A Faster Development on Printing Standardization of China

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Respectable Mr. Gregory So, Mr. Yang Guangrui, Ms. Maria Kwan, Mr. Yeung Kam Kai, distinguished guests and dear friends from printing industry, Good morning!

The Hong Kong Summit-Global Printing Standardization, organized by the Hong Kong Printers Association, co-organized by Hong Kong Design Institute and implemented by Advanced Printing Technology Centre, grandly open today. The Summit is not only a grand occasion for printing industry in Hong Kong, but also a great event in the process of standardization administration of China, following the "ISO/TC130 in China – The Development of International Graphic Arts Standardization Forum" held in Beijing 2009. I'm here on behalf of National Technical Committee 170 on Printing of Standardization Administration of China (SAC/TC 170), to extend our warmest congratulations to successful organization of this forum, to express our sincere greetings to present guests, speakers and experts, as well as to extend our heartfelt respect to Trade and Industry Department of Hong Kong SAR government, providing great support for the Summit.

Printing standardization is a key supporting technology for a rapid and healthy development of printing industry. The level of standardization is closely related to the printing quality. Since the establishment in 1991, SAC/TC170 has committed to promote the standardization with persistent efforts under the leadership of General Administration of Press and Publication (GAPP) and Standardization Administration of People's Republic of China (SAC). Especially in recent five years, SAC/TC170 had performed active exploration and courageous practice, therefore the printing industry of China has come to a new stage with steady progress, which has expressed in several aspects as follows:

First of all, define guiding thoughts clearly. It lays a foundation for the implementation of new printing standardization. Printing standardization plays an important role in printing and publishing. Comparing with other areas, it is also confronting with some problems of industrial transformation, like how to adapt to new trends and how to promote the standardization in new era; all these problems must be solved. Therefore, the guiding thoughts of printing standardization are put forward of "three orientations and three services", namely "to be enterprise-orientated, industry-orientated and market-oriented" as well as "to serve for the enterprise, industry and market". When guiding thoughts were put forward and defined, it had shaped our ideas for the future work on printing standardization and raised the awareness of enterprise standardization, then the standardization concept has been strengthened and printing standardization becomes the focus and common concern in the printing industry.

Second, build up platform for enterprises to participate in printing standard amendment. It has motivated enterprises to be directly involved in the amendment, accelerated the process of item set-up and formulation, amended a batch of outdated standards, shortened planned working time for amendment as well as improved the whole process of printing standardization. According to the statistics, 31 standards have been amended within five years, 23 standards are still under development, more than 10 standards are in the process of drafting, one non-profit research project of quality test has been completed and another project is in operation. 445 enterprises have participated in various levels of standard amendment. In the past five years, enterprises had sponsored several millions RMB for standard amendment and standardization.

Third, cultivate and bring up a number of professionals for printing standardization. Experts and technicians of printing standardization are gradually emerging. Besides senior experts, more and more juniors representing new technology have sprung up. According to incomplete statistics, 906 experts and technicians had participated in various levels of standard amendment in the past five years.

Fourth, collaborate with leading enterprises of various areas in printing industry to set up "Standardized Test Base", which symbolizes a new exploration in printing standardization, a change of operation mode and a new era of standardization. Eight standardized test bases had been built up. They are cooperated by Artron, Duocai Printing, Starlite Holdings, Heshan Astros Printing, Tianjin Toyo Ink, C&C Joint Printing, Goldeast Paper and IMGS Printing. And the bases provide great support for printing standardization and make great contributions to the construction of printing standardization in China.

Fifth, the printing standardization sub-technical committee is further developing actively. In recent years, Shenzhen Printing Association, Shenzhen Polytechnic and China Screen Printing & Graphic Imaging Association have completed the recruitment and organization of Book and Periodical Printing Sub-Technical Committee, Screen Printing Sub-Technical Committee and Packaging Printing Sub-Technical Committee. After the review of GAPP, they were submitted to Standardization Administration of China. Once officially approved, the Secretariat of Screen Printing Sub-Technical Committee will be in the charge of China Screen Printing & Graphic Imagine Association, meanwhile the Secretariat of Book and Periodical Printing Sub-Technical Committee and the Secretariat of Packaging Printing Sub-Technical Committee will be in the charge of Shenzhen Printing Association and Shenzhen Polytechnic respectively.

Sixth, enhance the communication between ISO/TC 170 and ISO/TC 130, carry on participating in conferences held by ISO/TC 130, actively exercise authority and fulfill responsibilities as a "P" member country and join in discussions and votes on various levels of printing standardization. Since 2005, clear opinions of "Agreed", "Disagreed" and "Abstained" have been expressed on 86 items. Particularly in 2009, it was China's first time to co-organize the ISO/TC 130 23rd Annual Meeting in Beijing and successfully held the "ISO/TC 130 in China--The Development of International Graphic Arts Standardization Forum". Ten famous speakers of experts, scholars and government officials on printing standardization from Germany, U.S, U.K and China had delivered wonderful speeches themed in issues of printing standardization. Nearly 40 overseas experts and more than 300 Chinese professionals were present at the forum, which built up a communication platform for Chinese and overseas experts. ISO/TC 130 sang a high praise for the success of the forum and it was considered

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as "a unique opportunity to promote ISO/TC 130 in China".

