



新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

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Electronic News Media & Publishing Consortium Starts Operation

Executives of news media and publishing industry must have encountered many different opinions and comments about the feasibility and practicality of offering electronic services over Internet or World-Wide-Web. The key to the answer is the Electronic News Media & Publishing Consortium (ENMPC).

ENMPC was formed in October 1995 to encourage the development of electronic information in Hong Kong. The project was initiated by The Chinese University of Hong Kong and sponsored by the Industry Department. Among the ten founding members are some prominent local news organisations.

At its opening ceremony, Professor Charles K Kao, Honorary Advisor of ENMPC and Vice-Chancellor of the Chinese University said, we had come to an information age in which there were powerful networks capable of carrying enormous amount of information. Different kinds of information were provided on the network but people would only buy information that could increase their productivity. The news media were traditional information sources people needed. Hence the establishment of ENMPC was in the right direction.

The main objective of the Consortium is to assist local news media and publishing organisations to provide electronic information service ie, to become an information service provider on the information highway at the lowest cost.

It will serve as a forum to discuss with other industrial leaders on many technical, cultural and social issues that affect the development of electronic information services. On the other hand, it provides a testbed for the local news media and publishing industry to experiment with electronic information delivery, retrieval and library services.

Dr Kwok-wai Cheung, a senior lecturer of The Chinese University of Hong Kong and Chairman of the Consortium believes that at this important turning point of the news media and publishing industry, active participation of the industry, with the help of the Consortium, will turn a new page in the history of local news media and publishing.

All hardware and software platforms are maintained by the Department of Information Engineering of the University. Services include an Internet account, 20 MByte disk space and consultancy service.

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For press enquiries, please call Cheung Man-yi of Information and Public Relations Office at 2609-8896