

Annex B – About e-Society Excellence Awards and Fact Sheet of Winners

The e-Society Excellence Awards serves to honour organisations that have been proactive in helping Singaporeans embrace infocomm and transforming our society into an e-inclusive one. Through the Awards, we aim to honour the best in the private, public and people sectors who take the lead in getting all segments of the population connected. Along the way, other organisations may be inspired and join in the national movement to build Singapore into an e-Society where every citizen has the opportunity to acquire infocomm skills and exploit infocomm products and services to enrich their lives.

This inaugural Award is jointly organised by IDA and the Singapore infocomm Technology Federation (SiTF), and supported by the IT Management Association, Ministry of Community Development, Youth & Sports, Ministry of Finance and the Singapore Computer Society.

The call for nominations for the Awards was made by Dr Balaji Sadasivan, Senior Minister of State for Information, Communications & the Arts and Health on 22 October 2004. The nominations closed on 31 December 2004. A total of 61 nominations from 39 organisations were received for the three award categories:

- Private Sector - 26 programmes, 15 nominees
- People Sector - 13 programmes, 7 nominees
- Public Sector - 22 programmes, 17 nominees

The judging criteria are:

- Innovation - 20%
- Impactfulness - 50%
- Sustainability - 30%

The Evaluation Committee shortlisted the 10 finalists. The nine-member main Judging Panel, chaired by IDA Chief Executive Officer and consisted of representatives from the private, people and public sectors, finalised 5 winners and 5 merit winners.

Winners:

- Fujitsu Asia Pte Ltd - Food-Trek for Food-from-the-Heart
- Project 180 (Youth Services) - eGen.org.sg
- SINDA - New PC Programme
- Singapore Prison Service - Internet Home Televisit
- The Society for the Physically Disabled - Specialised Assistive Technology Centre

Merit Winners:

- Clementi Community Centre Management Committee - Project Clementi Online
- Hewlett Packard Pte Ltd - eGarage
- IBM Singapore Pte Ltd - IBM KidSmart Early Learning Program
- Microsoft Singapore Pte Ltd - Microsoft Unlimited Potential - A Community Learning Programme
- North East Community Development Council - Financial Assistance Cashless Electronic Card System (FACE)

Top Winners

Organiser: Fujitsu Asia Pte Ltd
Programme: Food-Trek for Food-from-the-Heart

Description

Food-from-the-Heart (FFTH) is a voluntary welfare organisation which organises a group of 2,000 volunteers in collecting unsold bread from bakeries and delivering them to 10,000 residents of welfare homes and 1,000 needy individuals. Fujitsu Asia then developed a wireless solution to track the delivery status and collect data for back-end processing. The volunteers would send an SMS to the Food Trek system which allows the FFTH to monitor the delivery activities online and at real time via the Internet.

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Organisation: Project 180 (Youth Services)
Programme: www.eGen.org.sg

Description

eGen is the first local Blog site with an inbuilt e-counselling facility started by the National Council for Social Service (NCSS) for youths and young adults. The site provides an alternative platform to encourage free expression of different life issues among Singaporean youths in a supported environment and more than 1,000 youths have benefited since its inception in April 2004. eGen enables the agency to connect with the youths easily and Counsellors monitor the site regularly via a customised backend and provide feedback on the issues brought up. The blogs also provide an easy reference point when users tap on the e-counselling facility in times of need.

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Organisation: SINDA
Programme: New PC Programme

Description

SINDA leveraged on IDA's Neu PC Scheme to offer its own New PC Programme to help needy families own brand new PCs and printers. To qualify for the brand new PC and printer, parents are required to attend the Family Life Education Workshops to equip them with basic IT skills on how to use the PC and how to supervise their children's usage of the PC. The family is matched with a volunteer who visits the family to help them on the use of the PC. In addition, SINDA offers a co-payment scheme where parents are allowed to pay for the new PC and printer, in installment over 6 months. Since Jan 2003, 1267 low income families have benefited and another 127 will be receiving their PCs with printers soon.

