

## EVENTS OF THE YEAR

- March 1998**      **ISO9001 certificate for Founder R&D Center**  
The Group has started the application for the quality assurance of its R&D Center (approved in 1999).
- June 1998**      **Establish a Network Systems Integration Consulting Joint Venture**  
A 50-50 joint venture company, Founder Dicheng Information Technology Co., Ltd., was established for the expansion in the PRC's systems integration market. Founder Dicheng will be focusing on providing network services and systems integration solutions to government offices, enterprises, postal and telecommunication companies, banks and financial institutions etc. The Joint Venture Company will fully utilize Founder's strength in the sales channel in the PRC, and its technical support, along with Compaq/Digital's management experience and service support to aim at becoming the top systems integration provider in the PRC.
- August 1998**      **Disposal of hardware manufacturing business**  
The Company has disposed its hardware manufacturing plants in the PRC in order to focus more on its software and systems integration businesses which areas are believed to offer greater performance potential and which the Group has created its own market niches. Upon completion of the disposal, the Group will not be required to provide any further financing support to the plants' operation.
- November 1998**      **Cooperation agreement with MapInfo**  
A cooperation agreement has been signed between the Group and MapInfo Corporation, the American's leading software developer in geographical information systems. Founder becomes the exclusive distributor for the products of MapInfo Corporation in Greater China regions.