

Initial Setup / Preparation

STARTING FROM GROUND ZERO

Setting up more than 300 machines is an incredible job. After Acer deliver their generous supply of brand new hardware, Dr. Chen and Dr. Chien now faces the problem on how to put them into the contest ground and connect the powers and networks to each station.

When we asked Dr. Chen, leader of the tech group, on what was the most difficult part in setting up the contest machines, Dr. Chen says, "Power, sufficient electric power!" Thanks to the Schneider Electrics

for providing the support. After all, besides the contest machines there is the air conditioning. Without it in mid-July of Taiwan, you would get fried inside a building like this.

Dr. Chien, leader of the contest group, says "Utilities must be supplied unlimitedly!" This includes wireless network, printing services, and auxiliary storage spaces, which all under control.

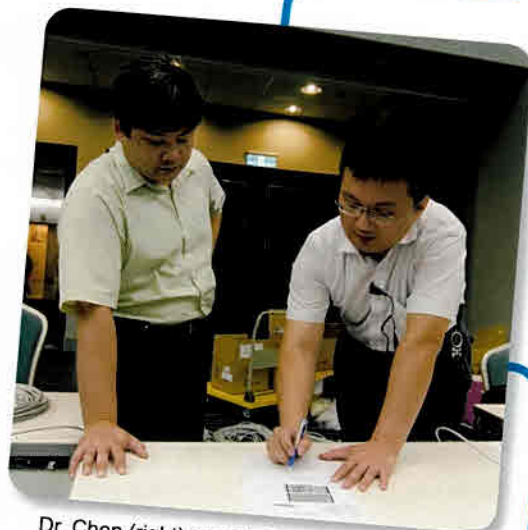
Not only do the contest machines need setup, the online judge servers, and the

computer network including cables, switches, and routers, are also part of the job. After the hardware setup comes the software stress test. It must be assured that all of the machines can run and send tasks at the same time without killing the machine itself, the network, or the judge servers. "I will expect the best from my team for setting up the hardware and software. These are brand new equipment. We do not want the hardware to become an excuse for the contest," says Dr. Chen.

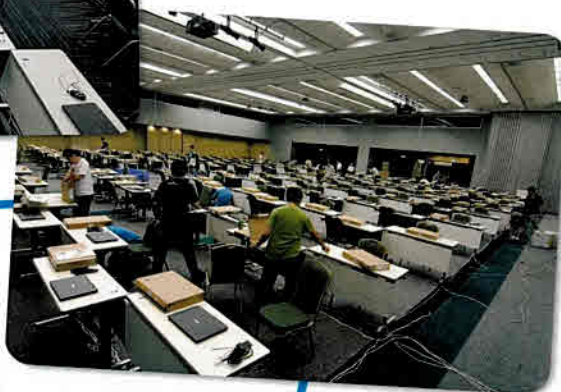
(All photo by Jian-Wei Sun)



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Dr. Chen (right) and Dr. Chien (left) working together to construct the contest site.



Dr. Lee accepting contest machines from Mr. Richard Lai, Executive Director of the Acer Foundation.

7/14 Weather Report

AM  28~35°C

PM  28~31°C

Control Tower, We have Landed!

This year, over 82 teams plus 2 observation teams, with more than 500 people including international committees, leaders, contestants, and guests from countries all over the world have arrived in Taiwan to participate and compete in the 26th International Olympiad in Informatics. The 2014 IOI has provided shuttle services to transport teams from the airport to Fullon Hotel for check in. After settling the contestants, the leaders head for Hyatt to rest.

Weary from their travels, these brilliant contestants will only have two days to rest before the first contest. During the course of this 8-days contest, leaders, contestants, and guests will enjoy chances to exchange ideas, make new friends, courses of excellent foods, and excursions including traditions, geography, culture, and arts of Taiwan.

(All photo by Jian-Wei Sun, Chao-Ping Yang, and Wai-Kit Teng)



Stay Awhile and Play!

The 2014 IOI has provided game stalls at the place where the contestants stayed: Basketball machines, table soccer machines, a refitted XBOX with sports games, and an ultimate whac-a-mole machine. With these machines available, contestants can enjoy their free time and quarantine nights playing with one another. Feeling frustrated? Sure, whac the mole! Need to settle on a bet? Let us head for the game machines and decide it!

