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Ensuring the Responsible Use of AI – Singapore Launches the AI Verify Foundation

Introduction

On 7 June 2023, the Infocomm Media Development Authority ("**IMDA**") announced the launch of the [AI Verify Foundation](#) ("**Foundation**"), which aims to harness the collective contributions of the global open-source community to develop the AI Verify testing tool for the responsible use of artificial intelligence ("**AI**"). The Foundation will look to boost AI testing capabilities and assurance to meet the needs of companies and regulators globally.

The responsible use of AI has become a key issue for organisations utilising AI systems and for regulators. In particular, the rise of generative AI throughout a plethora of use-cases across various industries has raised concerns about the resulting risks, including: (a) mistakes and hallucinations; (b) privacy and confidentiality; (c) disinformation, toxicity and cyber-threats; (d) copyright challenges; (e) embedded bias and; (f) values and alignment.

The development of tools that are able to adequately test the performance of AI systems is thus becoming an ever more pressing need. Organisations seeking to employ the use of AI in their businesses and operations require more reliable and standardised test systems in order to make provisions for protection from the resulting risks, and to provide for greater accountability.

To address this, the launch of the Foundation will support the development and use of AI Verify to address the relevant risks of AI. This Update sets out the premise and purpose of the Foundation, the key aspects of AI Verify, and how organisations may utilise the available resources for their use of AI.

About the Foundation

It is recognised that the sciences and technologies for AI testing are still in the process of development. As such, the Foundation aims to utilise expertise from the open-source community to expand AI Verify's capability to evaluate AI.

The not-for-profit Foundation will:

- Foster a community to contribute to the use and development of AI testing frameworks, code base, standards, and best practices;



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- Create a neutral platform for open collaboration and idea-sharing on testing and governing AI; and
- Nurture a network of advocates for AI and drive broad adoption of AI testing through education and outreach.

The Foundation has seven premier members who will set the strategic directions and development roadmap of AI Verify. These are: (a) Aicadium; (b) Google; (c) IBM; (d) IMDA; (e) Microsoft; (f) Red Hat; and (g) Salesforce. The Foundation currently has also more than 60 general members.

About AI Verify

AI Verify was developed by IMDA to provide organisations with an AI Governance Testing Framework and Toolkit to help validate the performance of their AI systems. AI Verify is extensible so that additional toolkits, such as sector-specific governance frameworks, can be built on top of it.

AI Verify's testing processes comprises technical tests on three principles: Fairness, Explainability, and Robustness. Process checks are applied to the 11 identified principles. The testing framework is consistent with internationally recognised AI governance principles, such as those from the EU, OECD and Singapore.

AI Verify is a single integrated software toolkit that operates within the user organisation's enterprise environment, facilitating the conduct of technical tests on the user's AI models and the recording of process checks. User organisation can use the resulting test reports to be more transparent about their AI by sharing them with their shareholders.

AI Verify was launched as a minimum viable product for international pilot in 2022. It has since attracted the interest of over 50 local and multinational companies and is now available to the open-source community.

Click on the following link for more information (available on the IMDA website at www.imda.gov.sg)

- [Singapore launches AI Verify Foundation to shape the future of international AI standards through collaboration](#)

Concluding Words

The growing use of AI in work and in business has amplified the need to have adequate risk testing of AI systems. The launch of the Foundation and the continued development of AI Verify are thus key to the development of a suitable testing framework.

Organisations looking to use AI in their operations, such as the increasingly popular generative AI, may wish to look towards AI Verify to test for the pertinent risks associated with AI systems, so as to be able to manage and address such risks.

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Organisations may also wish to seek further advice on the legal issues that may arise in their use of AI, particularly generative AI, whether it be issues of compliance, ethics or security. In this regard, Rajah & Tann's Data & Digital Economy team is able to assist on relevant queries, leveraging on the specialist practices throughout the regional network and the technical capabilities of our team at Rajah & Tann Technologies and Rajah & Tann Cybersecurity. Please feel free to contact our team below.

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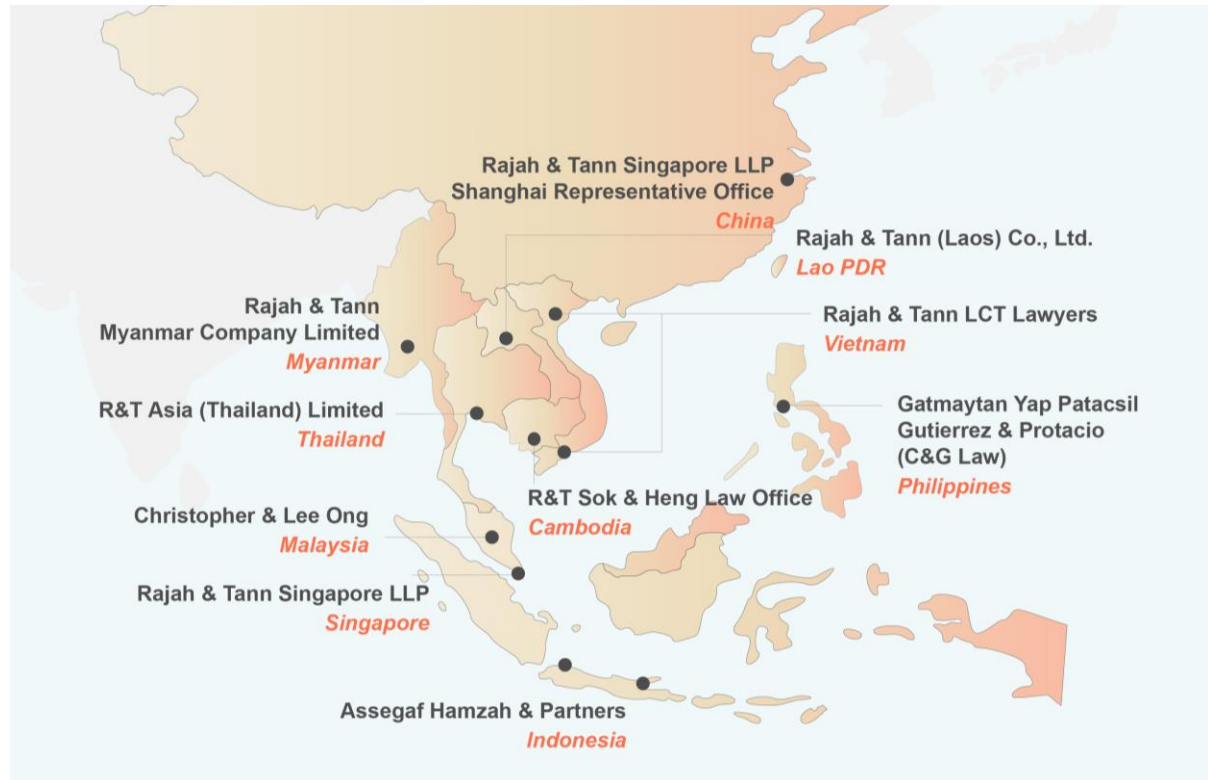
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