

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
CIRCULAR TO CONTRACTORS NO. 1/2004**

E-Government Infrastructure Service

(Note : This circular is published through the OGCIO web site
to IT contractors of the Government of the Hong Kong
Special Administrative Region for general reference only)

This Circular announces the launch of the Shared Platform for Internet Content and Applications (SPICA) of the E-Government Infrastructure Service (EGIS).

Background

2. With the objective to facilitate government bureaux and departments (B/Ds) to sustain e-Government initiatives, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) is establishing a common Internet application infrastructure, under the code name of EGIS, for the shared benefit of B/Ds to develop and deploy next generation citizen-centric and joined-up e-Government services. The EGIS is a service delivery platform designed to complement the existing central IT infrastructure of the Government and provide a handy service platform for Government-to-Citizen (G2C) and Government-to-Business (G2B) transactions.

3. The EGIS includes two key platform components, i.e. SPICA and the Shared COmmon Platform for Electronic Services (SCOPEs). SPICA serves as a centrally managed Internet content and applications hosting platform for shared use by B/Ds to develop and deploy their Internet content and applications with interactive and dynamic features. SCOPEs provides a collection of shared message-based service components for B/Ds to develop G2C and G2B e-services. They facilitate the development of more customer-centric services that cut across the traditional departmental boundaries in the design and provision of e-government services.

EGIS-SPICA Ready for Use

4. From 16 September 2004 onwards, facilities of SPICA will be ready for use by B/Ds. Details about the functions of SPICA are set out at Annex.
5. SCOPES is scheduled to be ready by December 2004.

Joined-up e-Government Services

6. EGIS adopts standards promulgated in Government's Interoperability Framework. It offers a scalable and flexible service delivery platform to facilitate the launch by B/Ds of their next generation citizen-centric and joined-up e-Government services in line with the 2004 Digital 21 Strategy to sharpen the e-Government focus and drive utilization.
7. Under the policy initiative of facilitating joined-up e-government services, B/Ds are required to make use of EGIS wherever applicable in their planning, implementation and provision of G2B/G2C services or inter-departmental electronic communications. Where exception is justifiable, B/Ds are still advised to follow the design model and technical standards of EGIS as far as possible.

Enquiries

8. If you have any enquiries concerning this Circular, please contact Mr. Rex Tong, Senior Systems Manager, at (852) 3182 6773 or send an email to rtong@ogcio.gov.hk.



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SPICA Service Packages

The SPICA provides different service packages to suit different user requirements and allow for flexible web hosting arrangement-

- **Shared Server Farm Service** provides end-to-end e-service delivery environments, including development, functional and load testing, production and disaster recovery environments on a shared basis.
- **Notification Service** facilitates government bureaux and departments to send and manage outgoing notification to the public through email and/or other channels.
- **Streaming and Content Management Service** provides a one-stop-service for government bureaux and departments to host, publish, and manage multimedia and web content.
- **Portlet Repository Service** maintains a list of application components that can be reused and deployed by government bureaux and departments to develop portal pages or web applications in a modular manner.
- **Personalization Service** provides a reference model to facilitate government bureaux and departments to supplement Portal service with personalization technology in order to tailor web content or applications to meet individual user's characteristics or preferences.