Besides the game stalls, hearty volunteers of the 2014 IOI will provide activities for all to taste! These activities include calligraphy, diabolos, building tower of cards, and chopstick lessons. If you happen to see some people carrying lightsabers around, you can ask them for instructions, but mind the safety first.

Calligraphy is usually written in traditional Chinese characters (the ones you see in Taiwan) due to that old scripts are written in traditional Chinese characters and some calligraphy practitioners think that simplified Chinese characters do not look as balanced as traditional Chinese characters. You will see writing brushes, ink, inkstick, desk pads, paper, and paperweights waiting for you at this stand.

Chopsticks, a common dining tool in Asia, are simply two straight sticks. Do not underestimate the power of the two sticks, as it can be used to "grab" many things. Try this out by picking up beans with the chopsticks.

Day 2: Monday 14 July 2014

Time	Contestants	Leaders	Guests
06:00-07:00	Breakfast	Breakfast Hyatt Café	
07:00-08:00	Fullon Lotus Banquet Hall		
08:00-09:00	Transfer to TICC		
09:00-10:00	Practice Session TICC 101/201	GA 1 TICC 102	Excursion 1
10:00-11:00			Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall
11:00-12:00			Presidential Office Building Taipei Guest House
12:00-13:00	Lunch		
13:00-14:00	TICC Banquet Hall		
14:00-15:00	Opening Ceremony		
15:00-16:00	TICC Plenary Hall		
16:00-17:00	Discussion	GA 2 TICC 102 Discussion	Excursion 2 Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall
17:00-18:00	Transfer to Fullon	Free Time	
18:00-19:00		GA 3 TICC 102	
19:00-20:00	Dinner Fullon Lotus Banquet Hall	Dinner TICC Banquet Hall	Dinner TICC Banquet Hall
20:00-21:00	Entertainment / Quarantine	GA 4 TICC 102	Free Time
21:00-22:00		Task Translation TICC VIP Room	

Check Me In!

The registration desk at Fullon Hotel welcomes all participants of the 2014 IOI. This is where the teams meet their volunteer guides and begin their 8-day journey. This year, exclusive designed backpacks are given to all, providing information and souvenirs for this event. The 2014 IOI organizing committee also prepared daily necessities for you placed in your backpack. The water bottle for fluid replenishment, the umbrella for afternoon thundershowers, the baseball cap for protection against the sun, the swimming cap for excursion, and more. Check your backpack and see if you missed anything out!

(All photo by Jia-Neng Ong, and Dickson Angsana Ng)



Excursion

Taipei Guest House

Taipei Guest House, designed by Japanese architects Dougo Hukuda and Ichiro Nomura, was built from 1899 to 1901 and rebuilt by Matsunosuke Moriyama. Taipei Guest House is the representative work of Taiwanese buildings under Japanese rule, also called the most graceful baroque residence house. The main architecture of the building is concave shaped, having a roof in Mansard style and high Roman pillars, mainly in a style of France Second Empire palace buildings. Inside the building there is a resplendent suspension light decorated with crystal, baroque gold leaves and flowers and gold foil; outside the building there is a modern Japanese curtilage garden. In 1988, Taipei Guest

House was designated by the government of Taiwan and administrated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Taiwan.

Taipei Guest House originally was the House of Governor-General of Taiwan during the Japanese rule, at a distance of around 100 meters from the Office of Governor-General of Taiwan (is now the Presidential Building). Imperial members and heads of politics often visited here. Emperor Showa (Crown Prince Hirohito) also stayed here when visiting Taiwan. After Japan was defeated, Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs Yeh Kung Chao and Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs Isao Kawada signed the Treaty of



