

## **CERTIFICATION OF DATA PROTECTION SYSTEMS IN THE ORGANISATION**

Companies can apply to the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) to have their data protection systems certified under a pilot scheme launched by the authorities. The Certification will be officially rolled out by the end of 2018, after IMDA and PDPC finalise its process and framework following the pilot programme.

They can choose one of three independent bodies to carry out an assessment of their system : ISOCert, Setsco Services and TUV SUD PSB.

They will need to pay the organization an assessment fee of at least \$1,400.

Companies whose system meets the standards of the Data Protection Trustmark (DPTM) certification can use and display a DPTM logo in their business communications for three years.

The Certification will give entities a competitive edge as it would help consumers identify organisations that have in place data protection policies and practices that are assessed independently.

The DPTM, which applies only to organisations based in Singapore, also incorporates relevant international data protection principles, such as Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) Privacy Framework.

This will pave the way for organisations with the certification to attain international certification more seamlessly.

It will also give them another mechanism to legitimately transfer data across borders to other certified organisations in the participating Asia-Pacific economies.

The personal data protection (PDP) is a serious issue in EU and all business contracts have to mention about PDP policies to enable the contract to be entered into between the parties.