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NEWS

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YET ANOTHER GLOBAL COMPANY,
SETS UP SHOP AT TECHNOPARK

HRISHIKESH NAIR ALONG WITH APOLIS COMPANY OFFICIALS AFTER SIGNING THE LEASE AGREEMENT

Leading US-based ERP and Ecommerce company Apolis is setting up its Global Delivery Centre (GDC) at Technopark. A lease agreement in this regard was recently signed by Ranjith Varma, President, Apolis and Hrishikesh Nair, CEO, IT Parks Kerala in the presence of Sivaprasad Pillai, Vice President – India Operations & Offshore Delivery, Apolis and other Technopark officials.

The company has taken 6000 sq. ft. space on lease at Nila building in Technopark Phase 1. With the addition of the GDC in Thiruvananthapuram, Apolis is all set to double its current global workforce of 500 by 2020. In India, the company set up operations in Gurgaon and Delhi in 2003 and later expanded to Hyderabad and Chennai.

Apolis has been dubbed as a next-generation IT services market leader among the ERP and Ecommerce service providers catering to Fortune 500 and Small and Midsized Business (SMB) companies.

The company was co-founded by US entrepreneurs Amar Shokeen and Rita Shokeen in 1996. Apolis specialises in ERP services and products for marquee clients in the automotive, manufacturing, distribution & logistics and retail & CPG domains. The company headquartered at El Segundo in California has presence in the US, India and China. This GDC will deliver a transformative and world-class experience for its global customer base by establishing a cognitive practice, thereby powering its ERP service offering.

"Our Global Delivery Centre in Thiruvananthapuram is part of our preparation to win with great talent and a fantastic location," said Amar Shokeen, CEO, Apolis ahead of the agreement signing.

Speaking at the GDC agreement signing ceremony, Ranjith Varma said: "GDC at Technopark is a critical milestone in our growth journey. Establishing an experience-driven GDC is the foundation for our growth. Our global customers and next generation talents require state-of-the-art facilities and secured infrastructure to receive and deliver world-class services. In that sense Technopark facilitates our growth."

With Apolis deciding to establish its global delivery centre at Technopark, the number of companies operating out of Technopark has now reached 410. Recently, a few multinational companies from the US chose Technopark to launch their India operations.

"This is a great boost to the IT sector in Kerala which is generating tremendous opportunities for the young professionals here," said Hrishikesh Nair alluding to the entry of Apolis to Technopark.

UK-BASED GAMES TECHNOLOGY COMPANY
'INSPIRED' SETS UP OPERATIONS AT INFOPARK

Inspired, a NASDAQ-listed global games technology company, supplying virtual sports, mobile gaming and server-supported gaming systems globally has set up their Centre of Excellence at Jyothirmaya building at Infopark Kochi. The new office, which will initially seat 30 people, was inaugurated by Hrishikesh Nair, CEO, IT Parks Kerala, in the presence of Tariq Tufail, CTO, Inspired; Simon Twigg, VP of Software Delivery; Lorna Evans, VP of People and Jeevan Dhananjayan, Director of International Development, Inspired.

"We chose Infopark after an exhaustive search for locations across Chennai, Thiruvananthapuram, Coimbatore and Kochi. Infopark scored highly as we felt the city has many advantages in terms of connectivity to international hubs, rich talent pool, work-life balance and IT facilities. In our Kochi office, we initially plan to employ around 30 professionals with expertise in gaming and then gradually increase the strength of our team to 100 by 2022. Once the initial operations of Kochi office are streamlined, we are also planning to migrate operational

support from our onshore office in the UK to Kochi," said Tariq Tufail.

"Inspired, through our new Centre of Excellence at Infopark, aims to develop technology platforms that facilitate the delivery of games. The Kochi offshore centre will be working on the company's Remote Game Server, a complicated software platform that hosts gaming content and handles the systems integration to iGaming Platforms. The platform, though currently in production, is expected to grow organically in tune with market demands," he added.

Jeevan Dhananjayan also thanked the Infopark team for facilitating the process of setting up the office in a quick and seamless manner.

Inaugurating the new office, Hrishikesh Nair said, "We are excited to welcome Inspired to Infopark campus. Gaming is a fast and ever-growing industry and Inspired is one of the key players globally in this industry. Their presence at Infopark will turn eyes of other similar companies to our IT parks in Kerala. We extend all support to the Inspired team for a smooth functioning here at Infopark."

IBS INKS DEAL WITH A LATIN AMERICAN AIRLINE

In a huge affirmation of IBS Software (IBS) as a leading provider of cutting edge airline IT solutions, LATAM Airlines Group has chosen the Kerala-headquartered company as its technology solution provider for unifying its entire fleet and crew operations worldwide.

Headquartered in Santiago in Chile, LATAM Airlines Group has one of the largest route networks in the world, operating more than 1300 flights per day and offering services to more than 140 destinations in 26 countries.

