

# CEO Shadowing Programme - Cisco Systems (HK) Limited

## Develop personal quality to face challenges and adversity

Having spent 3 days “shadowing” Argon Ho, General Manager of Commercial and Macau, Cisco Systems (HK) Limited, Anthony Cheng, a year 2 student studying Mechanical Engineering at the University of Hong Kong described this programme as a valuable opportunity to learn the reality of the business world.



“Argon has asked me to attend more than 10 business meetings in these 3 days. During the meetings, I am especially impressed by the working culture of the IT practitioners. Their quick response and innovative ideas have brought me a great impact,” said Anthony.

Faced with his intensive schedule every day, Argon is used to check emails during travelling between meeting places in order to make use of every second. Although the official working hours are five-day week, he also works out of the office hour.

“Self-discipline is the key in building personal reputation and gaining people’s trust,” said Argon. It becomes his driving force in dealing problems and facing challenges persistently. Argon believes that performing high standards helps prove to people around him that he is trustworthy and accountable.

He added that everybody needs to face different kinds of problems at work or in life. “It is important to find the way out during difficult times. Staying positive is a life-long lesson that helps one to face adversity. I really hope that Anthony could learn this attitude which is beneficial to him no matter which industry he will choose in the future.”

Anthony particularly enjoyed the moment of having individual chat with Argon. Argon's frequent sharing with him deepened his understanding of the business world.

"Argon has shown to me a very good example of being a corporate senior executive. Grasping the objectives of meetings and having sufficient preparation beforehand is crucial. I not only admire his clear mind and calmness that lead to an effective meeting, but also his passion to share with the younger generation on his thoughts of life. I am so thankful that HKSTP has organised this meaningful event in which I could closely 'shadow' a senior executive and remove some of my misunderstanding on the IT industry."

Through this programme, Anthony has learnt that IT is now playing an important role in today's era of digitisation and also understood its power of changing the operating models in different industries. "I will always remind myself to strive for the best. Life-long learning is essential in staying competitive and contributing to the society."

Argon hoped young people can be open-minded and be ready to get out of their comfort zone. "It is just the start when you leave the university. You need to keep learning so as to adapt to the ever-changing environment."