SMART NATION
Transforming the Future
Editor’s NOTE

Singapore is dreaming big by becoming a Smart Nation. Singapore envisages functioning beyond what the leading smart cities are capable of today. Imagine we live in an outstanding country whereby we can control devices back at our homes via swiping different applications available in our smartphones; robotic domestic helpers are around to assist in our daily lives; transport machines that can bring us to our desired locations without going through any traffic jams on the roads; and many other endless possibilities that you may not have thought of.

As our nation aims to be the first ever Smart Nation in the world, we at ACP, takes pride to play a role towards educating our young generation to be ready for the transformed future. ACP is one of the authorised training vendors to participate in our Inforcomm Development Authority’s (IDA) latest ICT learning roadmap. We have a whole suite of 22 different courses that target to nurture the young creative minds in applying technologies to build our Smart Nation.

As what our Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong had quoted. “We have the people, we have the resources and we have the ability to make it happen.” The first ever Smart Nation will be realised in another 10 years from now. We can definitely make it happen!

ACP awarded ISO 2301:2012

The start of the year has been great for ACP. We are proud to share with you that ACP is ISO 2301:2012 certified. We have been awarded the International Standard for Business Continuity Management (BCM) certification, which proves that ACP is capable to demonstrate effective and resilient practice of business operations even during disruptive incidents.

CALL US NOW to register your students in our ICT COURSES tailored to build our Smart Nation. The ICT courses are FULLY FUNDED by IDA!
ACP has always been committed to nurturing the younger generation’s interest in information communication and technology. Since 1997, we have always been active in the education sector, providing various ICT trainings to the youth. We have participated in MOE’s ICT Masterplan I, II and even III. To date, we have extended our outreach to at least 50% of more than 360 schools and institutes in Singapore.

Singapore being a small nation, believes strongly in investing in education. There are many initiatives being introduced to bring up the skills of our people, especially in the ICT arena. ACP is deemed to have a competitive edge over others due to our years of experience in both ICT domain and education industry. Back on 24th November 2014, our Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong launched the vision of a Smart Nation. We are proud to be appointed as one of the accredited training vendors by Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) to participate in the provision of various ICT courses that are designed in accordance to the development of ICT Learning Roadmap. An ICT Learning Roadmap is a guide to structuring progressive ICT training in various ICT domains. The roadmap seeks to facilitate in strengthening the interest of the students who aspire towards particular roles in ICT. As an overview, the roadmap covers 4 functional domain areas of Application Development, Cyber Security, Data Analytics and Robotics & Makers. Different trainings are made available for the students so that they can be better equipped to live competently in our future Smart Nation.

On 20th January 2015, ACP participated in the annual Infocomm Club ‘Teachers’ Seminar 2015. The seminar was participated by various vendors who marketed different ICT packages to the teachers with the same goal of preparing our students for our upcoming Smart Nation. The educators’ overwhelming response in the seminar indicates their interest and commitment towards building a Smart Nation. During the seminar, we were given the opportunity to showcase our 22 different courses tailored for the ICT Learning Roadmap. We have instead categorised the 22 different modules into 6 broad categories namely:

Game Developer – Students get to learn how to develop their own coolest games to be played by their peers or even the public. It is never impossible if your newly developed game is sought after by big IT companies.

Mobile App Developer – Most students already own a Smartphone. Developing a mobile app like sharing tips and tricks in handling their school assignment will become a reality.

Web Developer – Students get to enhance their communication and creativity skills in creating a website. Students can easily become entrepreneurs online with the new skill acquired.

Business Analytics – Students are taught to manage and organise the huge data easily and widely available. Accumulate, interpret and use the useful data will make you the next big entrepreneur. Imagine you are able to decipher the trend of the students’ eating habits, you can always be the next top stall holder selling the most sought after food.

Ethical Hacker – Students learn to manage and control programming challenges. You can outwit infiltrators through programming challenges that arouse genuine curiosity to counter cyber-attack in the world of hackers.

Roboticist & Maker – Students get to learn and build a simple robot that can listen to their commands. You can aspire to build one robot to help you clean the classroom.

Educators know that this Learning Roadmap would make a difference and impact the future of their students. This latest initiative encourages the teachers-in-charge of the Infocomm Clubs to sign up at least one module for their students. Furthermore, the program is fully funded by IDA. With the support and constant review by IDA, educators can be assured of the quality of the trainings to be conducted on the students.

