

DATELINE PHILIPPINES

RP seen as lucrative market for UPS

by ALEXANDER VILLAFANIA
Inquirer.net

MANILA – Business process outsourcing and manufacturing industries are lucrative markets for UPS (uninterruptible power supply) provider Chloride.

In a press briefing, Lamberto Tassara, president of UK-based Chloride Group, said the UPS market in the Philippines is worth around US\$60 million based on Frost and Sullivan estimates.

“According to the study, Korea is highest with US\$150 million. It shows a huge potential business in the Philippines,” Tassara said.

According to him, the Asia Pacific market represents 25 percent of the worldwide UPS market but accounts for about 12 percent of Chloride’s annual global revenue.

Chloride officially opened its local office and promises to grow its workforce here.

The company has been ex-

panding their operations in Southeast Asia, opening facilities in Singapore, Vietnam and South Korea.

Chloride provides small-office-home-office and industrial grade UPS. It competes with

other companies such as APC-MGE.

It has also hired Didier Chalumeau – formerly heading the APC-MGE Philippines operation – as its country manager.

Chalumeau said Chloride will

also operate an online systems monitoring facility called LIFE.net in the Philippines to service local customers. This feature allows the local office to perform remote preventive maintenance and diagnostics of its custom-

ers’ UPS. Said Chalumeau: “Even with the economic crisis, we expect that more companies will continue to invest on their IT equipment to be able to prepare themselves for an upturn.” ■

GMA reorganizes PAOCC anew

by MARVIN SY
Philstar.com

MANILA – President Arroyo has ordered yet another reorganization of the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Commission (PAOCC), moving the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government down from vice chairman to member.

Executive Order No. 799 designated the deputy executive secretary for finance and administration, Undersecretary Susana Vargas, as the new vice chairman of the PAOCC.

Vargas is directly under Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita who serves as chairman of the Anti-Terrorism Council.

Interior and Local Government Secretary Ronaldo Puno would now be among the members of the PAOCC along with National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez, Defense Secretary Gilbert Teodoro Jr., Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza, Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo and four representatives from the private sector.

The President is the chairman of the PAOCC.

The PAOCC has undergone several reorganizations since it was created in July 1998 by then President Joseph Estrada.

According to EO 799, the nu-

merous changes in the membership of the PAOCC was meant to counter the pervasive influence of organized crime and to strengthen the coordination between and among agencies engaged in the fight against criminality.

Calls have been made to abolish the PAOCC because its functions are apparently redundant.

The PAOCC recently came under fire when its officers were charged with illegal arrest and raid and violations of human and political rights.

PAOCC directors Gregor Belgica and Mariano Villafuerte were among the respondents in the case filed by New Zealand businessman Anthony Joseph Charles Newman who was implicated in and arrested for allegedly conspiring with Magdalo members to rescue Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, Gen. Danilo Lim and other Magdalo members detained on coup charges.

Belgica also claimed that the PAOCC was able to foil an alleged plot to assassinate President Arroyo with the arrest of Newman.

The allegations made by the PAOCC turned out to be false and the case was eventually revealed to be nothing more than a dispute between business rivals. ■

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