open source patch information of common business IT applications.	To enhance the competitiveness of Hong Kong's SMEs in general, including the IT industry.	2004-05	\$0.6M
27.	CITB/OFTA	Consultancy study on the prospect of issuing	To conduct a study on the potential impact of	To help CITB/OFTA review its policy in	2004	\$1.2M

⁴ This project was funded by the SME Development Fund.

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		a new licence for the provision of mobile telecommunications services in Hong Kong	issuing a new licence on the local mobile telecommunications market.	licensing of mobile telecommunications services in HK.		
28.	CITB	Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Household Sector 2004	To assess the extent of usage and penetration of IT among local households.	To update the bureau on the current usage of IT among local households and help it formulate programmes/ initiatives to raise IT literacy of the community.	2004	\$1.1M
29.	CITB	Annual Survey on Information Technology Usage and Penetration in the Business Sector 2004	To assess the extent of usage and penetration of IT in the business sector.	To update the bureau on the current usage of IT in the business sector and help it formulate programmes/ initiatives to promote further IT adoption among local companies.	2004	\$1.5M

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30.	CITB/OFTA	Proposals to contain the problem of unsolicited electronic messages	To solicit industry and public views on what measures should be adopted to combat the rising problem of unsolicited electronic messages.	To help CITB/OFTA formulate regulatory policy that takes account of public opinions and keeps pace with latest international developments in relation to spamming control.	2004	N.A.
31.	OGCIO	Pilot Test of Text-To-Speech Short Message Service (SMS)	To study the feasibility of converting the text-based SMS to voice	To provide an alternative voice output to the text-based SMS for the vision impaired and the elderly, etc.	2004	N.A.
32.	TID	An assessment of software export readiness and competency for Hong Kong IT industry SMEs ⁵	(a) To conduct study on the current export situation and capability of local IT SMEs (b) To compile a self-help "software	To enhance the export competitiveness of SMEs in the IT industry in order to penetrate the Asia Pacific market.	2004-05	\$1.69M

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			export capability and readiness" assessment package.			
33.	TID	CMM in Action (Phase 1): CMM Fast-track Programme ⁶	To develop a CMM Fast-track toolkit applicable for SMEs in the IT industry.	To enhance the competitiveness of SMEs in the IT industry.	2004-06	\$2M
34.	CPU	Relationship between Hong Kong's creative industries and Pearl River Delta (PRD)	To study the relationship between the creative industries in Hong Kong and in PRD.	To examine the opportunities and challenges that PRD could provide local creative industries, and how local creative industries may support and facilitate the development of creative industries in its hinterland, to the mutual benefit of Hong Kong and PRD.	2004-05 (estimated)	\$1.3M

⁶ This project is funded by the SME Development Fund.

