



香港學術及職業資歷評審局  
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of  
Academic & Vocational Qualifications

**SUMMARY ACCREDITATION REPORT**

**HONG KONG COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY**

**LEARNING PROGRAMME ACCREDITATION**

**HIGHER DIPLOMA IN CYBERSECURITY (TESTING  
AND COMPLIANCE)**

**May 2022**

## 1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.1 Based on the Service Agreement (No.: VA1396), the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), in the capacity of the Accreditation Authority as provided for under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (Cap 592) (AAVQO), was commissioned by Hong Kong College of Technology (the Operator; HKCT) to conduct a Learning Programme Accreditation (LPA) exercise with the following Terms of Reference:

(a) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in AAVQO to determine whether the following programme of the Operator meets the stated objectives and Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF, or in short QF) Level 4 standard and can be offered as an accredited programme:

(i) Higher Diploma in Cybersecurity (Testing and Compliance)

(b) To issue to the Operator an accreditation report setting out the results of the determination in relation to (a) by HKCAAVQ.

1.2 The accreditation exercise was conducted according to the relevant accreditation guidelines referred to in the Service Agreement. The Education Bureau's *"Updated Revised Common Descriptors for Associate Degree and Higher Diploma Programmes under the New Academic Structure"* was also a guiding document used by the accreditation panel and the Operator in conducting this exercise for the Higher Diploma programme. A videoconference between the accreditation panel and representatives of the Operator (with a presentation of the Operator's training venue) took place on 23 March 2022.

## 2. HKCAAVQ'S DETERMINATION

### Learning Programme Accreditation

2.1 HKCAAVQ has determined that, subject to the fulfilment of all requirements set out in 2.4, the Higher Diploma in Cybersecurity (Testing and Compliance) programme meets the stated objectives and QF standard at Level 4, and can be offered as an accredited programme with a validity period from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2025.

### 2.2 Validity Period

2.2.1 The validity period will commence on the date specified below.

2.2.2 The maintenance of the accreditation status within the specified validity period is subject to the fulfilment of all requirements set out in 2.4 by the specified fulfilment deadline.

2.3 The determinations on the Learning Programme Accreditation are specified as follows:

<b>Name of Operator(s)</b>	Hong Kong College of Technology 香港專業進修學校
<b>Name of Award Granting Body</b>	Hong Kong College of Technology 香港專業進修學校
<b>Title of Learning Programme</b>	Higher Diploma in Cybersecurity (Testing and Compliance) 網絡安全高級文憑 (檢測及合規)
<b>Title of Qualification(s) (Exit Award(s))</b>	Higher Diploma in Cybersecurity (Testing and Compliance) 網絡安全高級文憑 (檢測及合規)
<b>Primary Area of Study and Training</b>	Computer Science and Information Technology
<b>Sub-area (Primary Area of Study and Training)</b>	Computer Science and Information Technology
<b>Other Area of Study and Training</b>	Not applicable
<b>Sub-area (Other Area of Study and Training)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Industry</b>	Not applicable
<b>Branch</b>	Not applicable
<b>QF Level</b>	Level 4
<b>QF Credits</b>	270
<b>Mode(s) of Delivery and Programme Length</b>	Full-time, 2 years 2,700 notional learning hours (including 900 contact hours)
<b>Intermediate Exit Award(s)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Validity Period</b>	1 September 2022 to 31 August 2025
<b>Number of Enrolment(s)</b>	1 enrolment per year

