HKSTP Announces First City-wide Data Community to Unlock Cross-industry Opportunities in the Digital Economy

The collaborative community will forge a new territory by connecting corporates with cross-industry data and data governance support

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Key Takeaways
- First of its kind committee rallies businesses to integrate data for new growth opportunities.
- HKSTP establishes independent Data Governance Steering Committee strategic direction and guidance to the Data Community
- Full potential of digital economy can only be realised by capturing cross-industry data opportunities

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(Hong Kong, 21 February 2023) – Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) today announced the launch of the Data Community, centred on cross-industry data collaboration. The city-wide community is the first of its kind to rally organisations to connect diverse data across institutional and industry boundaries for richer insights and hence, new growth opportunities.

The digital economy has the potential to open a new dimension for open data and data collaboration; however, data silos remain common in many businesses, creating barriers to data collaboration across departments, institutions, and industries.

The Data Community strives to connect corporates all over the city with tools and skills to forge data-related partnerships across institutions and industries as they learn to break down silos in this space. Participating community members come from various industries including banking, insurance, healthcare and more.

The members will gain exclusive access to upskilling workshops, dedicated tools and technologies to protect privacy and security, as well as a pool of data providers, data requesters and technology enablers from the expert community.

Announcing the Data Community at the "Secrets of Next-Gen Business" event, Crystal Fok, Head of STP Platform, HKSTP, said: "Data will continue passing through the veins of industries and economies in this data-driven business era. The development of new products and services will involve information from a multitude of sources and increasingly, many of these sources will be beyond an organisation's industry. Organisations that have realised cross-industry data potentials will easily foster innovation, leading to leapfrog their traditional businesses in search of next-generation customers."

"The Data Community is to bridge purpose. We welcome all enterprises to come and open new opportunities beyond their industry and sector. The success of the banking, insurance and healthcare industries that we work in today is a testament to the power of cross-industry data collaboration. We look forward to seeing other sectors making inroads in the world of the digital economy by capturing cross-industry opportunities."

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Designed as a trusted platform for organisations to forge data collaboration, the Data Community has also established the Data Governance Steering Committee ("Steering Committee").

"Data governance is always our first priority. As data becomes more plentiful, it becomes more crucial than ever to have a robust framework for governance that promotes trust and ensures data becomes fuel for intelligence," said Herbert Chia, Chairman of the Data Governance Steering Committee.

"The independence of the Steering Committee aims to give organisations the confidence and protection they need to foster cross-industry innovation and ultimately, thriving in this new era for next-generation business."

Composed of high-level advisors and subject matter experts (see table 1), the Steering Committee is an independent entity, providing strategic direction and guidance to HKSTP and the Data Community in five focus areas: ethics, legal and compliance, technology, information security, and cross-industry collaboration. The advisory body will support the members by offering advice on data governance principles and practices for their data collaboration initiatives, or new endeavours and opportunities arising from the community.

Table 1: Data Governance Steering Committee

Chairman	**Mr Herbert CHIA** Convener, Institute of Big Data Governance (iBDG)
Member	**Ms Sabrina CHAN** Senior Executive Director, Hong Kong Association of Pharmaceutical Industry
	Ms Selina LAU Chief Executive, The Hong Kong Federation of Insurers
	Mr Ricky WOO Advisor of Cyber Security Specialist Group, Hong Kong Computer Society
	Mr Raymond CHENG Vetting Committee Member, Institute of Big Data Governance (iBDG)
	Dr Winnie TANG Founder & Honorary President, Smart City Consortium
External Expert	**Mr Stephen WONG** Practicing Barrister; Former Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Photo 1: HKSTP announced the launch of the Data Community, centred on cross-industry data collaboration. HKSTP also established the Data Governance Steering Committee, an independent entity, providing strategic direction and guidance to HKSTP and the Data Community. (From left) Herbert Chia, Chairman of the Data Governance Steering Committee; Crystal Fok, Head of STP Platform, HKSTP.

Photos 2-3: Crystal Fok, Head of STP Platform, HKSTP said, "The Data Community is to bridge purpose. We welcome all enterprises to come and open new opportunities beyond their industry and sector."

Photo 4: (From left) Mr Matthew HO, Senior Director, Digital Platforms Marketing & Digitals, FWD Life Insurance Company Limited; Ms Charlotte WONG, Chief Information Officer Hong Kong, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited; Mr Horace TANG Head of Data, UMP Healthcare Group.

Photo 5: (From left) Mr Ricky WOO, Advisor of Cyber Security Specialist Group Hong Kong Computer Society; Ms Jessica YEUNG, Senior Manager, Policy and Development Division, Insurance Authority; Ir. Allen YEUNG, Founding Chairman, Institute of Big Data Governance, Founding Chairman

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About Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation

Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) has for over 20 years committed to building up Hong Kong as an international innovation and technology hub to propel success for local and global pioneers today and tomorrow. HKSTP has established a thriving I&T ecosystem that is home to three unicorns and Hong Kong's leading R&D hub with over 12,000 research professionals and over 1,200 technology companies focused on healthtech, AI and robotics, fintech and smart city technologies.

Established in 2001, we attract and nurture talent, accelerate and commercialise innovation and technology for entrepreneurs on their journey of growth in Hong Kong, to the Greater Bay Area, Asia and beyond. Our growing innovation ecosystem is built around our key locations of Hong Kong Science Park in Shatin, InnoCentre in Kowloon Tong and three modern INNOPARKs in Tai Po, Tseung Kwan O and Yuen Long. The three INNOPARKs are realising a vision of re-industrialisation for Hong Kong. The goal is sectors like advanced manufacturing, electronics and biotechnology are being reimagined for a new generation of industry.

Through our infrastructure, services, expertise and network of partnerships, HKSTP will help establish innovation and technology as a pillar of growth for Hong Kong, while reinforcing Hong Kong's international I&T hub status as a launchpad for global growth at the heart of the GBA innovation powerhouse.

More information about HKSTP is available at www.hkstp.org.

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