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NEW HEAD OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT TO EXTEND HKUST REACH

Hong Kong's many infrastructure challenges attracted the new head of HKUST's Institute for Infrastructure Development, George R. Beetle.

Mr. Beetle has deliberately developed his career to meet the diverse and interdependent challenges of his complex field.

A trained engineer, Mr. Beetle also has a BA in government from Lafayette College, and an MPA in economics from Princeton University.

He comes to HKUST from his most recent position as Director of Project Development & Engineering with the Delaware River Port Authority.

His experience there included responsibility for planning, design, construction and maintenance of four long-span bridges, approach highways, support buildings, railroad facilities, terminals, and an electrified rapid transit line.

Before joining the Port Authority, he headed his own engineering consultancy, whose investigations of public transport and engineering systems in major cities across the United States resulted in savings of more than US\$3 billion. His company also developed commercial computer software applications to support engineering design of transport systems.

This is his second overseas posting. Early in his career, he spent two years in Pakistan as a U.S. Peace Corps engineer.

"My past 20 years have been rather focused on transportation, but here the breadth of potential involvement is one of the things I found attractive," he says. "There are water and harbor problems, geotechnical, transport, power system and potential pipeline delivery problems. These problems are worthy of the attention of an institution with the capabilities we have at HKUST."

Note to Editors:

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