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Internal Google News

Google Taiwan Turns Two



Situated in their new abode on the

seventy-third floor of the [Taipei 101 building](#), the Googlers in Taiwan enjoy views from the highest Google office in the world. The office's decorations (see [Elmo](#) in his YouTube director's chair) might also make it the cutest.

Not far away, Super Mario reigns supreme in the cubicle belonging to [Tim Lan](#), [Chia-Chi Yeh](#), [Sen-Po Hu](#) and [Chi-Ngai Wan](#), recent "Best Interior Design" winners in a cubicle competition. All of the designs for the Super Mario project were found through Google Image Search, then enlarged, printed and cut out. Tim estimates that the entire process took almost five days, and credits Tech Stop for generously donating refills of color printer toner. The team also purchased Super Mario-themed stuffed animals, including three that make sound effects from the game when punched.

Such heady success has encouraged the cubicle mates to plan their next project. "We're hoping to connect the pipe opening on the ceiling to the internet, which means we can one day launch products by throwing printed code up the tube," confides Tim.

The creativity in this office is endless. A [paper garden](#) blooms in another cubicle down the hall, and one inventive team, consisting of [Andy Cheng](#), [Tom Tam](#), [Victor Hsieh](#) and [Yung-chieh Lo](#), created a 3D Google [map of Taiwan](#) out of styrofoam. The map, which occupies most of the floor space in the cubicle, has a remote control train running around the island and a [model](#) of the Taipei 101 building--complete with Google logo, of course. Considering the amount of detail on the map, it was no surprise that the cubicle won the "Most Creative" category. Not only does the map feature the major mountains and sightseeing spots of Taiwan, it even includes two train lines in miniature--the Sea Line and the Mountain Line in the east.

The cubicle decorating competition was held in advance of Google Taiwan's Second Anniversary Open House, giving Googlers the

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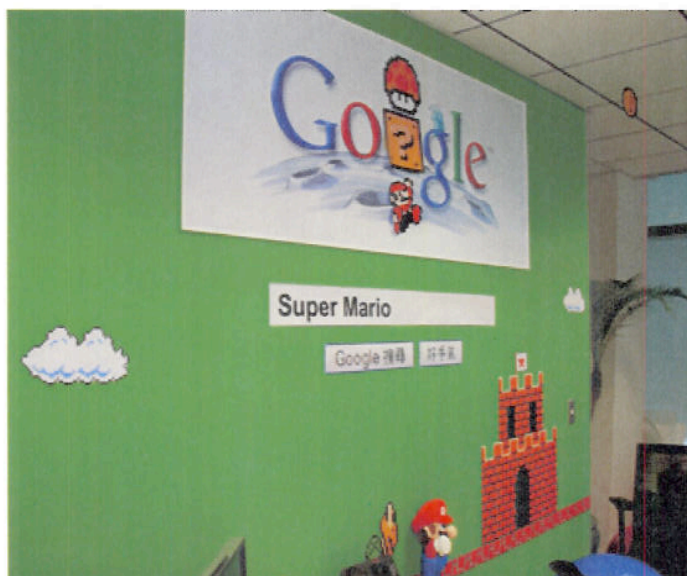
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perfect opportunity to showcase their artistic flair to everyone in Taiwan. [Ma Ying-jeou](#), Taiwan's new president, visited the office for a tour and tasted [Kai-Fu Lee](#)'s mother's famous beef noodles. The event generated positive media coverage from newspapers, online and on TV, with 66 press clippings appearing within the first 24 hours.

Mr. Ma's discussions with Kai-Fu focused on improving the education system in Taiwan and enhancing educational ties between mainland China and Taiwan. These conversations raised Google's profile in Taiwan as an industry leader that the new government can consult about talent development and improving ties across the straits. The press coverage also noted their culture of innovation and recruitment of the best local talent in the industry, reinforcing Google Taiwan as a great--and undeniably cute--place to work.



Above: Kai-Fu Lee with President Ma



Above: The Mario-themed cubicle

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