Seventh, international postpress task force has established and started to take further actions. China had put forward a proposal of "To Establish a Postpress Working Group" in the ISO/TC 130 23rd Annual Meeting and the proposal was unanimously approved. Then the resolution of "China Lead to Build up the Postpress Working Group, Undertake the Leader and Secretariat" had been approved as well. After one year's arduous work, ISO/TC 130/WG 12 was officially set up, obtaining great support from Beijing Institute of Graphic Communication, Heidelberg Shenzhen Ltd, Artron, Advanced Printing Technology Centre, Hong Kong Design Institute and so on. At the same time, international standard organizations and experts from Brazil, Switzerland, UK, U.S, Japan and Sweden had cooperated and supported the set-up of task force. The establishment of Postpress Working Group means Chinese printing industry was initially and "truly" involved in international standardization. Nowadays, ISO/TC 130 has distributed reference numbers (ISO/PWI 16762, ISO/PWI 16763). He Xiaohui, the convener of ISO/TC 130/WG 12 has been working with other experts from home and abroad on relevant projects.

Eighth, in order to meet the development of domestic printing standardization and external communication as well as the need of tracking advanced international standard; to participate in international standardization "truly" and scientifically accelerate the development of domestic printing standardization, GAPP and SAC had reviewed 12 professionals and approved them in June 2010 as registered ISO/TC 130 experts. (Including He Xiaohui, Chen Yaxiong, Liu Haoxue, Yang Bin, Tan Haohui, Dai Zuxi, Roy Tang, Fong Kwun Yeung Andrew, Liu Xin, Liu Xia, Pang On Kei Brenda and Chan Kit Man Racky.)

All above are the latest developments of printing standardization in China, some are explorations in new areas and some are very initiative. As a major printing country, China is undergoing the transition to a powerful printing country. GAPP required a target that China will become a leading country of news publishing and printing in 2020. Printing covers more than half of the output value in news publishing and printing industry, as the market shaped early and the industry changed fast, China should realize the target ahead of time. Based on these conditions, there are enough reasons to say, China will have a faster development on printing standardization. And we firmly believe there must be a faster development on printing standardization in China with the transition to a powerful printing country.

Hong Kong is an important printing base around the world. Since the reform and opening-up, a great number of Hong Kong enterprises have relocated to Pearl River Delta and registered in mainland, resulted in a great number of Hong Kong enterprises and Joint Ventures. They have grown up rapidly and some of them become leading enterprises of printing industry in China. As a whole, the printing industry of Hong Kong has a close tie with the counterpart of mainland in different aspects, like business development and professional exchange. Printing standardization is a common concern between Hong Kong and mainland. In April 2006, Mr. Lee Tak Win, Chairman of The Hong Kong Printers Association, Mr. Yeung Kam Kai, Vice-Chairman of The Hong Kong Printers Association, Mr. Tsang Chiu Hok, Secretary of Institute of Print-media Professionals, together with Ms. Pang On Kei Brenda came to Beijing to visit Mr. Sun Shoushan, who was the head of GAPP and SAC at that time, learning about state policies of printing standardization and the development of mainland printing standardization and discussion about the cooperation between Hong Kong and mainland. Promoted

by The Hong Kong Printers Association and other organizations, the cooperation between Hong Kong and mainland has made great achievements within a few years. At present, in Hong Kong there are 3 members of SAC (Pang On Kei Brenda, Man Hon Ying, Yip Wai Yee), 2 registered experts of ISO/ TC 130 (Pang On Kei Brenda, Chan Kit Man) and 4 experts (Tan Haohui, Roy Tang, Dai Zuxi, Fang Junyang) who are Hong Kong citizens but registered as representatives of mainland enterprises. Experts and scholars in Hong Kong actively participated in the standardization amendment and events held by SAC, like "China Printing Standardization Administration Annual Meeting", to enhance communication of experts and professionals between mainland and Hong Kong. In the aspect of international exchange, the experts and scholars in Hong Kong had continuously participated in task force conferences and annual meetings held by ISO/TC 130 and made contributions to the design of ISO 5776.2 character (pictograph) proofreading marks, particularly Hong Kong Design Institute and Mr. Chan Kit Man provided a lot of supports to the form design of the final proofreading marks. In 2009, The Hong Kong Printers Association co-organized with SAC and China Printing Association to successfully hold "ISO/TC130 in China - The Development of International Graphic Arts Standardization Forum" and I still clearly remembered a speech titled "Promotion of International Standardization in Hong Kong", which was delivered by Mr. So Wah Sum, Vice-Chairman of The Hong Kong Printers Association. The speech is wonderful with vivid pictures and description, impressed all the domestic and overseas participants. Today, the Summit is organized by The Hong Kong Printers Association and implemented by Advanced Printing Technology Centre, it is a very good platform for printing industry in Hong Kong. Participants and experts from various countries can exchange ideas on ISO/TC 130 printing standard through the platform, it has important significance to learn and absorb advanced concept of printing standardization, to promote local printing industry to have a better knowledge of international printing standard as well as to further develop printing industry and printing standardization in Hong Kong.

Ladies and gentlemen, printing standardization plays a vital role to printing industry and relevant enterprises. It is not only the gateway for the expansion of industry and enterprise but also the prerequisite for China to change from major printing country to a powerful printing country. Let us work together and make efforts and contributions to the promotion of printing standardization and its new development.

I wish the Summit a great success!

Thank you!