

IITGn ties up with Japan's Ricoh Innovation

IIT, Gandhinagar, will jointly work with the California-based unit of the Japanese company on technology development

Ahmedabad: Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar (IITGn) has tied up with Japanese group Ricoh's California-based unit, Ricoh Innovation Inc (RII), to jointly work on technology development. "We had floated proposal to Ricoh Innovation to get involved with us, to which they have agreed. The idea is to work together on technology development focussed on improving interaction between people and information," said Sudhir K Jain, director of IITGn.

"An emerging market like India offers huge opportunities, and Ricoh Innovation centre wants to understand Indian market through us. Our students shall get involved in doing this," he said. RII develops technologies for Ricoh, specialising in office-imaging equipment, production print solutions, document management systems and IT services.

"One of the projects initiated at the institute in joint collaboration with RII was Book Snap, as a part of which our students had developed a library linked software for them," said Jain.

"A project linked to Smartboards in collaboration with RII is likely to kickstart at the institute," informed sources in IITGn.

In education sector, RII's free whiteboard share iPhone application allows users to capture and share whiteboard discussions. It removes unwanted artifacts from the whiteboard images, making them easier to read, share and print. Two students from IITGn recently were picked up by Ricoh Innovations Private Limited (RIPL), subsidiary of RII in India, working to address opportunities in India and similar emerging markets. "Two of our students have been selected by RII's Indian subsidiary, RIPL to work on technology development," said Jain. Being sanctioned Rs10-crore grant by Gujarat government to set up a Centre of Excellence in Biomedical Engineering, the institute is also scouting for collaboration with a US-based leading healthcare service provider. —

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