"To be chosen by one of the largest airline groups in the Americas is a testimony not only to the increas-

ing acceptance of iFlight NEO as a cutting edge platform for airline operations but also to the confidence in our capability to deliver successfully" said Jitendra Sindhwani, President & Head - Global Sales and Marketing, IBS Software

Under the contract, IBS' com-

prehensive iFlight NEO system will replace the existing, disparate legacy systems and provide a single, integrated digital platform for LATAM Airlines Group. The browser-based application will unify and streamline the operations across LATAM's affiliate airlines with several tools and features designed to help airlines. "As part of our commitment to offering our customers industry-leading service, we continue to harness the latest technology and digital tools to optimize efficiency and ensure our passengers arrive to where they want to be, on-time," said Hernán Pasman, Chief Operations Officer, LATAM Airlines Group.

'TECH-A-BREAK', QUINTESSENCE OF TECHIE SPIRIT

Many of us may have actively participated in college culturals or annual days at schools. But as adults, we tend to think that such festivals and revelries are no more our cup of tea, at least at our workplace. But techies refuse to buy this notion, asserting that age or hectic work schedule doesn't in any way snuff out the spirit of friendly competition, which more or less defines the vibrant adolescence of almost every one of us, being played out in a celebrative a atmosphere.

Employees working at various companies at Technopark showed this blend of competitive spirit and bonhomie to the world outside yet again by organising their cultural carnival titled 'Tech-A-Break' (TAB), reviving the carnival which they have been sadly missing for the past seven years.

At least for almost a month they got a much-needed respite from their hectic work schedules which required them to remain confined to their work stations glued to the computer screens almost a major part of the weekdays. Hence, each one of them was looking forward to the merriment-filled days which also gifted them opportunity to showcase their innate talents, drawing applauds from the peers. Jayant Abraham fondly recollects the memories of the previous edition of TAB that was held seven years ago. He had heard about TAB even during his college days. This was

HRISHIKESH NAIR FLAGGING OFF 'TECH-A-BREAK 2019' AT TECHNOPARK PHASE III

one of the reasons why he joined and stuck with Technopark for the past nine years! In the previous edition of TAB, he participated in the quiz competition and because it was a tie for the second position, a toss decided the first runner-up, which proved unlucky for him. "This time, the cultural extravaganza – TAB 2019- made me and my teammate Dilesh Kumar the champions in the quiz competition. I feel happy that TAB is back again," said Jayant, a Senior Business Analyst at Allianz Technologies.
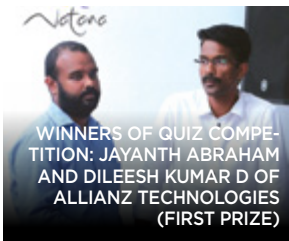
Not just Jayant, even new entrants to the Tchnopark were extremely glad to be a part of the event that took them out of their busy schedules and made them enjoy their inner talent. The current edition, which kicked-off with Hrishikesh Nair, CEO of IT Parks Kerala, hoisting the carnival flag

on April 25 and ended on May 24, is a joint initiative of Technopark, Group of Technology Companies (GTech) and Natana, a cultural forum of Technopark launched by G-Tech.

For Kadeeja Bai N, a broadcast engineer at Tata Elxsi, who joined the huge family of Technopark techies a year ago, was surprised to see a colourful Technopark in the month-long event. "Even during my college days there were no such painting competitions where I could showcase my talent with brushes and colours. For me, TAB 2019 was filled with colours that made me travel through imaginations (the theme of Acrylic Competition was 'Travel')," said the first runner-up of Acrylic Competition.

The last five days of the event saw the festival reach its peak. The current edition was bigger in terms of the number of participants and disciplines (13 events). Participation was open for Kollam Technopark as well. Contests in painting, music bands and online battle –Capture the Flag – were the additions.

"This time, it was the Technopark CEO showed keen interest in conducting such an event after a long time. He wanted the techies to have a happy time. The Technopark campus has grown bigger and there are over 65,000 techies working in 400-plus companies. Hence, to ensure maximum participation, the preliminary levels of competitions were extended this time," said Shagin T V, Vice-President, Natana & Director, Infospica.

WINNERS OF QUIZ COMPETITION: JAYANTH ABRAHAM AND DILEESH KUMAR D OF ALLIANZ TECHNOLOGIES (FIRST PRIZE)

SANJAI NANDAKUMAR AND MERIL LILLY OF FINASTRA (SECOND PRIZE)

JAYAKRISHNAN R AND VINEY SHARMA OF IBS SOFTWARE (THIRD PRIZE)

TEAM FROM ALAMY IMAGES INDIA PVT. LTD. THAT EMERGED WINNERS IN GROUP SONG COMPETITION