

## **Singapore bolstering its infocomm infrastructure, Says Singapore Company Registration Specialists**

*By Rikvin Consultancy Pte Ltd*

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*Infocomm Development Authority (IDA) will inject some S\$70 million to develop the infocomm workforce in Singapore. Some S\$43 million will be spent over five years to improve access to computers and the Internet.*

The Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts, Dr Lee Boon Yang while addressing the 12th IT Leader Awards on 29 February 2008 announced that over the next five years, the Infocomm Development Authority (IDA) will inject some S\$70 million to develop the infocomm workforce in Singapore. Some S\$43 million will be spent over five years to improve access to computers and the Internet. This includes the setting up of eight more Silver Infocomm Junctions in the heartlands by 2010. The Infocomm Development Authority (IDA) will also launch its SME Infocomm Package (SIP) in May to provide local small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with affordable IT packages that come with one-stop helpdesk and advisory services.

By 2015, it is hoped that 38,000 low-income families will benefit from IDA's PC Plus programme, which provides highly subsidized computers and Internet access to the needy. The fast evolving Digital Concierge service which uses Singapore's island wide Internet Wi-Fi access or the available cellular network, to offer personalized and location-based services will support the national Tourism's 2015 goal of achieving 17 million visitor arrivals and S\$30 billion in tourism receipts. The country's plan for a next-generation national broadband wired broadband network is also on track for completion by 2012. To date, the Wireless@SG initiative has over 3,400 public hotspots island wide.

The IT sector in Singapore has seen strong growth in recent years, with broadband penetration standing at 77 percent among households and 52 percent among businesses. A recent survey of over 26,000 internet users showed that eight in ten Singaporeans shopped online. Efforts towards strengthening the infocomm capabilities of the country have taken the top priority in the national agenda as this contributes towards a composite economic development. IDA promotes the adoption of infocomm technology as a key enabler to, enhance Singapore's economic competitiveness. Singapore through its futuristic multi agency efforts is continuously investing in developing its infocomm infrastructure and has successfully accomplished its mission and today Singapore is recognized as one of the most network-ready countries in the world (3rd – The Global Information Technology Report 2006/07). Yet it is not ready to rest on its laurels but rolls out several strategic initiatives to enhance its IT capabilities towards a next generation infrastructure.

The government of Singapore realized the prowess of infocomm in ushering economic prosperity into the city state and in 2006 unveiled the iN2015 a 10 year blueprint towards harnessing the potential of infocomm in establishing a global city. Led by the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA), iN2015 is a multi-agency effort towards building a intelligent nation.

Welcoming the initiatives Ms. Ragini Dhanvantray of Rikvin consultancy said “Infocomm has greatly enhanced Singapore's competitiveness by raising productivity and transforming business processes. The potential of infocomm is always at the core of economic planning and Singapore government always plans for the future and deploys the resources in order to sustain its competitiveness. iGov2010 master plan, is a orchestrated effort to render government service online. The IT infrastructure, broadband penetration, applications and Usage along with techno savvy workforce make Singapore a commercially attractive

location for enterprises that are on an expansion spree, because this infrastructure assures productivity and efficiency, the two inevitable fundamentals for expanding enterprises”.

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Rikvin consultancy started in 1995 is an incorporation specialist specializing in company incorporation, registration and administration processing for all business types and sizes in Singapore and throughout the world. Rikvin facilitates foreign entrepreneurs’ immigration into Singapore by assisting in obtaining Entrepass for themselves and their families and employment pass for their employees. Rikvin also provides a full range of accounting services for companies who require a complete and properly constructed set of financial statements for their business purposes. For further information visit <http://www.rikvin.com>

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