

Expert Group on Cloud Computing Services and Standards ("EGCCSS")

Progress Update Of the Working Group on Provision, Interoperability and Use of Cloud Services

Promulgate more use cases of cloud services

■ Solicit more use cases and success stories

- The Secretariat is approaching the Government Public Cloud Services Providers to call for contribution of success stories.
- Presentation slides of the training programmes of the SME Cloud Promotion Campaign have been posted on the InfoCloud Portal. (sme.infocloud.gov.hk)
- The voting for the "Best SME Cloud Adoptors" and the "Best SME Cloud Solutions" competition under the SME Cloud Promotion Campaign is underway. Would promulgate information of the winning adoptors and cloud solutions on InfoCloud Portal.
- ICT Award Winners would be contacted to solicit use cases and success stories for promoting cloud adoption.

Develop tools to promote adoption

■ HK/GD Practice Guide for Procuring Cloud Services

- The Guide announced and booklets distributed at the GD/HK Cloud Computing Conference on 5 December.
- Digital version published on InfoCloud Portals of HK and GD on the same day.
- Booklets further distributed to members of EGCCSS and its WGs, as well as the IT professional bodies and trade associations, SME trade associations, Chambers of commerce of HK, and attendees of training programmes of SME Cloud Promotion Campaign.

■ Motion graphic video on Practice Guide for procuring Cloud Services

- Developed by the student team of HK Design Institute
- Posted on InfoCloud Portal

Promote awareness on inter-cloud interoperability / portability & Data as a Service

- Testing of portability of Address Lookup Services among OGCIO inhouse development environment, Openstack based Cyberport Community Cloud and IaaS Government Public Cloud Services Provider environment completed and portability was confirmed feasible

Promote awareness and adoption of international standards on cloud computing

- ISO 17788 and 17789 standards have been finalised and published by ISO and the status of them have been updated to InfoCloud Portal;
- HK/GD Practice Guide for Procuring Cloud Services has made reference to the ISO 17788 and 17789 standards.

Focus Group on Application of Cloud Services (for Key Challenges and Community-wide Issues)

- As part of the effort for nurturing professional and cloud industry development, a Focus Group within the WGPIUCS was setup for the following purposes.
 - Identify key challenges and find some examples of community-wide issues that could be addressed through innovative application of cloud-based services, and
 - Propose and facilitate initiatives for the development of these services by the local cloud industry,
- in pursuant of clauses (d) and (g) of the TOR of WGPIUCS -
 - Propose industry facilitation measures to promote the development of cloud computing standards, adoption and development of innovative products and/or services; and
 - Identify and assess research and development projects that warrant financial support through funding schemes such as the Innovation and Technology Fund.

Formation of The Focus Group

■ Working Group Members participated in this Focus Group (FG) are:

- Mr. Nicholas CHAN (convenor)
- Dr. C.K. WONG
- Mr. Stacy BAIRD
- Mr. Sampson CHING
- Mr. Terence GRAHAM
- Dr. SUEN Wai-Mo
- Dr. Shi Xing YAN
- Dr. Richard YEE

The Work of the Focus Group

- Mr. Nicholas CHAN led the FG and two meetings through conference calls were held.
- Mr. CHAN also solicited some input from different stakeholders in the community. Examples of community-wide issues identified as examples for discussion include:
 - Healthcare sector:
 - Issue: Imbalance between public and private healthcare sectors
 - Potential improvement thru cloud services (plus apps):
 - providing information such as waiting time of both public and private hospitals & clinics to enable the patients to decide

The Work of the Focus Group (cont.)

■ Examples of community-wide issues (Cont'd)

○ Education sector:

- Issue: Students and parents need instant information on available school places during the various admission stages
- Potential improvement thru cloud services (plus apps):
 - providing instant information on available school places

○ Transportation sector:

- Issue: Traffic and live webcast services are available only for some key locations – not sufficient to plan a suitable itinerary
- Potential improvement thru cloud services (plus apps):
 - adopting crowd-sourced data technology to enlarge its service coverage to cover most of the roads in HK

Summary of Findings

- Innovative cloud-based solutions can be developed to provide community-wide services that are of great benefits to the public. Such solutions could be developed by private sector as well as public sector.
- One of the pre-requisites of such cloud-based solutions is to a large extent the availability of relevant information.
- The WG is aware of the Public Sector Information (PSI) initiative of the Government, understanding that from this year onwards, the Government will make such government information that was being released for public consumption available in machine-readable digital formats.

Summary of Findings (Cont'd)

- The progressive applications of PSI can help the industry in designing and developing cloud-based solutions to serve the public and to foster a more vibrant industry.
- While some solutions may be developed by using the PSI resources that are currently available, some will require information from NGOs and private sector.
- The WG recognizes that information owners may have concerns on feasibility and business case of capturing and releasing the required information timely to the public. Those private sector information owners, such as the private medical practitioners and bus companies, may also have concerns on releasing their business/operation information.

Some Suggestions:

- The cloud services industry can advocate the more progressive and responsible use of both public and private data resources in the design and development of cloud-based solutions to address the needs of the community. This will open up new business opportunities that were previously not available to the industry.
- Noting the Government will step up the release of PSI, the WG suggests that other public sector organizations, academic, and private sector entities should be encouraged to review their data release policies and when appropriate, voluntarily make accessible their data to benefit the community. This can result in a more cohesive community and vibrant economy.
- The academic sector and the industry can strengthen their collaboration on technical research areas to facilitate the better use of both public and private data resources to serve the public.

Thank you