IBM pact with tertiary institutions

IBM has signed a memorandum of understanding with the National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore Management University and the Institute of Systems Science to deepen education and research collaboration following a first MOU signed in 2007.

The new MOU will see the continued provision and development of the Service Science, Management and Engineering (SSME) programme – designed to produce students with combined business, technology and social sciences skills – at the four educational institutions.

The programme is supported by the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore.

About 1,500 students have signed up for courses or degree programmes in SSME since 2008, IBM said.

SSME industry partners and IBM have also given out 31 national infocomm scholarships to students who want to pursue this discipline.

IBM Singapore’s managing director Teresa Lim said: “In today’s globalised world, where mature economies are largely services oriented, Singapore needs to power its services sector to sharpen its competitive edge.

“SSME nurtures a special kind of professional who can stand out in today’s highly competitive world, where skills and competencies need to be continually enhanced.”