

Case Studies

2000

Another 18-Month PC and Network Bulk Contract from the Government

ASL has won a bulk contract to supply microcomputer systems, network systems, training and related services to various Government departments for a duration of 18 months. This enables ASL to continue serving the Government after the expiry of the previous contract in December 1999. Specified in the tender document, the Government has set a budget to spend HK\$800 million or more in this area and has the discretion of extending this contract for one more year.

1999

Over HK\$300 Million Government PC & Network and UNIX Bulk Contracts

Automated Systems Holdings Limited (The ASL Group) won both of the large bulk tenders with the SAR Government -- the PC & Network Bulk and the UNIX Bulk.

The former was acquired by Automated Systems (HK) Limited to provide the supply, implementation, maintenance, training services and other related services of computer systems and network products to various government departments. Within a year, government departments could draw orders amounting up to HK\$237 million. Following the expiry of the 1996 contract, the acquisition of this tender signified another great year of service to the government departments.

The UNIX Bulk, on the other hand, was acquired by ELM Computer Technologies Limited (ELM), another subsidiary under The ASL Group. According to this contract, the ITSD was committed to purchase IBM RS/6000 servers from ELM for any new installations or upgrades on the UNIX platform in various government departments.

1998

Hong Kong I.T. Achievement Award 1998 (Service Category)

ASL and Hongkong Telecom won the Hong Kong I.T. Achievement Award 1998 in service category. Organized by Sing Tao Daily, the Hong Kong I.T. Achievement Award 1998 was the first of its kind to acknowledge the outstanding implementation of Information Technology by different corporations. The award presentation ceremony was held on June 25, 1998.

ASL and Hongkong Telecom's joint project - Prepaid Calling Card System (widely known as the Hello Phonecard) - was recognized as the best entry for IT Achievement Award in service category. Hongkong Telecom was responsible for the creation of Hello Phonecard project in meeting their business requirement, while ASL was the total solution provider who was responsible for system installation and implementation in making this project a real success.

The prepaid phonecard enabled customers to make calls within Hong Kong, from overseas back to Hong Kong or a third country. Behind the phonecard was a fully scalable computer system, which had a high performance of handling 100 transactions per second. It could also provide the most updated card information to customers with an average response time of 0.5 second. The system could support 10 million cards and was scaleable to meet all future demand. The system server was fully backed up by another server located at a different site to ensure round-the-clock uninterrupted services. The system comprised two Sun Enterprise 4000 servers in which an Oracle database was built to store all the phonecard information. BEA's Tuxedo was employed to perform on-line transaction process while Qualix HA+ to provide the high availability environment to the system.

1997

Sun Enterprise 10000 Server (Starfire) for City University of Hong Kong

As ASL installed the first Sun Microsystems Starfire in Asia at the City University of Hong Kong, the University is now moving Web-based academic applications over to an Ultra Enterprise 10000 server.

The City University Starfire server has 16 CPUs, 2 GB of memory and 130 GB of disk storage, combining mainframe performance and functionality with the benefits of network computing. The Starfire server can be scaled up to 64 CPUs as the University's education programmes expand. The server enables City University to run the multiterabyte applications that characterize its approach to tertiary education. In fact, the Starfire implementation is part of a wider Campus Network Upgrade programme. Through this ongoing programme, City University is standardized on Sun, replacing a multitude of legacy systems.

Now many of the University's staff are using the Internet to research their lessons and also maintain Web sites where course notes, assignments and background materials are published for their students to download. Meanwhile, many students have established their own Web pages as forums for information exchange with their peers. In addition, all the University's 18,000 students and 2,000 staff have emails. Students often receive assignments, administrative announcements and even their results electronically. On-line registration will also be implemented in the near future.

1996

Computer Systems & Network Equipment Bulk Contract for the Various Government Departments

In a continuous effort to improve efficiency, productivity and minimize paperwork, the Hong Kong Government awarded a bulk contract to ASL for supply and installation of computer systems. With estimated total value reaching HK\$300 millions, the contract included over



10,000 system units (Acer and HP PCs and server), 3COM and BayNetworks network equipment, office automation software such as Novell, Microsoft, Lotus, DOCS Open, Watermark, etc. plus a host of dedicated supporting services from ASL.

The project started in the first quarter of 1996 and is expected to be completed within 18 months. Installation and networking will take place in over 20 government departments, including the Agriculture & Fisheries, Legal Department, Customs & Excise, Civil Aviation, Department of Health, General Post Office, Hospital Services, Immigration, the Hong Kong Police Force, Hong Kong Judiciary, Trade Department, Observatory Department, Marine Department etc.