

Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA)

Frequently Asked Questions

Computer and Related Services

- 1. Under CEPA, Hong Kong Service Suppliers (HKSS) are allowed to set up wholly-owned enterprises in the Mainland to provide software implementation services. What is the scope of business for software implementation services?**

According to the United Nations Provisional Central Product Classification, software implementation services refer to all services involving consultancy services on, development and implementation of software. The term “software” may be defined as the sets of instructions required to make computer work and communicate. A number of different programmes may be developed for specific applications (application software), and the customer may have a choice of using ready-made programmes off the shelf (packaged software), developing specific programmes for particular requirements (customised software) or using a combination of the two.

The software implementation services are divided into the following classes of services-

- systems and software consulting services;
- systems analysis services;
- systems design services;
- programming services; and
- systems maintenance services.

- 2. Under CEPA, HKSS are allowed to set up wholly-owned enterprises in the Mainland to provide data processing services. What is the scope of business for data processing services?**

According to the United Nations Provisional Central Product Classification, “data processing services” are divided into the following classes of services-

- input preparation services;
- data processing and tabulation services;
- time sharing services; and
- other data processing services.