

By Fax & By Mail



The Hong Kong Web Consortium

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8 June 2004

Dear Mr Yeung,

Consultation on the Information Technology Professional Services Arrangement

In response to the invitation for feedback with respect to the Consultation on the Information Technology Professional Services Arrangement, the Hong Kong Web Consortium wishes to provide the following comments:

Para. 25: the size of the service categories/groups

We concur with the stated inclination to increase the number of contractors, particularly with respect to Web publishing services. This is a flourishing and dynamic industry, with growing numbers of creative and competent companies.

Para. 29: optimal duration of arrangement

We would contend that the duration should be made slightly shorter (i.e. 24 months with an option for a 12-month extension), precisely for the reasons stated in para. 26.

Para. 39: supplier selection and quality consideration

With respect to possible additional criteria, we believe that consideration could be given to some that tend to turn up as specifications on most tender documents. For example, with respect to Web development, accessibility issues (such as ease of use for those with disabilities) could be included as standard criteria.

Para. 43: *categorisation and grouping of contractors*

We concur with the ideas that some flexibility should be built-into the system to cater for projects requiring new skills. This is particularly relevant to Internet and information security technology.

Para. 49: *service charging structure and the human resources categorization structure*

As noted, we agree that the system needs flexibility, especially with the rapid emergence of new skills and competencies. Projects which are more innovative in nature may not necessarily require length of experience as a significant criterion.

Para. 52: *participation by sub-contractors*

With the increasing use of out-sourcing by many organizations, we anticipate that the use of sub-contractors will become more common. Hence, all reasonable means of incorporating their use should be investigated.

Para. 55: *country of origin*

We agree that the present arrangement is satisfactory.

Para. 59: *conflict of interest*

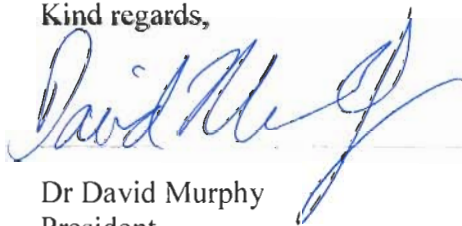
We believe that current HK Government guidelines are well-developed and working satisfactorily.

Para. 63: *registration of suppliers*


We agree with the intention to continue to adopt an ITPSA-like panel of contractors approach. This should ensure a reasonable balance between the framework and the need for fair competition.

We trust that the above comments are of use to Information Technology Services.

Kind regards,



Dr David Murphy
President
Hong Kong Web Symposium



Dr Philip Tsang
Secretary