<b>Maximum Number of New Students</b>	Maximum of 40 learners per class Maximum of 1 class per year
<b>Specification of Competency Standards-based Programme</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Specification of Generic (Foundation) Competencies-based Programme</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Vocational Qualifications Pathway Programme</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Notes to be indicated on the QR</b>	Not applicable
<b>Address of Teaching/ Training Venue(s)</b>	<p>1) HKCT Jockey Club Undergraduate Campus, 2 On Shing Street, Ma On Shan, Sha Tin, New Territories 新界沙田馬鞍山鞍誠街 2 號港專賽馬會本科校園</p> <p>2) HKCT Jockey Club Ma On Shan Campus, Yiu On Estate, Ma On Shan, Sha Tin, New Territories 新界馬鞍山耀安邨港專賽馬會馬鞍山校園</p> <p>3) HKCT Mong Kok East Campus – 14 Princess Margaret Road, Ho Man Tin, Kowloon 九龍何文田公主道 14 號港專旺角東校園</p>

2.4 **Condition(s) (including all pre-conditions for obtaining the HKCAAVQ accreditation status as applied for the commencement of the validity period; and all requirements for maintenance of the accreditation status within the validity period)**

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Date of Fulfilment</b>
The Operator should devise countermeasures such that all students, regardless of their language proficiency, have the same level of learning experience in the learning and teaching activities of the Integrated Cybersecurity Laboratory.	31 October 2022

The Operator is to submit a detailed proposal with an actionable timeline to HKCAAVQ on or before 31 October 2022.	
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## 2.5 Recommendation

HKCAAVQ offers the following recommendations for continuous improvement.

Recommendation
The Operator should arrange the teaching staff to participate in continuing professional development activities in the cybersecurity industry so that they are kept updated with the latest developments and trends in the industry.

2.6 HKCAAVQ will subsequently satisfy itself whether the Operator remains competent to achieve the relevant objectives and the Programme continues to meet the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator by reference to, amongst other things, the Operator's fulfilment of any conditions and compliance with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report. For the avoidance of doubt, maintenance of accreditation status is subject to fulfilment of any condition and compliance with any restriction stipulated in this Accreditation Report.

## 3. INTRODUCTION

3.1 Hong Kong College of Technology (HKCT) is a self-financed education institute offering a variety of programmes from Certificate to Higher Diploma levels. HKCT Group Limited is the sponsoring body of HKCT. The Group is a registered charitable organisation established under the Companies Ordinance.

## 4. PROGRAMME DETAILS

The following is the programme information provided by the Operator.

### 4.1 Programme Objectives

The programme objectives are to:

- equip students with fundamental knowledge and skills in cybersecurity, focusing on the security testing and compliance aspects in practice;
- provide a controlled near-realistic experiment environment to develop students' hands-on capacities, problem-solving skills, and self-learning ability;

- teach students cybersecurity related concepts and issues of ethics, management, and audit; and
- prepare students for careers or academic pursuit in cybersecurity or other ICT areas, in Hong Kong and other GBA cities.

#### 4.2 Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Programme, students should be able to:

- present and communicate ideas in a manner appropriate to the circumstances in social and academic contexts;
- use information technology and quantitative/ numerical skills to manage information and solve general problems;
- explain and discuss concepts of computer systems, networks and cybersecurity;
- perform system administration, cybersecurity testing and compliance, information collecting and analysis, secure application/ service development; and
- explain and discuss information security related management, standards, regulations and compliances.

#### 4.3 Programme Structure

<b>Module</b>	<b>QF Credits</b>
<i><u>Year 1 – Core Generic Modules</u></i>	270
Academic English Skills	
Discrete Mathematics and Statistics	
Computer Ethics	
Professional English Communication	
<i><u>Year 1 – Specialised Modules</u></i>	
Computer Architecture and Organisation	
Introduction to Computer Programming	
Introduction to Database Systems	
Java Programming	
Networking Fundamentals	
Information Security Fundamentals	
<i><u>Year 2 – Specialised Modules</u></i>	
Technology for Web Development	
Open System Administration	
Information Security Management Systems	
Wireless and Mobile Security	

<b>Module</b>	<b>QF Credits</b>
Penetration Testing	
Network Traffic Analysis	
Cybersecurity Practice	
Digital Forensics	
Introduction to IT Audit	
Cybersecurity Project	
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>

#### 4.4 Graduation Requirements

- Students are eligible for graduation if they have passed all the modules or earned the credits as required by the programme unless otherwise exempted and have achieved an overall GPA of 1.7 or above with an attendance rate of at least 80% in each module.