In fact, ACP has started the trainings in some schools since February 2015. With the students’ moulded interest in ICT, there can be endless opportunities for them to transform the future. Let us all engage ourselves to the future by maximising our ICT capabilities. Hand in hand we can build a Smart Nation!
A smart city is described as one which uses digital technologies to enhance performance and wellbeing, to reduce costs and resource consumption, and to engage more effectively and actively with its citizens. In fact, there are many smart cities developed around different parts of the world.

As Singapore celebrates its 50th independence in 2015, our Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong launched the latest nation’s vision – to be a Smart Nation in 5 years. Though a small country, our nation is thinking big. Singapore will be the first ever country to become a Smart Nation in the world.

Singapore definitely possesses the potential to work towards building a Smart Nation. We are well connected in this digital enabled society. 9 out of 10 homes have broadband; more than 85 percent of the population own a smartphone; our government services are technology enabled where our citizens have benefited from the array of e-services ranging from filing taxes, applying passports and even borrowing books from the national libraries. Our population is constantly exposed to technologies whereby both digital natives and immigrants are growing in size. Technology is never unfamiliar to our people.

**Imagine Our Future**

In a well-connected Smart Nation, convenience will definitely be one of the key benefits that we will enjoy. In the near future, all our electrical devices switches may be linked up with our smartphones. Thus, should you be away from your home, you can always be sure that no wastage of energies will be plausible as you can always off the devices anywhere and anytime with your mobile phone.

Surveillance cameras may be a commonplace in homes other than those existing owners who use indoor surveillance cameras to monitor their domestic helpers’ work. Thus, should there be any break in; alerts can be sent over to the owners and/or even the law enforcers. Crime rates will definitely be reduced.

Applications can be developed whereby alarms can be sent off to one whose elderly parent suffers a distress at home. This allows immediate attention to avoid unnecessary misfortune. Workers’ efficiencies can be improved if they can set their minds at rest at all times, without having to worry about their seniors back home.

Soon there might be robotic helpers at homes. Currently, you have seen robotic vacuum cleaners; robotic helpers that can help the busy career women to do other household chores would be most welcomed. Quality family time will be present.

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**Top 10 Smart Cities in the world**

1. Vienna
2. Toronto
3. Paris
4. New York
5. London
6. Tokyo
7. Berlin
8. Copenhagen
9. Hong Kong
10. Barcelona

Source: Coexist.com
Town councils can also develop applications that can help to bring the interests of different residents in the community. Residents who enjoy gardening can come together to share their tips and tricks conveniently. In a cohesive living community, residents can even pool resources together in the future, similar to the concept of carpooling.

In restaurants, you may soon be greeted by robotic waitresses and waiters, solving the prevalent issue of manpower crunch in Singapore. The restaurants can open longer hours, catering to more crowds.

The Commitment

The launch of the Smart Nation initiative is a testament to our Government’s commitment to use technology to make a difference to our lives, to build an outstanding country for our people. The Government will lay the foundation—build the infrastructure, facilitate innovation and create the framework for all of us to contribute. The Government is positive to open up our maps, our databases of places and information about them, so that the public can share information and also to contribute and put information into the system.

In January 2015, The Municipal Services Office (MGO) has launched a mobile application named OneService. The application allows the public to provide their feedback on municipal issues on one common platform, based on the issues they encounter. The application will automatically route each feedback to the relevant agency so that more timely service and response can be provided.

The Government has pledged to set up a Smart Nation Programme Office in the Prime Minister’s Office. The office will be tasked to identify issues, prototype ideas and deploy them effectively to benefit the whole nation.

The Challenge

While we are more open in our data and information via the internet, there is always an issue on cyber security. It is of utmost importance that our systems are secure and are well protected from the malicious attacks.

As we get all well connected, a cyber-attack that brings down our power grid in the whole of Singapore can be disastrous. Should there be a power failure, how could the control tower at the airport direct safety in the air? How many lives can be endangered with such an attack?

Thus, we need to constantly review our existing systems, improve the systems, and strengthen the systems’ security. We need systems which every one of us can rely on. Building a strong and reliable infrastructure is the top priority of a Smart Nation.

The Education

In building a Smart Nation, the Government will not be able to do it alone. The whole nation has to participate with the right skills and the right mindsets. Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) has always been supportive towards the Infocomm Clubs Programme in primary, secondary schools and junior colleges. IDA aspires to encourage the innovation spirit among the young generation; to cultivate their Infocomm skills. Recently, IDA has spearheaded an ICT Learning Roadmap. It acts as a guide in structuring progressive ICT training in various ICT domains. The roadmap covers 4 functional domain areas of Application Development, Cyber Security, Data Analytics and Robotics & Makers.

