

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
NOTICE TO LOCAL IT SERVICE SUPPLIERS NO. 1/2007**

**Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA)
Change of the Validity Period of Computer Information System Integration
Qualification Certificate and Procedures for Surveillance Checks of
Computer Information System Integration Qualification**

(Note: This notice is published through the OGCIO web-site
to Hong Kong IT Service Suppliers for general reference only)

I. INTRODUCTION

This Notice explains the change of the validity period of Computer Information System Integration Qualification Certificate (SI Certificate) and the arrangements and procedures relating to surveillance checks to be conducted by local IT enterprises possessing SI Certificates under the Mainland Computer Information System Integration Qualification Certification (SI Qualification Certification) Scheme.

2. The Notice to Local IT Service Suppliers No. 3/2006 published by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) informs local IT service suppliers of the arrangements for implementing the SI Qualification Certification Scheme in Hong Kong, and the procedures for applying for SI Qualification Certification under the further liberalization measures provided by the second phase of the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA II).

3. According to paragraph 19, section 5 of the Notice on Computer Information System Integration Qualification Management Method (Pilot) (Xinbu Gui (1999) No. 1047) issued by the Ministry of Information Industry (MII), SI Certificates are valid for four years. IT enterprises possessing SI Certificates are required to conduct self-evaluation annually, and to file the evaluation results to the SI Qualification Certification Office of the MII for record. They are also required to conduct an assessment every two years.

4. In early 2007, the SI Qualification Certification Office revised the validity period of SI Certificates and the provisions of surveillance checks.

II. DETAILS

Validity Period of SI Certificates

5. With effect from 1 January 2007, the validity period of SI Certificates for those enterprises who obtain SI qualification from the MII is changed from four years to three years. Nonetheless, for enterprises awarded with SI qualification on or before the MII by 31 December 2006, the validity period of their SI Certificates remain unchanged. For details, please refer to the Notice on Issues relating to Adjusting the Validity Period of SI Certificates and Re-Issuing New SI Certificates (Xinjizi (2007) No. 2).

Modes and Procedures for Surveillance Checks

6. With effect from 1 January 2007, the biennial assessment is cancelled and replaced with self-evaluation. Instead, enterprises should self-evaluate their overall capabilities in handling SI businesses in the corresponding year and provide relevant information. For details, please refer to the Notice on Issues relating to Commencing Surveillance Checks of SI Qualification in 2007 (Xinjizi Jianzi (2007) No. 2).

7. According to the annual notice about surveillance checks issued by the SI Qualification Certification Office, the OGCIIO will write to the enterprises possessing SI Certificates to conduct self-evaluation. They should send the completed forms of Annual SI Qualification Surveillance Checks to the OGCIIO by email before the prescribed deadline.

8. Based on the received forms, the OGCIIO will summarize the information and send the summary of the self-evaluation results to the SI Qualification Certification Office.

9. According to the relevant provisions, the OGCIIO will verify the submitted self-evaluation results by conducting sample checks. Where necessary, the SI

Qualification Certification Office will also conduct sample checks together with the OGCIO and the SI Qualification Assessment Centre of the Hong Kong Productivity Council.

10. If an enterprise fails to submit the form of Annual SI Qualification Surveillance Checks for self-evaluation before the deadline or declines the sample checks, its SI qualification may be cancelled by the MII.

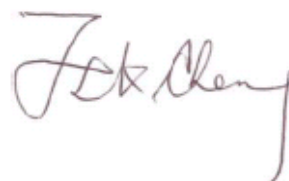
III. POINTS TO NOTE

11. The OGCIO will handle the submitted self-evaluation materials according to the provisions of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance of the HKSAR.

12. For details of the aforesaid documents issued by the MII, please visit the web-site of the SI Qualification Certification Office at <http://www.ceecm.gov.cn>.

IV. ENQUIRIES

13. The Notices in this series will be published on the OGCIO web-site at: <http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/eng/pubpress/eogciosic.htm>. For general enquiries on this series of notices, please address to us at (852)2582 4513 or by email at si-cert-office@ogcio.gov.hk. For specific enquiries on subject matters of individual notices in this series, please address to the relevant organizations as shown in the respective Notices.



(CHENG Leung-kit)

for the Government Chief Information Officer

Note: In case of discrepancies between the English and Chinese texts of this Notice, the Chinese text shall for all purposes be conclusive.