



# Smart innovations benefit the community

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Hong Kong is a smart city. Octopus, AutoToll, and e-Channels are taken-for-granted examples of smart applications that have brought speed and convenience to all of us. With rapid advancement in information and communication technologies (ICT), many innovative ICT products and solutions emerged in the market in recent years, enabling us to manage our daily matters at our fingertips and allowing us to enhance our quality of life.

The Government has, in recent years, stepped up its effort in promoting smart city innovations. The use of sensors and Internet of Things (IoT) technologies by various government departments for traffic and utility management, as well as vulnerability detection has made municipal management more efficient, predictable and reliable.

In the proposed new Digital 21 Strategy, the Government has set out the blueprint for Hong Kong's ICT development in the next few years and the plan to leverage on emerging technologies, such as Internet of Things, big data analytics, cloud computing, wireless and multi-platform, to realise the vision of "Smarter Hong Kong, Smarter Living".

To encourage the development of more innovative smart city applications, this year's Hong Kong ICT Awards introduces a new award category known as Best Smart Hong Kong Award.

"Hong Kong is already a smart city, and we are on the way to stepping into the second generation of smart city," said Ken Lam, Head of Communication and Marketing at GS1 Hong Kong, the organiser of the Best Smart Hong Kong Award. "With Hong Kong being an Internet-ubiquitous city, we are already enjoying digital mobility in our daily life with our smart devices."

"To strengthen our capability to become a smarter city, we are looking for applications and solutions devised by local minds that can bring benefit to the community," added Ken. "The Best Smart Hong Kong Award will help encourage the development of more smart city innovations."

The Best Smart Hong Kong Award recognises innovations under three main categories: Internet of Things (IoT) Application, Big Data Application and Public Sector Information (PSI) Application.

The award-winning myEnergy Program from CLP Power Hong

Kong Ltd. is a fine example of IoT technology realisation. To automate the process of collecting meter readings and in order to encourage energy saving, the program incorporates smart meters that collect electricity consumption and the information collected is disseminated to customers in real time. Customers could learn about their electricity consumption pattern. Together with the discounts offered by CLP in promoting reduced consumption, the program encourages customers to control their own electricity usage. "It is a win-win-win situation," describes Anthony Lo, Senior Smart Grid Business Manager. "Our customers can proactively manage their own electricity usage, while our company can improve safety, reliability and operational efficiency, thereby helping to protect the environment!"

Designed by student Grace Ma and her team, Human Resources Information Systems (HURIS) is another locally-developed innovative tool using big data for policy making. "The system was designed for the human resources department to evaluate staff performance," explained Grace. "Managers can make cost-effective decisions with the support of HURIS's data analysis to boost staff's working efficiency and improve their working environment." The system was the champion in a big data competition held earlier this year.

For PSI application, IT professional Will Kwok from Invivo Interactive Limited designed the Spoken News app to provide up-to-date traffic news to drivers in a convenient manner. The app uses PSI datasets from Transport Department and reads out the traffic news, creating a hassle-free experience for drivers. "PSI is a free, massive pool of useful data having great potentials for developing innovative applications," said Kwok. The app won the Gold Award in a competition that encouraged the use of public service information, organised by the Government earlier this year.



CLP's Smart Meters



Human Resources Information Systems



Spoken News app



## The Hong Kong ICT Awards and their Organisers

- Best Business Solution Award -** Hong Kong Computer Society
- Best Digital Entertainment Award -** Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Association
- Best Digital Inclusion Award -** The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
- Best ICT Startup Award -** Internet Society Hong Kong
- Best Innovation Award -** The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers - Information Technology Division
- Best Lifestyle Award -** Hong Kong Information Technology Federation
- Best Mobile Apps Award -** Hong Kong Wireless Technology Industry Association
- Best Smart Hong Kong Award -** GS1 Hong Kong
- Best SME ICT Award -** Information and Software Industry Association
- Best Student Invention Award -** Hong Kong New Emerging Technology Education Association

Hong Kong ICT Awards 2015 is now open for enrolment.

Enrolment deadline: January 16, 2015

Website: [www.hkictawards.hk](http://www.hkictawards.hk)



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