

26th January 2015

Hon Cheung Yu Yan, SBS, JP Chairman, Finance Committee Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Hon Cheung Yu Yan,

Innovation and Technology Bureau

As a professional association in the Hong Kong data centre industry, we write to express our support on Government's proposal in establishing the Innovation and Technology Bureau.

Innovation and technology are important drivers of economic growth, supporting the development of practically all sectors. Likewise, data centres are critical infrastructure in supporting the operation of various industries in Hong Kong, notably financial services, trading and logistics, and emerging industries such as cloud computing, media and contents, etc. These industries are significant to Hong Kong's economy and future development, and development of data centres will help sustain and enhance the competitive edge of these industries. Hong Kong is a data centre hub in the Asia Pacific region and competing fervently with places like Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea to attract investment on data centres. In order for Hong Kong to stay ahead in the global race, Government's leadership in formulating appropriate and strategic policies to develop this high value-added technology-based business in Hong Kong is of paramount importance.

Currently, the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) is responsible for formulating policies and promoting the development of innovation and technology (including data centre) in Hong Kong, amongst its broad portfolio of policy areas including commerce, industry, tourism, etc. We welcome Government's proposal to set up the new Innovation and Technology Bureau, as it will help lead Hong Kong's innovation and technology development, in particular data centre development, in a more dedicated and strategic manner, ensuring Hong Kong can continue to fortify its strengths in the ICT arena. It would be beneficial to the ICT industry as well as the long-term economic development of Hong Kong, if this new bureau could be set up as soon as possible.

As founding members of the Hong Kong Data Centre Association that represents the professionals in the data centre sector of the ICT industry of Hong Kong, we urge members of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council to address the interest of ICT industry and expedite the approval process of Government's proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Alex Tam

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c.c. All Legislative Council members