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新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

Hong Kong's first-ever connection to a global computer network was made yesterday at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Using a high-speed (64K b/s) satellite link, the Internet Connection allows access to worldwide resources of information in a matter of seconds, thus making it the most powerful computer communication now used in Hong Kong. The Chinese University believes this significant step in building stronger communication ties with overseas universities will be an invaluable asset in academic research.

At yesterday's presentation (November 21) of the Internet Connection, the Engineering Faculty of the Chinese University explained to the members of the University and Polytechnic Computer Centre (UPCC) the functions and ways to access the link. Mr Eric Lo, Computer Officer of Information Engineering Department, also gave a demonstration of Internet's major functions including personal communication in the form of interactive "talks", remote access of information and computation resources such as university library catalogues, data on specific topics, supercomputer centre and daily news etc. The Chinese University plans to share the link with the local tertiary institutions in order to set up a Hong Kong-wide network.

The Internet Connection is operated under the aegis of the Pacific Communication Community (PACCOM) which is an international consortium planning to develop a strong network for the Pacific Rim. As a member of the PACCOM, the Chinese University is able to participate in this international project, with funds provided by a bilateral agreement between the U.S. community of PACCOM and the Faculty of Engineering of the University, which requires each party to provide the respective 'half circuit' tariffs for the link.

Today the Internet connection involves 4,000 networks with more than one million users in USA, Europe, Australia, Japan and South Korea.

November 21, 1991

Attachment: Photo of Internet Connection Demonstration