

TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

New master's degree in HD engineering

Western Digital (Thailand), the National Electronics and Computer Technology Centre (NECTEC)'s HDD Cluster Centre and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) recently launched the world's first customised master's degree in hard disk drive engineering.

The venture is in accordance with Thailand's first hard disk drive manpower development project and the WD HDD Technical Training Institute (HTTI), opened two years ago.

This public and private sector partnership aims at enabling, developing and elevating Thailand's hard disk industry in order for it to compete with other countries in the region, and aims to produce 56 master's degree graduates with advanced skills in hard disk drive technology within five years.

NECTEC director Dr Pansak Siriruchatapong said the hard drive industry in Thailand was growing significantly and it is important to develop manpower to increase the country's ability to compete. NECTEC teamed up with WD and AIT and will support training programmes and researchers from the industrial sector to take part in the venture so that they will broaden their knowledge of hard disk drive technology, Dr Pansak said.

WD will be responsible for all expenses for research and development throughout the five year project, including the use of laboratories for chemical operational analysis, structural analysis, robotics, automated production systems, software engineering and research into various production systems including the use of raw materials for product testing.