

Biography of Keynote Speaker

Mr. Sammy Kam

Venue:	Lecture Theatre 6 (Yellow Zone), City University of Hong Kong 78 Tat Chee Road, Kowloon Tong
Date:	April 30, 2009 (Thursday)
Time:	18:15 - 19:45pm



Sammy Kam joined Octopus in 1995 and has since been involved in the development, implementation and operation of the Octopus system in Hong Kong.

Mr. Kam is the Technical Director at Octopus, managing a team of IT professionals with diversified skills and extensive experience in contactless smart card applications, central clearing house system design and large-scale international projects. He has over 20 years of experience in software development and system integration projects.

He is a chartered engineer and holds a Master of Science degree in Information Systems Management and an MBA degree. Before joining Octopus, he has worked in the software engineering departments of leading computer vendors, including Digital Equipment Corporation and Unisys China Limited.

Launched in 1997, Hong Kong's Octopus is one of the world's leading and most extensive smartcard payment systems, with over 50,000 readers being used by more than 2,000 service providers across different businesses including transport, parking, retail, vending and kiosks, schools, leisure facilities and access control for residential and commercial buildings. Merchants and Octopus holders embrace Octopus for both its simplicity and its convenience. Today, over 19 million Octopus cards and products are in circulation, and the system handles over 10 million transactions a day, with transaction value exceeding HK\$85 million.

Internationally, Octopus has been exporting its unique experience and technology as well as offering consultancy services to clients from different parts of the world. In 2003, Octopus was awarded a contract by the Netherlands to implement a nationwide automatic fare collection system. In 2007, Octopus was awarded a tender to develop and implement a contactless smartcard payment system for the Road and Transport Authority in Dubai. Modelled on Hong Kong's Octopus, the new system will be a common payment platform for multiple public transport services.