

Riding on the Hi-Tech Road

A hi-tech project, entitled “Dissemination of Manufacturing Technologies in Through-Hole Production in Miniaturisation of Electronics Packaging Substrate” has been initiated by the Department of Manufacturing Engineering to help make Hong Kong a major player in the world market of the substrate manufacturing industry.

Supported by the allocation of HK\$9.98 million from the Government’s Innovation and Technology Fund, the project is bolstered by many local hi-tech companies, including Compass Technology Company Limited. The company has committed to donate HK\$1 million in cash and HK\$1.62 million in plating facility and manpower support. In addition it will participate in PolyU’s Teaching Company Scheme, which has been highly appraised by the Commission on Innovation and Technology.

The project team consists of three academics from the Department of Manufacturing Engineering, namely Dr Winco Yung Kam-chuen, Principal investigator of the project, Dr Yue Tai-man and Prof. Lee Wing-bun. The



(from left) Dr Winco KC Yung, Mr Chee Cheung, General Manager of Compass Technology, President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong, Mr Francis Ho, Director-General of Industry, Edmond Poon, Director of Compass Technology and Prof. Lee Wing-bun.

trio have been very active in pursuing advanced technologies relating to the development of electronic and microelectronic industries.

The appraisal and dissemination of the technologies will primarily be made through a series of public seminars, workshops and feasibility studies. Consultancy services will be provided to address quality and reliability problems and a substrate technical information library will be established. ❖



Learning English is fun

Youth Weekly, a TV programme funded by the Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) of the HKSAR Government, aimed to raise awareness about communicative strategies and specific language usage. The show, targeted at teenagers and young adults, adopted a light-hearted and topically entertaining setting.

Poly’s English Language Centre was official consultant to Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) for this programme. Members of the Centre provided advice on language input and contributed to the story lines of the 13 episodes that came on the air from January to March. PolyU students were involved in the market research during the show’s conceptual stages and a number of students and instructors also acted in some of the episodes.

The programme was launched at New Town Plaza in Shatin on 8 January. Well-known Cantopop singers Wong Kit, So Wing-hong and local band Tai Chi provided entertainment. Officiating at the launch were President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong, Mr Cheung Man-sun of RTHK and Dr Tony Lee of EMB’s SCHOLAR Unit.

RTHK will put the 13 episodes on VCD and send them to all secondary schools in the territory together with the teaching points produced by the English Language Centre for the programme. ❖

Building a strong network in shipping

Orient Overseas Container Line Ltd. (OOCL) has been a long-standing partner of the Department of Shipping and Transport Logistics (STL), which offers a unique programme in shipping technology and management.

In recent years OOCL has provided onboard training opportunities to STL students under the aegis of the PolyU's 'Preferred Graduate' Development Programme. During the summers of 1997 and 1998, four students worked at OOCL and gained valuable experience in a real working environment.

Besides helping to groom the Department's students, OOCL has also recruited graduates from the Department. Since 1998 the company has employed five graduates as full-time staff, working in various areas, such as ship management, marketing and deck cadet officers.

In recognition of the company's close

partnership and to build up further collaboration, STL has invited management staff of OOCL's Shipping Department for a visit. The meeting also facilitated exchange of views on the development of the industry.

Prof. Kevin Cullinane, Chair & Head of STL, was appreciative of the continuous support extended by OOCL. "The fruitful relationship has indeed brought many mutual benefits. I am confident that the goodwill and trust will continue to create more opportunities for both parties." ❖



OOCL's Capt. HE Liaw, together with Capt. Alfred Cheung and Mr Den Fok, receives a memento from Prof. Cullinane (far left).

Looking at primary health care in Yunnan

Yunnan, a Chinese province with a population of 34 million, is widely known for its ethnic minorities. Some 28 different ethnic groups comprise about one-fourth of the total provincial population. The province, bordering Burma, Laos and Vietnam, boasts scenic wonders but the health care of the people has yet to be improved.



Staff members of the Department of Nursing and Health Sciences posing with Lisu (an ethnic group in Yunnan) people.

A staff team of the Department of Nursing and Health Sciences went on a field trip to Mangshi via Kunming, the capital city of Yunnan. The team visited four villages located on the west part of the province, separated from Burma by waters.

The focus of the visit was to assess the primary health care needs in these villages, with an aim to implement a three-year project. Primary health care can be regarded as a means of empowering people's own ability in tackling health problems and in making the decisions which need to be made.

Positive responses have been received from villagers about participating in a primary health care project and one of the villages has been identified as the first target community for the project. It is hoped that the villagers' involvement will help strengthen their ability to manage health. ❖