

Legislative Council Panel on Education

**Progress of Year 2000 compliance exercise in
Government departments responsible for education matters and
Non-government Organisations in the Education Field**

Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to inform Members of the progress of the Year 2000 (Y2K) compliance exercise in the Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) and the following Government departments and agencies responsible for education matters:

- Education Department
- Student Financial Assistance Agency
- University Grants Committee Secretariat

2. The progress of Y2K compliance exercise in the following non-government organisations in the education field is also presented:

- Hong Kong Council for Academic Accreditation
- Hong Kong Examinations Authority
- Hong Kong Shue Yan College
- The Open University of Hong Kong
- University Grants Committee-funded Institutions
 - City University of Hong Kong
 - Hong Kong Baptist University
 - Lingnan College
 - The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 - The Hong Kong Institute of Education
 - The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
 - The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
 - The University of Hong Kong

Background

3. To tackle the Y2K problem that will affect the operation of computer and embedded systems at the turn of the century, the above Government departments and non-government organisations in the education

field have each conducted comprehensive surveys to identify systems that need to be rectified and to draw up rectification programmes.

Present Position

4. As at 15 April 1999, 75% of all mission-critical¹ computer and embedded systems in EMB and the other Government departments and agencies responsible for education matters were confirmed to be compliant or had been rectified. The remaining 25% are currently undergoing rectification work, and is expected to be completed by June 1999. For those systems which are being rectified, the concerned departments and agencies have already formulated contingency plans to ensure that services provided to the public will not be disrupted.

5. As regards the above non-government organisations in the education field, as at 15 April 1999, 82% of all mission-critical computer and embedded systems were confirmed to be compliant or had been rectified, whilst 16% are under rectification. Contingency plans have been formulated by these organisations, and EMB is closely monitoring their rectification progress.

6. A breakdown of the Y2K compliance positions of EMB and the other Government departments and agencies responsible for education matters is set out at Annex A. The same information for the non-government organisations in the education field is set out at Annex B.

Education and Manpower Bureau

May 1999

¹ Mission-critical systems are those computer and embedded systems whose proper functioning is related to public health and safety, the provision of crucial services to the public, or payment and revenue collection.

**Y2K Compliance Positions of the Mission-critical Computer and Embedded Systems of the Education and Manpower Bureau and the other Government Departments and Agencies Responsible for Education Matters
(as at 15 April 1999)**

Offices	No. of compliant systems	No. of non-compliant systems		Compliance status being verified	Total	Target Date of Full Compliance
		Rectification in progress	Reset clock			
Education and Manpower Bureau	0	0	0	0	0 ^{Note 1}	N.A
Education ^{Note 2} Department	9 (69%)	4 (%)	0	0	13 ^{Note 3}	June 1999
Student Financial Assistance Agency	5 (83%)	1(14%)	0	0	6	June 1999
University Grants Committee Secretariat	1(100%)	0	0	0	1	N.A
Total:	15 (75%)	5 (25%)	0	0	20	

^{Note 1} In a paper entitled “Progress of Year 2000 Compliance Work within Government” submitted by the Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau to the Legislative Council Information Technology and Broadcasting Panel in March 1999, it was reported that, as at 15 January 1999, the Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) possessed one mission-critical system which was Y2K compliant. That system was the burglar alarm system of the old office of the Quality Education Fund (QEF) Secretariat. As the QEF Secretariat had moved its office and the burglar alarm system was no longer in use, EMB does not possess any mission-critical system.

^{Note 2} The mission-critical systems of Government schools have been included in those of the Education Department. There is no mission-critical systems in aided schools.

^{Note 3} It was also reported in the paper mentioned in Note 1 that, as at 15 January 1999, the Education Department possessed 88 mission-critical systems. Among these 88 systems, one system has been retired and the rectification of 74 other systems are carried out by other Government departments.

**Y2K Compliance Positions of the Mission-critical Computer
and Embedded Systems of Non-government Organisations
in the Education Field (as at 15 April 1999)**

Institutions	No. of compliant systems	No. of non-compliant systems		Compliance status being verified	Total (100%)	Target Date of Full Compliance
		Rectification in progress	Reset clock			
Hong Kong Council for Academic Accreditation	0	0	0	0	0 ^{Note 1}	N.A
Hong Kong Examinations Authority	21 (58%)	15 (42%)	0	0	36	June 1999
Hong Kong Shue Yan College	1 (100)	0	0	0	1	N.A
The Open University of Hong Kong	13 (87%)	2 (13%)	0	0	15	September 1999
University Grants Committee-funded Institutions						
City University of Hong Kong	80 (88%)	11(12%)	0	0	91	July 1999
Hong Kong Baptist University	63 (95%)	3 (5%)	0	0	66	July 1999
Lingnan College	16 (50%)	13 (41%)	0	3(9%)	32	September 1999
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	68 (68%)	32 (32%)	0	0	100	September 1999

^{Note 1} The Hong Kong Council for Academic Accreditation confirms that there is no mission-critical system in the Council as all computers in the office are standalone ones and are mainly used for simple word-processing and database management.

Institutions	No. of compliant systems	No. of non-compliant systems		Compliance status being verified	Total (100%)	Target Date of Full Compliance
		Rectification in progress	Reset clock			
The Hong Kong Institute of Education	58 (95%)	3 (5%)	0	0	61	October 1999
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	53 (79%)	6 (9%)	0	8 (12%)	67	July 1999
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	88 (90%)	10 (10%)	0	0	98	July 1999
The University of Hong Kong	85 (89%)	10 (11%)	0	0	95	July 1999
Total:	546 (82%)	105 (16%)	0	11 (2%)	662	