Quarterly Report on
The Admission of Mainland Professionals Scheme
(From 1 October 2001 to 31 December 2001)

Employment applications

Between 1 October and 31 December 2001, a total of 75 entry applications for employment were received under the Scheme, of which 49 are from the information technology (IT) sector and 26 are from the financial services sector.   In the same period, 42 applications were approved and 70 were refused or withdrawn.   As at end of December 2001, 26 applications were under processing.

Breakdown of approval cases

Field of Employment

2.   Breakdown of the 42 approved applications is as follows:

Sector	Job category			No. of approved cases
IT	IT Management / Consultancy			8
	Application Systems Development			10
	E-business / Internet services			2
	Hardware support / Operation support services			1
	IT research / Product development / IT education and training			1
Financial Services	Banking	managerial	1	6
		analyst / research	2	
		investment services	3	
	Securities	managerial	3	8
		analyst / research	2	
		investment services	2	
		others	1	
	Accounting / Auditing/ Financial management			4
	Others			2
Total				**42**

3.   A variety of post titles were involved in the 42 approved cases. Positions offered are particular to the structure and needs of the company.   It should be noted that posts with the same title can differ substantially in terms of the level of responsibility, scope of duties and even job nature.   In

processing applications, Immigration Department does not take post titles at face value. Whether a post requires professional skills and whether the remuneration so offered is comparable to the market rate will be examined against the detailed job descriptions.

Employers

4. A total of 37 employers are involved. The paid-up capital of 10 of them is below HK$1 million; 10 are in the range of HK$1 million to below HK$10 million; 10 are in the range of HK$10 million to below HK$100 million; 6 are over HK$100 million. The remaining one is a local university.

Educational attainment

5. Five of the approved professionals are holders of doctoral degree. fourteen hold master degree and twenty-three hold bachelor degree and have relevant professional qualifications and working experience in their respective fields.

Monthly remuneration

6. The salary breakdown of the 42 approved applicants is as follows:

Remuneration Range (HK$)	IT	Financial Services
15,000 to 19,999	8	0
20,000 to 29,999	9	2
30,000 to 39,999	4	7
40,000 to 49,999	0	3
50,000 to 69,999	1	5
70,000 to 99,999	0	1
100,000 to 129,999	0	2
130,000 to 159,999	0	0
160,000 and above	0	0

Cumulative total

7. The Scheme was implemented on 1 June 2001. As at end of December 2001, a cumulative total of 268 entry applications for employment were received, of which 168 are from the information technology (IT) and 96 are from financial services sector. There were 4 applications outside the designated sectors. Of these, 114 applications were approved, 71 are from IT and 43 are from financial services sector, 128 were refused or withdrawn; and the remaining 26 were under processing.

Local Employment Situation

8.   According to the information provided by the Census and Statistics Department, the overall unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) for the economy as a whole for the fourth quarter of 2001 was 6.1%. During September – November 2001, the unemployment rate for the IT sector and the financial services sector professionals were estimated at 4.95% and 1.2% respectively.

Immigration Department
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