Cisco Systems (Thailand Ltd.) Winner of the 2018 AMCHAM: CSR Excellence Special Award "Excellence in Education Partnership (Ambassador's Award)"

Name of CSR Initiative: Cisco Networking Academy

Cisco Networking Academy is a global education program that teaches students how to design, build, and secure computer networks for increased access to career and economic opportunities. Through online courses, interactive tools, hands-on learning activities and network simulations, students prepare for ICT careers in virtually every type of industry. Our Networking Academy helps students build twenty-first century skills such as collaboration and problem solving by encouraging practical application of knowledge.

Since 1997, Cisco Networking Academy has grown from a small-scale project to the world's largest e-learning program, operating in 165 countries and reaching students of all socio-economic backgrounds. More than one million students train through the program each year. Across Asia alone, there are 980 academies in twenty-five countries, with over 160,000 students.

In Thailand, Cisco has supported the training of 49,725 students since 1999, through fifty-three partnerships with higher educational institutions, vocational schools, public sector agencies and the non-profit sector. Apart from the curriculum and platform that Cisco provide, we continue to organize activities such as:

- Cisco Networking Academy Student Competition, which utilizes Cisco's web technologies to create an interactive networking skills contest that enhances classroom learning, unites students from across the world, and promotes further technology education and training.

- Find Yourself in the Future, a live TV broadcast hosted by Cisco in which Cisco experts share their knowledge of advanced technologies that are transforming industries and shaping the modern world, future jobs, and opportunities for graduates.

- Women Rock-IT, a quarterly live TV broadcast which communicates the benefits of a career in IT by talking about the types of work performed by women and how technology plays a key role in their business success. Invited speakers represent different career stages, occupations, and businesses.

Ninety-five percent of our students in Thailand who have completed the Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) program report that the program has assisted them to gain a new job or a better educational opportunity.

As technology evolves, Cisco Networking Academy will continue to develop our curriculum to incorporate trends such as IoT Security, CCNA Cyber Ops, and Python Programing, while continuing to equip our students with both the technical and the soft skill sets that are so vitally needed in the workplace. ◼