

A Major IT Park Takes Shape

Quang Trung Software City (QTSC) in HCM City's District 12 will be developed into a giant information technology park brand after nine years of successful operation

By Quang Tuan

Being managed by Quang Trung Software City Development Corp., the software park at first in 2001 got about VND210 billion from the State budget and attracted about 20 enterprises. The respective figures have now shot up to VND2 trillion and over 100 enterprises. Around 57% of the companies in the park come from foreign countries. Total revenues generated at this park last year amounted to about US\$100 million. In 2007-2009, 23,000 information technology (IT) students were trained there and at the moment, there are 15,600 students completing their courses. With 64,000 square meters of office space available for leasing, over 75% of QTSC space has been occupied.

Developing an IT park brand

These figures were proudly announced by Chu Tien Dung, general director of Quang Trung Software Development Corp., at a function held at the White Palace Convention Center in HCM City last Friday to mark the ninth anniversary of the software park. This was also the occasion for the park's management to meet partners and investors, and honor the best enterprises there. In particular, QTSC rewarded 12 best enterprises of 2009 (see the box).

LIST OF 12 BEST ENTERPRISES OF 2009

1. Tuong Minh Services Private Enterprise
2. Global Cybersoft Vietnam
3. Sports Marketing Software Co.
4. TÜV Rheinland Vietnam
5. GHP Far East
6. Capgemini Vietnam (IACP ASIA)
7. Digi-Texx Co.
8. Pyramid Software Development Co.
9. Larion Computing Co.
10. Saigon Technology College (Saigontech)
11. Hoa Sen University
12. Global Consulting Vietnam



A representative of Quang Trung Software City Development Corp. signs strategic cooperation agreements with three media organizations – the Saigon Times Group, Vietnam Investment Review and Sai Gon Giai Phong at the ceremony held on Mar. 26 at White Palace Convention Center in HCM City

KINH LUAN

Dung said the company would make use of experiences and advantages acquired over the past nine years to map out a long-term development strategy for the park, which the Ministry of Information and Communications has acknowledged as the only concentrated IT park in Vietnam.

"Our three main goals are to attract the biggest enterprises and nurture small ones to turn the park into Vietnam's biggest software producer, supply high-quality human resources to help the sector take off, and create a favorable business environment to help firms thrive," Dung said. To carry out the plans, boosting promotion programs toward both domestic and foreign enterprises is a must.

At the ceremony, QTSC signed strategic cooperation agreements with three media organizations – the Saigon Times Group, Vietnam Investment Review and Sai Gon Giai Phong – to shore up publicity for the IT park.

Le Manh Ha, director of the HCM City Department of Information and Communications, said that after nine years of operation, QTSC had established itself as a software park brand in Vietnam. "As for future development plans, I think it's necessary to build a chain of Quang Trung Software Cities in other cities and provinces or even in foreign

countries to further promote the QTSC brand," Ha said. "When the QTSC brand is well developed, it will certainly attract multinationals whose satellite companies can follow suit by setting up shop at QTSC."

Frank Schellenberg, general director of GHP Far East, said: "In the past seven years, I've been here at QTSC where infrastructure, security and internal ISP are found to be good, and it's easy to expand office space and use facilities. I suggest creating a 'director club' with members of QTSC. We can make a roundtable with directors in QTSC once a month to share experience and sound out cooperation opportunities."

To realize the development plans, QTSC has new investments in telecommunications, including the IDC system with TIER 3 technology that is serving more than 50 customers. QTSC is also working with Quality Assurance and Testing Center 3 (QUATEST3) to complete a quality control system meeting the ISO 27001:2005 standards. It also has plans to offer cloud computing and Green IDC services.

All these efforts are to give a comfortable feeling of safety and creating an ideal place for customers toward becoming a major IT Park in the near future.