ACP is proud to be one of the appointed training vendors to partake in this ICT Learning Roadmap. The training courses target to empower the students with the technology of the future. In total, we have a whole suite of 22 different courses available for our students to choose from.

An Outstanding Country to live in

The vision of a Smart Nation will transform our future for the better. It is not simply a country meant for the technologically savvy people. It is an outstanding country where every one of us endeavours to live in. The convenience in our daily lives and the improved productivity in the workplaces are just some of the fantastic outcomes of a Smart Nation.

We have come across many movies featuring the many opportunities and possibilities in the futuristic world. Driverless cars; robotic helpers; wearable gadgets that do away with wallets and identity cards will become reality soon. Imagine the future healthcare being made conveniently available at home via a health capsule; where one can fit in to be treated automatically?
The little red dot is dreaming big!

1. SMARTNATION
2. CYBERSECURITY
3. DIGITAL
4. TRANSFORM
5. FUTURE
6. WIRELESS
7. URBANISED
8. SENSORS
9. ROBOTIC
10. TECHNOLOGY

Search the words above in the puzzle on your RIGHT.

How babies will be born in future
Farah believes that she will be able to contribute towards building of a Smart Nation

I am always seeking smarter solutions in engaging the students. It is definitely my goal to sustain the attention of the students to learn ICT in a livelier and fun manner. At ACP, I am given various opportunities to grow professionally with the training courses given to me. I am able to share and contribute to other ICT trainers in the Company via regular meetings. I do love my job in ACP. Thus, I do strongly agree with Steve Jobs’s quote “The only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what you do.”

As Singapore moves towards her vision of a Smart Nation, I believe I am able to contribute through equipping the younger generation with ICT skills through education. Being proficient in ICT may enable their creativity in all the work they may handle in the future.

April believes commitment and passion in work drives achievement of goals

I am part of ACP family since 2011. I am ACP’s Software Quality Analyst, making sure that the learning management systems are working in accordance to the clients’ expectations. There are many deadlines stipulated in the projects which I have to ensure time management is done appropriately. In ACP, you are never left alone. Every one of us works as a team to achieve the common goal. ACP has given me flexibility in improvising different work procedures which are self-rewarding. Timely trainings are provided to ensure that we are able to cope with our tasks. Nevertheless, I do believe that commitment and passion towards your work will achieve work goals.

A Smart Nation suggests to me a country that “Empowers Everyone Everything Everywhere.” Everyone can contribute in building a Smart Nation by seeking various ways to use technology to improve our lifestyles in this ever changing environment.

Quick Facts

What other Smart Cities are doing?

Amsterdam car owners are using the Smart Parking app – Moby Park, which allows you to book your parking spot in advance. It enables drivers to spend less time looking for parking lots and reduce air pollution. Private parking lots, public parking garages, hotels, and hospitals, make their unoccupied parking spots available to drivers through MobyPark.

Source: http://amsterdamsmartcity.com/projects/detail/645/slug/smart-parking
Learn, Build and Experience the world of robotics with ROBOX!

ROBOX is a holistic experiential learning package that promotes the practical way of learning classroom subjects through robotics. It offers complete hands-on approach fostering the spirit of teamwork to promote a well socially inclusive nation.

ROBOX comes with RoboGuru, a software which targets to introduce your students to programming in a fun and intuitive approach; RoboBrain, a device that adds intelligence to your newly built mechanical structures; and finally the Building blocks which allow your students to build and/or modify the design of their desired robots.

Come on down to our product preview at ACP office. We will be conducting a 2-hour workshop on 2 different Fridays to introduce you to the key learning outcomes for your students on our Roboticist course, with live demonstration of ROBOX!

Workshop Date: 24 April 2015
Time: 2:00 – 5:00 pm
Registration for this workshop will end on 20 April 2015

Workshop Date: 29 May 2015
Time: 2:00pm – 5:00pm
Registration for this workshop will end on 22 May 2015

Please call us at 6227 7996 or email us at info@acpcomputer.edu.sg to register your interest. Attendees of our workshop will be able to get ROBOX at DISCOUNTED prices!

CELEBRATIONS at ACP

ACP celebrated the Goat Year with loads of food and fun! Meh the HUAT be with us!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Ms Camille Nunez, our lead developer received her 5 years’ long service award.

Mr Kevin Lee has been promoted to be our Director of Operations and Services.

Mr Kum Seong Poon has been promoted to be our Account Manager.

Ms Yvonne Poh has been promoted to be our Senior HR Executive.

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touch technology solutions for schools
XPERIENCE it today

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Engaging the Future