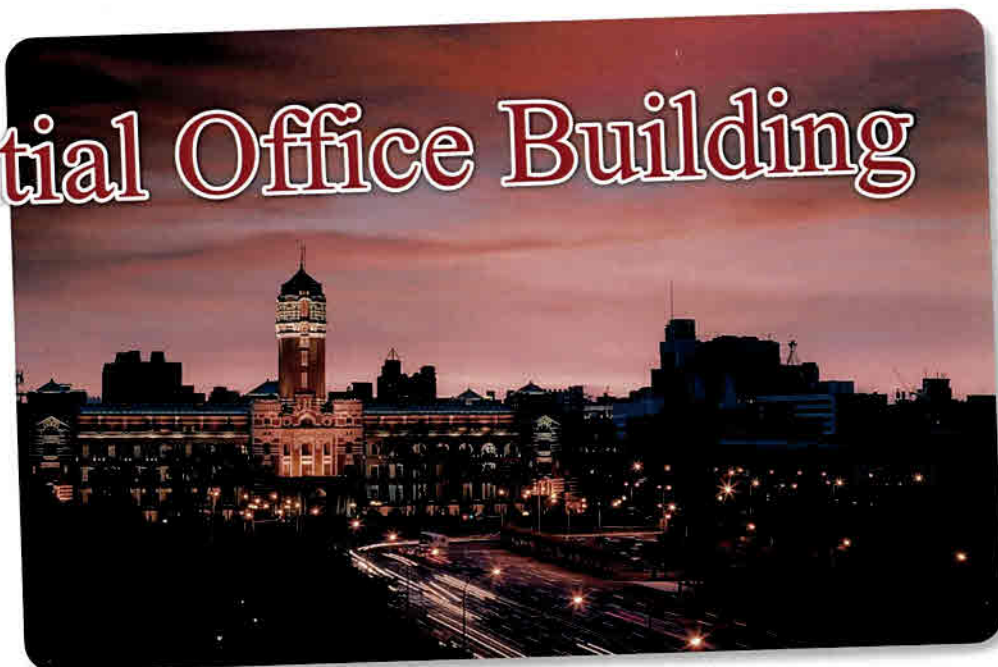
Taipei here in 1953. Taipei Guest House is open to the public for first Sunday in even months from June 4, 2006.

Excursion

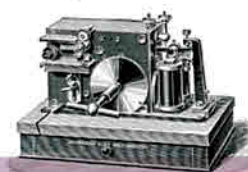
Presidential Office Building

The Presidential Office Building was completed during Japanese colonization period in 1919 as the mansion for the Governor-General. The Japanese architects Uheiji Nagano and Matsunosuke Moriyama designed this 130 meter-wide structure with a 60 meter high tower covering an area of 6,930 square meters. This was the tallest structure in the Taipei Basin during Japanese rule. During the ending period of World War II, the building was seriously damaged due to bombing. In 1946 after the World War II, Taiwan re-constructed this building. The building was renamed as "Jieshou Building" in celebration of the 60th birthday of former Taiwan president Mr. Chiang Kai-shek. The building has been used as the presidential mansion of the central government of Taiwan.

The main body of the Presidential Office Building is a five-floor structure and the central tower is eleven-floor high. The building has ten entrances but only the front entrance and west gate are used for official functions. In the original design, an ornate Baroque-style domed entrance hall greeted visiting dignitaries. This entrance hall was reconstructed with simpler interior features after destruction of the first hall in World War II. The west gate, the formal rear entrance of the building, features a grand marble staircase and porch lined with Ionic and Corinthian pillars. The outer portion is covered with steel concrete. Gravel is used as decoration horizontally. A sense of grandeur and vigorousness is presented via the red-white composition. The Presidential Building was announced by the President as "national historical site" in 1998 and was open for public tour since then. The general public will be able to see in person the location where the president works. The distance between the President and his people will be shortened.



Game



During the recent IOI cipher convention, a binary code contest took place.

The contest consisted of a binary code transmission where the spaces between the letters were missing and there was no punctuation. Each letter of the alphabet was translated into its binary equivalent based on its position in the alphabet:

a=1, b=10, c=11, d=100, e=101, f=110, g=111, h=1000, i=1001, j=1010, k=1011, l=1100, m=1101, n=1110, o=1111, p=10000, q=10001, r=10010, s=10011, t=10100, u=10101, v=10110, w=10111, x=11000, y=11001, z=11010.

Answer of 7/13:
Kevin, Brian, Simon, Alan then Ian.

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