21 April 2017

**CLP Power and VTC sign Memorandum of Understanding on Launch of Professional Diploma Course to Fast-Track Talent in the Power Industry**

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited ("CLP Power") and the Vocational Training Council ("VTC") today (21 April) signed a ground-breaking deal to launch a Professional Diploma course in Power Engineering which will nurture and fast-track professionals for the engineering industry. The part-time course, which can be completed within a minimum period of one year, will give Electrical and Mechanical (E&M) tradespeople the opportunity to advance their careers by studying for a professional diploma study and qualifying as technicians. The initiative has been launched in response to rising demand for skilled engineers and reflects CLP Power’s dedication to people development and technical skill succession. Enrolment for the course will start in July 2017.

At today’s signing ceremony of a Memorandum of Understanding for the professional diploma course, CLP Power Managing Director Mr Paul Poon said, “It is anticipated that the need for more power industry professionals will continue to rise because of electricity demand from major local infrastructure projects, new development areas and social developments. Operating and maintaining a network of power facilities requires professionals with highly developed technical skills, so with our long experience of nurturing talent for the engineering industry, CLP Power decided to team up with the VTC to develop the professional diploma course and train more high-calibre individuals from within the industry.”

Previously, if tradespeople wanted to qualify as technicians, they would have to spend three to four years studying part-time to complete a higher diploma course, discouraging many of them from pursuing a step-up in their careers. The new professional diploma course would provide them with a convenient and effective fast-track option, Mr Poon explained.

“The Professional Diploma course in Power Engineering, which can be completed within a minimum period of one year, will provide more focused and in-depth training for experienced E&M tradespeople, allowing them to obtain specialised knowledge and skills in relation to power systems,” he said. “Students who complete the course will qualify as technicians in power engineering and can advance their careers while continuing to contribute to the power industry.”

The diploma course has been accredited as a Qualifications Framework Level 4 programme. It covers aspects of high voltage power systems including planning and
design, operations, testing and commissioning, and maintenance. The course is open to tradespeople in the E&M industry with more than two years of experience.

As well as classroom lectures, students will have the opportunity to get hands-on experience of power equipment at CLP Power Academy or visit the power facilities or work sites of CLP Power. Graduates will qualify as technicians and outstanding graduates will have the opportunity to be hired by CLP Power as Technical Assistants or Technicians.

A total of 40 places will be offered for the first professional diploma course starting in October, with enrolment beginning in July. Students can apply for support from an Engineering Training Subsidy Scheme offered by the VTC which provides a 60% refund on tuition fees. More details about the course will be posted on the VTC website.

**About CLP Power Hong Kong Limited**

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited ("CLP Power") is the Hong Kong utility subsidiary wholly owned by CLP Holdings Limited, a company listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and one of the largest investor-owned power businesses in Asia. CLP Power operates a vertically integrated electricity supply business in Hong Kong, and provides a highly reliable supply of electricity and excellent customer services to 6 million people in its supply area.

**Photo 1**

Witnessed by CLP Power Managing Director Mr Paul Poon (first left) and VTC Deputy Executive Director Ms Josephine Kea (first right), CLP Power Deputy Director – Engineering Training and Development of Power Systems Mr Kwan Chung Ming (second left) and VTC Academic Director of Engineering Discipline Dr Eric Liu (second right) sign the Memorandum of Understanding on jointly offering Professional Diploma course in Power Engineering.
CLP Power Managing Director Mr Paul Poon says the course will provide tradespeople with a convenient and effective fast-track option to qualify as technicians, as well as helping train high-calibre professionals for the power industry.

As well as classroom lectures, students will have the opportunity to enjoy hands-on experience of power equipment at CLP Power Academy, or visit the power facilities or work sites of CLP Power.

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