

wks19991031c

Singapore Government

PRESS RELEASE

Media Division, Ministry of Information and the Arts, #36-00 PSA Building, 460
Alexandra Road, Singapore 119963. Tel: 3757794/5

=====

EMBARGO INSTRUCTIONS

The attached press release/speech is EMBARGOED UNTIL AFTER DELIVERY.

Please check against delivery.

For assistance call 3757795

=====

SPRINTER 4.0, Singapore's Press Releases on the Internet, is located at:

<http://www.gov.sg/sprinter/>

=====

SPEECH BY MR WONG KAN SENG, MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS &

MP FOR BISHAN-TOA PAYOH GRC, AT THE LAUNCH OF THE MOBILE INSPECTION RECORDS SYSTEM
(MIRS) ON SUN, 31 OCTOBER 1999 AT

12.50 PM AT BLK 238 VOID DECK BISHAN ST. 22

To be competitive in the world, Singapore must continually look for ways to improve efficiency and productivity. Technology can help us to achieve this. It has changed the way we live, work and play. Even the daily task of maintaining the cleanliness of your estate has gone hi-tech.

National Archives of Singapore

Bishan-Toa Payoh and Bukit Timah Town Councils have applied modern technology in carrying out its duties to ensure your common areas are well-maintained and free of defects. To help the Town Council's Property Officers in their daily site inspection, a joint development project with Singapore Engineering Software, the Mobile Inspection Records System, or MIRS, was created.

It incorporates many features that serve the needs of the Bishan Toa Payoh Town Council and those of the residents. For example, information on a particular block's defects and remedial action taken are stored in our data base and can be easily retrieved.

Instructions and messages are electronically organised. One of its special features is the auto-page function where upon downloading into the PC, the system will page the respective conservancy contractor to take immediate action. Using

wks19991031c

MIRS, the time taken to check and inspect an HDB apartment block has been reduced by 50%.

Residents, like you, stand to benefit from this. Your precinct will be better maintained because it now takes half the time to inspect one block of flats and faster response from the conservancy contractors to clean up the estate can be expected. Hence, the Town Council can provide a better service to residents by responding faster through MIRS.

After months of testing its new financial application system by the Town Council - Movex - I am pleased to say that the system has been operational since 1 October this year. Incorporating the latest IT features, Movex is Y2K compliant.

One example is the flow of information from the Town Council to our term contractors through the Internet. Works Order for repair of defects, can be emailed to the contractors, thus saving time and money. The cost of maintaining each block can be determined. The Town Council is studying the Financial Act to see if the service and conservancy charges can be levied according to the cost of maintenance.

I applaud the Town Council for embracing technology to benefit residents of Bi shan-Toa Payoh GRC. Thank you and have a pleasant Sunday.

* * *

National Archives of Singapore