

# Significant Events 2002

**February** **PCCW and China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Sinopec)** sign an agreement in Beijing to form the PCITC alliance to provide IT services in mainland China. PCITC is 55 percent owned by Sinopec, with 45 percent indirectly held by PCCW.

**A consortium** led by PCCW's Business eSolutions wins an IT contract worth HK\$163 million from the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (the Hong Kong Government) for the provision of hardware, software and services for Hong Kong's future Smart Identity Card System (SMARTICS).

**March** PCCW's broadband portal service **now.com.hk** expands its international content with five channels – *MTV, Fashion TV, Nickelodeon, BBC World* and *Bloomberg Television*. The five 24-hour channel services are offered in real-time to **now.com.hk** subscribers at no extra cost to the standard monthly fee.

**April** Internet-access service provider **NETVIGATOR** broadens its offering of value-added services by making Wireless LAN broadband – known as wi-fi – Internet 'hotspot' connectivity available in 50 retail outlets.

PCCW announces the appointment of Chief Operating Officer (COO) **Michael J Butcher**. He is a member of the Company's Executive Committee.

**June** **NETVIGATOR** announces that it has boosted its number of Hong Kong wi-fi (Wireless LAN) hotspots to approximately 100 by teaming up with Swire Properties Ltd to offer Internet access at its major shopping and office developments. PCCW entered into and completed an agreement

to sell its 40 percent stake in **Joint Venture (Bermuda) No.2 Limited (RWC)** to its strategic partner Telstra Corporation Limited (Telstra) for approximately HK\$4.79 billion (approximately US\$614 million). The transaction resulted in a reduction of PCCW's debt, and sharpened the Company's focus on its core businesses.

**July** **PCCW and China Telecommunications Corporation (China Telecom)**, China's largest fixed-line network operator, announce intent to form a venture to provide IT business solutions to PCCW and China Telecom customers in the finance sector, including banks, insurance companies and securities firms, in mainland China.

PCCW announces the appointment of **Robert CH Lee** as chairman of PCCW Infrastructure. Mr Lee, former executive director of Sino Land, assumed his new position on August 19.

**September** PCCW announces an initiative under which some staff are offered the opportunity to set up their own companies, with guaranteed contracts to provide services as **independent subcontractors**. The move involved approximately 1,600 PCCW employees forming 17 independent companies.

**November** PCCW announces the formation of wholly-owned subsidiary **Cascade Limited (Cascade)**, which, at its January 2003 launch, became one of Asia Pacific's leading technical services companies.