



Press Release

Towngas and VTC to launch the first Professional Diploma in Gas Engineering to enhance the competence of industry talents

(15 January 2018, Hong Kong) The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (“Towngas”) and Vocational Training Council (“VTC”) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) to launch the first Professional Diploma course in Gas Engineering. In order to sustain the development and to further the advancement of the gas industry, and to equip high-caliber technicians and engineers with the necessary expertise, the course is specially designed to deliver a comprehensive theoretical and practical training for the industry. The initiative highlights Towngas’ and VTC’s dedication and commitment to popularize gas engineering knowledge and to maintain a healthy manpower succession in the trade.

The new professional diploma course, accredited as a Qualifications Framework Level 4 programme, covers aspects of the production, transportation, distribution and utilisation of city gas. To embark on a minimum of around a year journey learning from industry experts, students will have the opportunities to visit some of the environmentally-friendly operations of Towngas, including the largest landfill gas treatment and utilisation projects of its kind in Asia.

At today’s signing ceremony, Towngas Managing Director Mr. Alfred Chan said, “We are delighted to continue our collaboration with VTC, moving to the next level by offering more specialised training for the gas industry to nurture professionals to cope with extensive gas applications such as gas-powered space cooling and heating, dehumidifying, as well as clothes drying.” Mr. Chan added, “Towngas will also join hands with other tertiary institutions to launch in September this year a module on gas engineering for their degree programmes.”

Practitioners in gas-associated trades such as property management, construction industry etc., now can enroll in this new part-time course to acquire energy and safety management knowledge etc. to keep their career progressing with continuous professional development. Towngas will provide full subsidy to relevant colleagues to join the course.

Attending the MoU signing ceremony, VTC Executive Director Mrs. Carrie Yau said, “Under the developing knowledge economy and what are required of the workforce in the new century, industry practitioners across different sectors will need to upgrade and update their professional knowledge on top of skill mastery.” She further remarked that the joint programme enabled industry talent to keep abreast of the latest industry knowledge and trends through theoretical learning and practice. On completion of the programme, students/trainees can further articulate to a related programme for career and academic progression.

Course enrolment will start in May while classes will begin in July. Students are eligible to apply for the Engineering Training Subsidy Scheme that provides at maximum a 60% refund on tuition fees. The course not only covers modules related to the gas technology, but also modules such as customer service, safety management, supervisory skills etc., paving the way for graduates to be part of corporate management.

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Course details of Professional Diploma in Gas Engineering

Scope of learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fundamental Gas Engineering Technology - Gas Production System - Gas Transportation - Gas Utilisation - Safety Management - Engineering Management - Engineer in Society - Energy Management & Safety
Entrance requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Five HKCEE/DSE subjects at Grade E/Level 2 or above, including English and Chinese Languages, or equivalent, with two years' work experience; OR 2. Completion of a QF Level 3 programme, or equivalent, with one year's work experience; OR 3. Mature applicants, i.e. those aged 21 or above with at least two years' relevant work experience, may also be accepted. Where appropriate, the applicant may be required to pass an entrance assessment, which can be in an oral and/or written form.
Number of hours	Approximately 270 hours

About The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited

Founded in 1862, The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (Towngas) was Hong Kong's first public utility and is one of the largest energy suppliers in Hong Kong. Towngas is dedicated to being Asia's leading clean energy supplier and quality service provider, with a focus on innovation and environmental-friendliness. In Hong Kong, Towngas has a customer base of about 1.9 million accounts covering residential, commercial and industrial sectors, providing one of the safest and most reliable supplies of gas in the world. Towngas currently has over 240 projects on the mainland, spreading across 26 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities. These projects encompass upstream, midstream and downstream natural gas sectors, water sectors, efficient energy applications and exploration and utilisation of emerging environmentally-friendly energy, as well as telecommunications.

About Vocational Training Council (VTC)

Established in 1982, the Vocational Training Council (VTC) is the largest vocational and professional education and training provider in Hong Kong with some 250,000 students and trainees each year. The mission of VTC is to provide a valued choice to school leavers and working people to acquire the values, knowledge and skills for lifelong learning and enhanced employability, and also to provide support to industries for their manpower development. VTC has 13 member institutions, namely the Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong (THEi), the Institute of Professional Education And Knowledge (PEAK), the School for Higher and Professional Education (SHAPE), the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (IVE), the Hong Kong Design Institute (HKDI), Hotel and Tourism Institute (HTI), Chinese Cuisine Institute (CCI), International Culinary Institute (ICI), Maritime Services Training Institute (MSTI), Youth College, Pro-Act by VTC, Integrated Vocational Development Centre (IVDC) and Shine Skills Centre.

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Photo 1



Witnessed by Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services Department of HKSAR Government Alfred Sit (back row third left), Towngas Managing Director Alfred Chan (back row second left) and Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer – Utilities Business Peter Wong (back row first left), VTC Executive Director Carrie Yau (back row second right) and Deputy Executive Director Eric Liu (back row first right), as well as Legislative Council member Lo Wai-kwok (back row third right), Principal of Towngas Engineering Academy James To (front row left) and Academic Director (Engineering) of VTC Chi-yung Shiu (front row right) signed the MoU on jointly offering Professional Diploma in Gas Engineering.

Photo 2



Towngas Managing Director Alfred Chan and the company's first female apprentice.

Photo 3



Guests toured Towngas Hall of Innovation.