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[\[Industrial\] Taiwanese IT Manufacturers Facing Industrial Transformation: IBM](#)

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CNA (2011/06/16) & Economic Daily (2011/06/17) IBM said Thursday (June 16) that software services will drive the next wave of growth for Taiwanese hardware makers in a market led by cloud services from Apple Inc. and Google Inc.

A company official made the remarks during a celebration of the U.S.-based tech giant's 100th founding anniversary, making it the only technology firm in the world to have reached such a milestone.

Edward YU, general manager of IBM Taiwan, said that during the past century, the company has successfully transformed from a pure manufacturer to a technology firm offering high-value services, which can be a role model for Taiwan's leading hardware makers.

The software applications for cloud computing technology, such as new services recently introduced by Google and Apple, will become the key drivers for such growth, he said.

Last month, Google announced at Computex Taipei that its web-centric "Chromebook" laptop PC will be available for rental to the business market with a monthly rent of US\$28 (NT\$811) per user, while its monthly rental price in the educational market will be just US\$20 per user. The newly unveiled device provides users with faster and easier access to applications like e-mail and spreadsheets directly on the web instead of having to store them on computers.

IBM has set up four R&D centers in Nangang, focusing on the integration between software and hardware. YU said, with the R&D basis in Nangang, IBM will support the Taiwanese manufacturers on the way of industrial transformation, helping them develop equipment that is highly integrated with software and hardware, so that they would create more opportunities in the emerging cloud era.

Related Historical Message:

[\[Information\] Google to Build New Research Center in Taiwan for Chrome OS 2011/06/01](#)

Further Information:

[CNA 2011/06/16](#)

[Economic Daily 2011/06/17](#) (Chinese)

[National Science Council International Cooperation Sci-Tech Newsbrief](#)

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