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Organisation: Singapore Prison Service
Programme: Internet Home Televisit

Description

Internet Home Tele-visiting uses the web-based/Internet video conferencing technology, and provides family visitors a convenient and flexible means of "visiting" their incarcerated family members from home. The video conferencing system is set up inside the prison premises while the family members connect through their PC, broadband internet access as well as web-cam set up at home. A total of 320 family users are using this facility and potentially, both inmate and family will benefit from this initiative, which aims to connect and maintain healthy family ties, a crucial factor in the inmates' rehabilitation process.

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Organisation: The Society for the Physically Disabled
Programme: Specialised Assistive Technology Centre

Description

The Specialised Assistive Technology Centre (ATC) is the first of such centres in Singapore to provide comprehensive Assistive Technology (AT) services to the physically disabled. The ATC has worked with the Singapore Examination and Assessment Board to allow the use of AT for disabled students in mainstream school national examinations. Also, together with A*STAR, ATC was awarded a research grant to work on a "brainy communicator" to allow the user to control the computer via brain activity, without any use of hands, legs or voice. ATC also organized the first ever AT Invention Competition in Singapore to encourage local initiative and design of AT.

Since August 2001, more than 150 physically disabled have benefited from the use of AT and the ATC has trained more than 100 teachers and rehabilitation professionals in the use of AT so as to enable them to help more disabled people to use AT. ATC has conducted more than 7,000 IT training hours for more than 500 disabled persons.

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Merit Winners

Organisation: Clementi Community Centre Management Committee
Programme: Project Clementi Online

Description

Clementi Community Centre developed and launched a community web portal that links up residents, shops, hawkers and grassroots in Clementi Town. The portal contains a virtual map, shop directory with photos, information about Clementi, and about 70 retailers and hawkers now have websites to promote their products and services online. The retailers, hawkers and grassroots leaders now have an interest in IT and a better appreciation of how IT can benefit their businesses.

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Organisation: Hewlett Packard Pte Ltd
Programme: eGarage

Description

eGarage was started by Hewlett Packard Singapore (HP) to nurture IT intellectual capital, creativity and entrepreneurship amongst the students and faculty members in Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP). The project was conceptualised as a high-technology learning workshop, laboratory and display centre in NP where students could trial their inventions using the latest technologies. HP also set up an IT ecosystem within eGarage, and under the guidance of their technology partners; students were given practical industry immersion where they developed business and marketing skills.

eGarage has inspired more than 1,500 students, 100 lecturers from NP's School of ICT and 200 heads of departments from Ministry of Education. eGarage continues to be a focal point for learning and housing the ICT development lab and Network Centre as well as an international project showroom showcasing the talents of Singapore youths to foreign visitors.

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Organisation: IBM Singapore Pte Ltd
Programme: IBM KidSmart Early Learning Program

Description

The KidSmart Early Learning Program provides young children from disadvantaged backgrounds the equal opportunity to learn with technology and to use computers to jumpstart their education. Since 2002, IBM has donated more than 75 sets of computer

kiosks, peripherals and educational software to over 60 non-profit childcare centres, kindergartens, homes and special schools. KidSmart training was conducted for 120 teachers to equip them with skills to incorporate technology into early childhood education curriculum.

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Organisation: Microsoft Singapore Pte Ltd
Programme: Microsoft Singapore Unlimited Potential - A Community Learning Programme

Description

Microsoft Singapore, together with the Central and South-West Community Development Councils (CDC) has trained more than 1,000 residents there with core IT skills, such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint & Excel. The trainees are the unemployed, employed blue-collared workers, homemakers and senior citizens and these skills are valuable in improving and sustaining the employability and enriching the quality of their lives. The training consists of 6 sessions of 3 hours each and course fee is fully subsidised by a joint-fund set up by Microsoft Singapore and the CDCs.

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Organisation: North East Community Development Council
Programme: Financial Assistance Cashless Electronic (FACE) Card System

Description

The North East Community Development Council (CDC) implemented the Financial Assistance Cashless Electronic (FACE) Card System in September 2002 which contains electronic points redeemable for basic groceries at provision shops and for basic medical and dental care at participating General Practitioners district wide. Some 800 needy families were issued with the FACE cards which they used at neighbourhood shops to purchase groceries or visit medical and dental clinics. Electronic points would be deducted when the FACE card is tapped on the terminal in the shops / clinics during transactions.

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