Message by Chairman, National Grid Steering Committee
At the Official Launch of Grid Computing Competency Certification and Appointment of Singapore Polytechnic as Training Service Provider

10 October 2005

ADDRESS BY REAR-ADMIRAL (RET.) RICHARD LIM, CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL GRID STEERING COMMITTEE AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF DEFENCE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AGENCY, AT THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE GRID COMPUTING COMPETENCY CERTIFICATION AND APPOINTMENT OF SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC AS TRAINING SERVICE PROVIDER ON MONDAY, 10TH OCTOBER 2005, AT THE TULIP ROOM, STAFF CENTRE , SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC

Introduction

The National Grid initiative in Singapore is now two and a half years old. The vision of the National Grid is to contribute towards Singapore's economic and technological competitiveness by creating a collaborative environment for the sharing of computing and other information technology resources in a secure, reliable and efficient manner for education, commercial, entertainment, R&D and national security purposes.

We believe that a grid enabled collaborative environment will give rise to innumerable and hitherto unimaginable possibilities for new business models in both the public and private sector. Like the internet in its early days, it will be a process of discovery and experimentation. As more and more people come to understand the workings of the grid and its potential, there will be an explosion in the number of grid communities. The grid will then become ubiquitous and will enable how we work, live and play in the future.

We started the National Grid within the research and development communities in the universities and research institutes. In Phase Two of the National Grid

initiative we now focus on promoting the adoption of Grid Computing by industry and business users. Besides the R&D community we see good potential in the digital media, collaborative manufacturing and education sectors. But to realize the potential of the grid, we need to have available trained manpower. That is why we are happy to launch the grid computing competency certification program and to work with Singapore Polytechnic as a training service provider.

On Grid Computing Competency Certification (GCCC)

The GCCC program seeks to refine and extend the current training roadmap, incorporating training courses available from training service providers and ICT vendors.

After several months of hard work, the GCCC Committee has recommended that the certification program comprise the following components:
a) GCCC (Part 1 – Basic);
b) GCCC (Part 2 – Grid Programmer); and
c) GCCC (Part 2 – Grid Architect).

The syllabus for GCCC (Part 1) has been completed, while the syllabus for GCCC (Part 2 – Grid Programmer) will be delivered in the near future. After that the GCCC Committee will commence work on the Part 2 – Grid Architect.

I am pleased to say that the GCCC (Part 1) has been accredited by the National Infocomm Competency Centre (NICC). This will assure aspiring students that the GCCC training courses they attend are properly accredited.

On Appointment of Singapore Polytechnic as Training Service Provider

It is my pleasure to announce that Singapore Polytechnic has been identified as the first service provider to undertake the provision of the training for GCCC (Part

1). Singapore Polytechnic started its activity in Grid Computing two years back. Since then, several of its staff members have developed strong capabilities and skills that will contribute effectively in training and education in grid computing.

I am happy that the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) has agreed to provide CITREP funding to employers who send their staff for GCCC (Part 1) training as part on their continual education and skills upgrading. This will go a long way to equipping ICT professionals with competencies in Grid Computing by recognizing this as a critical and emerging skills set.

Conclusion

In closing, I would like to thank the GCCC Committee Members who have spent countless hours to produce the three course syllabi. Their collective contributions have made it possible for us to begin this competency certification program.

I continue to look forward to the GCCC Committee's contributions as it continues its effort to oversee the conduct of the training courses and examinations, as well as the certification and re-certification processes.

I would also like to congratulate Singapore Polytechnic for their appointment as the training service provider for GCCC (Part 1).

Thank you.