

**Introductory Comment for
Second Workshop for Both Shores Industrial
Collaboration of Android and 3G
Communications Technologies, Higher Education
Interactions and Technical Examination Visits**
第二屆海峽兩岸 Android 與 3G 通訊技術產業合
作、高校交流及參觀考察研討會

Da Hsuan Feng
Vice President for Global Strategies, Development and Evaluation
National Tsing Hua University
國立清華大學 副校長 馮達旋
(全球策略與企劃研考)



Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen. I am greatly honored that I represent my boss Academician Lih J. Chen (陳力俊) to welcome you to this very important

workshop. Let me thank Tze-Chiang Foundation of Science and Technology (自強工業基金會) from Taiwan and Two Shores Center for Economic, Science and Technology Collaborations (海峽經濟科技合作中心) from the Mainland for co-sponsoring this Workshop.

I have to admit that I am very awed by this task. After all, as a theoretical nuclear physicist, my knowledge of modern communication tools is confined to my intense usage of iPhone, iPad, internet, and what have you. Just as the consumer of the telephone many decades ago, all the marvelous and incredible technologies that are behind the interfaces are all hidden from me.

And here I am, talking to all the experts of such technologies from Mainland China and Taiwan, which because of political sensitivity, is collectively known euphemistically as “two shores” (兩岸.) So when I was given this task, I asked myself what could I possibly say that the audience would not simply feel that it was a utter waste of their time to listen to me.

So this morning, in the car, I used my iPhone who can assess China Telecom (中華電信) 3G system to surf the web about 3G and Android. It may sound ironical, but it is true. By the time I reached the Workshop venue, I have read enough about what 1G (analog,) 2G (digital) and 3G (multimedia) (and even 4G and beyond...) and Android and OIS (even their current legal battles) are all about.

As the old saying goes, a little knowledge is a “dangerous thing,” I am truly dangerous now!

Let me tell you a little experience I had in 1993, a mere eighteen years ago, but could be millennium by “internet time!” That year, together with Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) and the 9th Institute (九院) of China (China’s counterpart of Los Alamos National Laboratory,) I organized the 2nd International Conference on Computational Physics. Prior to the meeting, Dr. Michael Strayer of ORNL and I made a trip to Beijing to work with the local organizers on the logistics of the conference. Naturally, one of the things we were trying to do was to get assess of the internet in Beijing and in the end we found that we could not.

Also, we were unable to find any websites from China, and so we came to the conclusion that China either had very very small number of websites, or none!

I suspect Taiwan could not be better at that time.

This was the situation 18 years ago!

Let me tell you something that could take your breath away!

I think just in the past 5 minutes, I bet there were at least 50 or so new websites launched in China.

This morning, I read on my iPad which could access CNN via wifi that China's largest search engine Baidu (百度) has signed an agreement with music companies so that the 450 million internet users (yes, 450 million, not 45 million or 4 million) can download music through Baidu. Also, there are some 900 million cell phones users in China.

To put these numbers into perspective, United States has a population of 300 million. So in China, the number of internet users and cell phones users are 1.5 and 3 times greater than the population of United States, respectively.

So facing this massive market "other shore" (i.e. Mainland,) how should "this shore" (Taiwan) with a mere 23 million people respond to such a challenge?

Seems to me the answer is obvious. In the past half a century, Taiwan was able, through visionary leadership of great minds such as Sun Yun Suan (孫運璿,) Li Kwoh-Ting (李國鼎) and Mei Yi-Qi (梅貽琦,) to reinvent itself from an agricultural economy to a silicon economy! Besides setting up the infrastructure where technological landscape can be cultivated, such as the now world renowned Hsinchu Science and Technology Park (新竹科學與技術園區 HST) and Industrial Technologies Research Institute (工業技術研究院 ITRI,) research universities such as National Tsing Hua University (國立清華大學) which will produce

“software,” i.e. human resource, to power the transformation, were set up in the midst of the industrialization hardware.

I know that today, a significant number of communication experts, be it 3G, 4G, Android or IOS, and beyond, are embedded within many of the research universities in Taiwan. It is absolutely critical that these “soft powers” could and should work closely with their counterparts in “the other shore” to create a new set of soft-power to “power the massive and explosive communication market” in East Asia today.

This is why I am so excited about your Workshop. The implication of the outcome of this Workshop is profound and will have deep impact not only for Asia Pacific, but the world at large.

I wish you a truly successful Workshop!