S‘pore, Japan to produce anime series

SINGAPORE and Japan will collaborate for the first time to produce 13 anime episodes, using software developed by the Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

Under a Memorandum of Understanding signed yesterday between Japan’s Anime International Company and the School of Computer Engineering (SCE) in NTU, the 13 episodes will make up one science-fiction anime cable television series created by Japan’s Anime International Company (AIC), for broadcast in Japan in July next year.

NTU noted that the anime industry is estimated to be worth more than US$7 billion worldwide. Associate Professor Seah Hock Soon, Dean of SCE, said that with the collaboration, Singapore can now compete in the industry that outsources a large part of production work to China and South Korea.

Johnny Lau, associate director of AIC Asia, the subsidiary company based in Singapore, said production will be done in NTU. He said AIC Japan will look to a worldwide distribution of the anime title. With about 30 years of experience in the anime industry, AIC has produced shows such as Tenchi Muyo the movie.