Report on Recent Developments – Singapore (Submission to APEC Secretariat for ECSG-DPS 2015 SOM3)

1. In May 2015, to give organisations greater clarity on their obligations, the Personal Data Protection Commission of Singapore issued 3 new guidelines:
2. The **“Guide on Securing Personal Data in Electronic Medium”** includes practical advice on good ICT security measures that organisations should undertake to protect electronic personal data through areas such as security awareness and governance. This guide is co-developed with the newly-formed Cyber Security Agency (CEA);
3. The **“Guide to Managing Data Breaches”** helps organisations recognise how data breaches may occur and to develop a data breach management plan. One of the areas covered include guidance on how and when to give notifications to affected individuals and to the authorities when handling data breaches.; and
4. The **“Advisory Guidelines on Requiring Consent for Marketing”** gives greater clarity on the circumstances when an organisation is required to obtain an individual’s consent before sending them marketing information. This guide is supplemented by templates with sample clauses for organisations to use when obtaining and withdrawing consent for the collection, use and disclosure of personal data.
5. To help organisations with implementation of the law, two new initiatives were also introduced:
6. **A legal advice scheme administered by the Law Society of Singapore for small and medium enterprises** (SMEs)**.** Under this scheme, the Law Society of Singapore will appoint a lawyer from their panel to give a basic assessment on the level of compliance of SMEs who signed up for this scheme; and
7. **Enhanced** **our e-Learning programme,** which was made freely available since last year. The enhancements include a new assessment module and a feature for organisations to sign up for a corporate account. With the new corporate account feature, organisations will be able to encourage their staff to participate in the e-learning programme as part of an organisation’s corporate training roadmap and to review the assessment results of their staff.