COLLABORATING TOWARDS AN EXCITING INFOCOMM FUTURE

iDA

INFOCOMM
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY OF
SINGAPORE
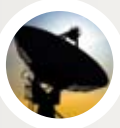
Singapore

An Intelligent Nation, a Global City, powered by Infocomm

As early as the1980s, Singapore saw the potential of information technology (IT) in accelerating its development, and systematically planned ahead to launch its very first IT masterplan, the National Computerisation Plan. It was conceived with three key components: computerisation of the Civil Service, growth of a local IT industry and development of a manpower pool to support a thriving high-tech industry. The working population was familiarised with the use of computers and a pool of IT professionals was trained. When the Internet took off in the 1990s, broadband was made available nationwide, and a host of public services was put online. These moves linked Singapore to the global grid, and made it an information hub serving the region and beyond.

Today, Singapore has an established infocomm industry which registers healthy revenue growth annually. In 2009, the infocomm industry registered S$62.74 billion in revenue and infocomm employment reached 140,800. About 83 per cent of households have access to a computer at home and households having broadband access are at 80 per cent. Mobile phone penetration is at 139 per cent or more than 6.9 million mobile subscriptions.[1] Infocomm has become an integral part of the lives of the population.

Singapore is well-regarded in global and regional rankings for its ability to leverage ICT for economic growth. For instance, since 2006, the World Economic Forum has consistently ranked Singapore among the top five nations in its annual Global Information Technology Report which measures the impact of ICT on the development process and the competitiveness of nations. In the Waseda University World e-Government Ranking which monitors and analyses the development of e-Government worldwide, Singapore has been ranked first for two years running, in 2008 and 2009.

[1] As at April 2010.

Timely and carefully planned investments in ICT are made to sustain Singapore's competitiveness in the global economy. The latest national ICT masterplan, the Intelligent Nation 2015 (iN2015) masterplan is a dynamic roadmap launched in 2006 that guides Singapore in realising its vision as an Intelligent Nation, a Global City, powered by Infocomm. Developed with inputs from the public, private and people sectors, the 10-year masterplan recommends the way forward into a future where infocomm will play an integral role in the way people live, learn, work and play.

As Singapore's sixth infocomm masterplan, iN2015 will help to enhance the nation's economic competitiveness by developing a globally competitive infocomm industry as well as spearheading the transformation of key economic sectors, government and society through the sophisticated and innovative use of infocomm.

Building a Vibrant Infocomm Ecosystem

Singapore sees the importance of infocomm as an engine of growth for the economy. The building of a vibrant infocomm ecosystem is key to supporting the iN2015 vision. In building the ecosystem, three strategic thrusts have been articulated,

namely encouraging sophisticated demand for infocomm, fostering the creation of innovative services and knowledge capital, and strengthening Singapore as an economic hub. Innovation is key to each of these thrusts, and IDA will continue to encourage innovation and seed more opportunities for the creation and adoption of innovative solutions and services.

The Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA)

is a statutory board. Established on 1 December 1999, it aims to grow Singapore into a dynamic global infocomm hub and to leverage infocomm for Singapore's economic and social development.

IDA plays four key roles in driving Singapore's transformation into an Intelligent Nation and a Global City through infocomm.

Infocomm Industry Development

IDA aims to build a vibrant infocomm ecosystem by attracting multinational corporations and innovative foreign companies to Singapore to complement local infocomm enterprises and start-up companies. It also seeks opportunities to grow the infocomm industry by facilitating the entry of Singapore infocomm companies into the global marketplace.

One of IDA's key responsibilities is creating a conducive, innovative, and competitive infocomm environment that is both pro-consumer and pro-business. As the telecommunications regulator, IDA puts in place policies and regulatory frameworks to ensure free and fair competition in the telecoms market in Singapore so that consumers of infocomm products and services benefit from greater choices.

To support growth of the infocomm industry, IDA also partners the industry and Institutes of Higher Learning in initiatives to develop infocomm competencies in key economic sectors, develop globally competitive infocomm professionals as well as to attract and retain infocomm talent.

IDA also seeks to build a Next Generation National Infocomm Infrastructure to meet the needs of the government, businesses and people. The wired component of the infrastructure – the Next Generation Nationwide Broadband Network (Next Gen NBN) - will deliver ultra-high broadband at speeds of up to 1Gbps and beyond, to all homes, offices and schools while the complementary wireless component – the Wireless Broadband Network - will offer pervasive connectivity on the move.

Government Chief Information Officer

As the Chief Information Officer for the Singapore Government, IDA is responsible for master-planning, project-managing and implementing various infocomm systems and capabilities for the Government. It oversees IT standards, policies, guidelines and procedures for the Government, and manages the infocomm security of critical infocomm infrastructure.

IDA also works with other public agencies to increase the reach and richness of e-Government services. Today, about 1,600 public sector services are available online. IDA is also driving efforts to make these services available on mobile platforms to enable users to transact with the Government while on the move.

Sectoral Transformation Through Infocomm

IDA promotes the adoption of infocomm technology as a key enabler to enhance Singapore's economic competitiveness. It works with both public and private organisations to spearhead the strategic use of infocomm in the various sectors such as education, healthcare, manufacturing, logistics, tourism, transport, entertainment and finance.

People Sector Enrichment Through Infocomm

IDA is committed to bringing the benefits of infocomm technology to the population. Working with organisations in the people sector and the infocomm industry, IDA develops initiatives to encourage the less ICT savvy to enrich their lives through adopting infocomm and using infocomm in a more sophisticated way. This includes providing assistance to low income households, senior citizens and people with disabilities to acquire computers and get connected to the Internet.

IDA Subsidiaries

www.infocomminvestments.com

www.idainternational.sg

www.sgnic.sg

Infocomm Investments Pte Ltd

The Infocomm Investments Pte Ltd (IIPL) administers strategic equity investments to support the development of Singapore's infocomm industry. It co-invests with venture capitalists to help accelerate the expansion of Singapore infocomm enterprises in their growth stage of development. It also seeks to attract foreign innovative companies to establish engineering centres and expand their operations in Singapore.

IDA International Pte Ltd

IDA International Pte Ltd is focused on delivering services to foreign governments in the areas of e-Government consultancy, master-planning, national infocomm planning, infocomm industry and manpower development, and the management of public service infocomm programmes.
It serves as the execution arm for collaboration on public service infocomm between Singapore and governments around the world. In addition to its own team of infocomm professionals, IDA International works with Singapore infocomm enterprises in the delivery of solutions and services.

Singapore Network Information Centre (SGNIC) Pte Ltd

Singapore Network Information Centre (SGNIC) Pte Ltd administers the Internet domain name space in Singapore. As the national registry for ".sg" domain names, SGNIC formulates policies pertaining to ".sg" domain name registration. It also administers the registration of second-level and third-level domain names through its accredited registrars. SGNIC also collaborates with both regional and international organisations to ensure a stable and efficient operation of Internet domain name systems in support of Internet applications.

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