

**Consultancy study on formulation of strategies
for promoting the use of IT in Hong Kong**

Terms of Reference

“Having regard to the importance of information technology (IT) to the economic development of Hong Kong and its significance in enhancing the tradability of services, the consultants are required, within a period of not more than six months, to submit a report to the Industry Department which will:

- (a) take stock of the current state of IT usage within the local services industry, including the level of technologies employed, the extent of applications adopted, the investment and resources involved, and the problems encountered;
- (b) assess the implications of technology developments on the use of IT in Hong Kong, with special reference to, inter alia, electronic commerce and the increasing use of Internet and Intranet;
- (c) examine the adequacy of the local IT infrastructure, especially information superhighways, with a view to enabling the local services industries to be prepared for the increasing use of electronic commerce;
- (d) analyse factors affecting business enterprises in their decision on IT investment;
- (e) research into the models and strategies adopted in other economies/countries in the region with a view to identifying possible areas for competition and cooperation;
- (f) identify the opportunities available to the local software industry, taken into account the above developments and the increasing IT needs of the economy;
- (g) formulate a strategy for promoting the use of IT, both in large corporations and among small and medium sized enterprises, having regard to the problems identified and in consultation with tertiary institutions, the user industries as well as the information, telecommunications and computer service sectors; and
- (h) set out detailed findings, research results and observations arising from the Study, as well as practical and definitive recommendations for the Government and the private sector to consider.

Upon submission of the final report, the consultants will be required to make presentations and attend meetings of the Information Technology Committee to clarify points and issues arising from the Study”