

HKQAA Symposium 2012 held successfully

Carbon Disclosure e-Platform initiative kicked off today

The Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA)'s annual flagship event, the HKQAA Symposium 2012, was held successfully today in the Ballroom of the Langham Place Hotel, Mongkok. The Agency also announced the launch of the first online platform for carbon disclosure in Hong Kong, the "HKQAA-HKJC Carbon Disclosure e-Platform (CDeP)".

A new platform for showcasing commitment and achievements in carbon management

The Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) is funding the project while HKQAA will provide the manpower for establishing and operating the web-based platform. CDeP will provide an efficient and user-friendly channel that Hong Kong organisations can use to share their performance data and good practices in carbon management over the internet. Organisations can learn by comparing their own performance with other organisations, so as to generate ideas for continuous improvement, while the general public can search for and browse carbon information for reference.

"We have no doubt that this will be a valuable contribution to Hong Kong's environmental effort. But the e-Platform is only as good as the data it contains. To be meaningful, it has to be comprehensive. Therefore, I would like to make use of this opportunity to call on every organisation to embrace and sign up for the e-Platform. We believe that it will be win-win for everyone," said Mrs Mimi Cunningham, Director of Human Resources and Sustainability for HKJC in her speech at the Symposium.

As the content provider for this project, HKQAA will set out the framework by which organisations can systematically disclose their carbon management information. This framework will be developed with reference to several international standards, including the ISO 14001 environmental management standard and the ISO 14064 greenhouse gases management standard, among others.

With the aim of assisting organisations to provide their carbon information in a simple and user-friendly way, HKQAA will use this framework to design a questionnaire to obtain the required performance data. By completing this questionnaire on the e-Platform, organisations can conveniently understand and demonstrate their existing carbon management performance.

HKQAA believes this initiative will facilitate organisations to adopt a systematic approach to carbon management, and encourage them to showcase their commitment to carbon reduction. The centralised database of carbon performance can also facilitate information flow and knowledge-building among industries and the general public. The first round of the programme will be carried out in mid-2013.

"With this useful and innovative tool, we hope to encourage the uptake of carbon reduction by organisations in Hong Kong and so contribute to a low-carbon economy," said Ir Prof. Peter Mok, Chairman of HKQAA.

In addition, HKQAA will conduct a research project about the carbon management performance of local organisations using the information collected using this platform. The performance data collected will be analysed annually to reveal the progress of carbon management among organisations in Hong Kong. It will provide an overall picture of the city's progress towards achieving carbon targets. The first report is expected to be released by the end of 2013.

Symposium attracts over 700 attendees

The main theme of the Symposium 2012 was “Farsighted Management Strategies in an Unpredictable World”. It attracted over 700 participants from government, industry, commerce and academia, as well as members of the public.

The Symposium featured acclaimed local and overseas speakers, who discussed the latest challenges and management strategies for coping with today’s turbulent business environment. Topics in the morning session included managing organisational risks, carbon markets, water resources, cloud security and upcoming strategic changes to ISO standards. In the afternoon session, topics included building sustainability, energy management, relationship contracting and business continuity management. Results of the HKQAA-HSBC CSR Index 2012 were also announced and a CSR Advocate Mark presentation ceremony held in the breakout session.

The presentations of the speakers are now available on our website at:

www.hkqaa.org/symposium2012



Delegates from HKQAA and HKJC at the kick-off ceremony for the Carbon Disclosure Platform. Mrs Mimi Cunningham (4th from left), Director of Human Resources and Sustainability of HKJC, delivered a speech on the ceremony.



One of the guest speakers, Ir Alfred W. H. Sit, Acting Director of Electrical & Mechanical Services Department of the HKSAR Government



Panel discussion from the morning session – from left: Mr Jeff Huang, Managing Director for Greater China, IntercontinentalExchange; Ms Debra Tan, Director, China Water Risk; Mr Antony Ma, Chairman, Cloud Security Alliance (Hong Kong & Macau Chapter); Dr Nigel H. Croft, Chairman, ISO Technical Subcommittee on Quality Systems



Panel discussion from the afternoon session – from left: Ms Connie Sham, Senior Manager of Strategic Business, HKQAA; Mr Patrick Leung, Senior Technical Service Manager, Kai Shing Management Services Limited; Ir Chan Siu Tack, Assistant Director (Estate Management), Housing Department of the HKSAR Government; Mr Rick Truscott, Director – Generation, CLP Power Hong Kong Limited; Mr John Lamond, General Manager, Safety, Security and Business Continuity, Airport Authority Hong Kong; Dr Nigel H. Croft, Chairman, ISO Technical Subcommittee on Quality Systems



One of the guest speakers, Mr Lewis Lam, Assistant General Manager (Property Management), Kai Shing Management Services Limited

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