#### 4.5 Admission Requirements

1. (a) Attained Level 2 in 5 HKDSE subjects, including Chinese and English [each applicant is allowed to use not more than two Applied Learning subjects at “Attained” level as equivalent to Level 2 in the application]; or  
(b) Pass in 1 A-Level or 2 AS-Level subjects (with 5 passes in HKCEE subjects, including Chinese Language and English Language); or  
(c) Holder of Diploma Yi Jin; or  
(d) Holder of Diploma for Tertiary Studies; or  
(e) Holder of Pre-Associate Degree; or  
(f) Holder of Diploma and
  - (i) the qualification should be awarded by one of the local or overseas recognised tertiary institutions / post-secondary colleges; and
  - (ii) the length of study is at least 450 teaching hours; or  
(g) Aged 21 or above with 1 year working experience; or  
(h) Equivalent qualifications.

AND

2. Pass the admission interview.

## 5. IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ACCREDITATION REPORT

### 5.1 Variation and withdrawal of this Accreditation Report

- 5.1.1 This Accreditation Report is issued pursuant to section 5 of the AAVQO, and contains HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding the accreditation, including the validity period as well as any conditions and restrictions subject to which the determination is to have effect.

- 5.1.2 HKCAAVQ may subsequently decide to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report if it is satisfied that any of the grounds set out in section 5 (2) of the AAVQO apply. This includes where HKCAAVQ is satisfied that the Operator is no longer competent to achieve the relevant objectives and/or the Programme no longer meets the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator (whether by reference to the Operator's failure to fulfil any conditions and/or comply with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report or otherwise) or where at any time during the validity period there has/have been substantial change(s) introduced by the Operator after HKCAAVQ has issued the accreditation report(s) to the Operator and which has/have not been approved by HKCAAVQ. Please refer to the '*Guidance Notes on Substantial Change to Accreditation Status*' in seeking approval for proposed changes. These Guidance Notes can be downloaded from the HKCAAVQ website.
- 5.1.3 If HKCAAVQ decides to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, it will give the Operator notice of such variation or withdrawal pursuant to section 5 (4) of the AAVQO.
- 5.1.4 The accreditation status of the Operator and/or Programme will lapse immediately upon the expiry of the validity period or upon the issuance of a notice of withdrawal of this Accreditation Report.

## 5.2 Appeals

- 5.2.1 If the Operator is aggrieved by the determination made in this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of this Accreditation Report.
- 5.2.2 If the Operator is aggrieved by a decision to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of the Notice of Variation or Withdrawal.
- 5.2.3 The Operator should be aware that a notice of variation or withdrawal of this Accreditation Report is not itself an accreditation report and the right to appeal against HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding accreditation arises only from this Accreditation Report.
- 5.2.4 Please refer to Cap 592A ([www.elegislation.gov.hk](http://www.elegislation.gov.hk)) for the appeal rules. Details of the appeal procedure are contained in section 13 of the AAVQO and can be accessed from the QF website at: [www.hkqf.gov.hk](http://www.hkqf.gov.hk).

## 5.3 Qualifications Register

- 5.3.1 Qualifications accredited by HKCAAVQ are eligible for entry into the QR at [www.hkqr.gov.hk](http://www.hkqr.gov.hk) for recognition under the QF. The Operator should apply separately to have their quality-assured qualifications entered into the QR.
- 5.3.2 Only learners who commence the study of the named accredited learning programme during the validity period and who have graduated with the named qualification listed in the QR will be considered to have acquired a qualification recognised under the QF.

Ref: VA87/02/53

**HKCAAVQ Report No.: 22/71**