

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER  
CIRCULAR TO CONTRACTORS NO. 1/2004**

**E-Government Infrastructure Service**

(Note : This circular is published through the OGCIO web site  
to IT contractors of the Government of the Hong Kong  
Special Administrative Region for general reference only)

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This Circular announces the launch of the Shared Platform for Internet Content and Applications (SPICA) of the E-Government Infrastructure Service (EGIS).

**Background**

2. With the objective to facilitate government bureaux and departments (B/Ds) to sustain e-Government initiatives, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) is establishing a common Internet application infrastructure, under the code name of EGIS, for the shared benefit of B/Ds to develop and deploy next generation citizen-centric and joined-up e-Government services. The EGIS is a service delivery platform designed to complement the existing central IT infrastructure of the Government and provide a handy service platform for Government-to-Citizen (G2C) and Government-to-Business (G2B) transactions.

3. The EGIS includes two key platform components, i.e. SPICA and the Shared COmmon Platform for Electronic Services (SCOPEs). SPICA serves as a centrally managed Internet content and applications hosting platform for shared use by B/Ds to develop and deploy their Internet content and applications with interactive and dynamic features. SCOPEs provides a collection of shared message-based service components for B/Ds to develop G2C and G2B e-services. They facilitate the development of more customer-centric services that cut across the traditional departmental boundaries in the design and provision of e-government services.

## **EGIS-SPICA Ready for Use**

4. From 16 September 2004 onwards, facilities of SPICA will be ready for use by B/Ds. Details about the functions of SPICA are set out at Annex.
5. SCOPES is scheduled to be ready by December 2004.

## **Joined-up e-Government Services**

6. EGIS adopts standards promulgated in Government's Interoperability Framework. It offers a scalable and flexible service delivery platform to facilitate the launch by B/Ds of their next generation citizen-centric and joined-up e-Government services in line with the 2004 Digital 21 Strategy to sharpen the e-Government focus and drive utilization.
7. Under the policy initiative of facilitating joined-up e-government services, B/Ds are required to make use of EGIS wherever applicable in their planning, implementation and provision of G2B/G2C services or inter-departmental electronic communications. Where exception is justifiable, B/Ds are still advised to follow the design model and technical standards of EGIS as far as possible.

## **Enquiries**

8. If you have any enquiries concerning this Circular, please contact Mr. Rex Tong, Senior Systems Manager, at (852) 3182 6773 or send an email to [rtong@ogcio.gov.hk](mailto:rtong@ogcio.gov.hk).



( John Wong )  
for Government Chief Information Officer

## SPICA Service Packages

The SPICA provides different service packages to suit different user requirements and allow for flexible web hosting arrangement-

- **Shared Server Farm Service** provides end-to-end e-service delivery environments, including development, functional and load testing, production and disaster recovery environments on a shared basis.
- **Notification Service** facilitates government bureaux and departments to send and manage outgoing notification to the public through email and/or other channels.
- **Streaming and Content Management Service** provides a one-stop-service for government bureaux and departments to host, publish, and manage multimedia and web content.
- **Portlet Repository Service** maintains a list of application components that can be reused and deployed by government bureaux and departments to develop portal pages or web applications in a modular manner.
- **Personalization Service** provides a reference model to facilitate government bureaux and departments to supplement Portal service with personalization technology in order to tailor web content or applications to meet individual user's characteristics or preferences.