

Press Release
(For Immediate Release)

Youth Start-Up Internship Programme Concluded Successfully

Enthusiastic Response to Start-up Internship Opportunity with An Average of
Nearly 50 Applicants Competing for a Vacancy

Hong Kong, 9 August 2022 - The second phase of the "Youth Start-up Internship Programme" (YSIP), jointly organised by Cyberport and the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (HYAB), successfully concluded with a closing ceremony today. The programme is well-received with over 4,900 job applications, equivalent to an average of nearly 50 applicants competing for one opening. Among the jobs offered, Smart Living related positions, especially in Retail Technology (RetailTech) and E-commerce, were the most popular. The programme has yielded fruitful results, providing young people with opportunities to gain hands-on experience and start their career in the I&T industry at an early stage, as well as recruiting new blood for the Cyberport community and strengthening local I&T talent pool.

Smart Living Related Internship Most Favoured

The YSIP was first launched in September last year and attracted 168 applications from start-ups, involving more than 440 internship vacancies. The programme evaluated participating companies in terms of their experience in internship programmes, industry qualification and achievement, specific work and expected outcome. 30 job openings were selected and offered for application. Due to the overwhelming response, the second phase of the programme rolled out in January this year with an additional 70 internship vacancies. Over 4,900 job applications were received for the entire programme. Smart Living related internship positions were the most popular to applicants, accounting for about 53% of the total number of applicants. Among them, RetailTech and E-commerce and EdTech are the most welcome, each accounting for over 10% of total applications. This reflects that Hong Kong's proactive development in Smart City and Digital Economy in recent years has brought a booming industry and bright prospects, providing a greater incentive for the young generation to join the industry. As for the other two key clusters of Cyberport, FinTech and Digital Entertainment & Esports, they accounted for nearly 38% and 9% of job applications respectively (See Annex for details).

Mr Eric Chan, Chief Public Mission Officer of Cyberport said, "Youth development and the I&T industry are national priorities and that of the HKSAR Government. As the flagship for Hong Kong's I&T industry, Cyberport has nurtured a community of young entrepreneurs, and has been facilitating the development of youth and the I&T industry by promoting talent cultivation and employment through creating a favourable environment. Cyberport will continue to work closely with the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau to serve as a platform for I&T internship, employment and training and promote

youth education, career and entrepreneurial development. Joining hands with HYAB, we will drive youth development in the golden era of Innovation and Technology, building a brilliant future for Hong Kong as an international I&T hub aligning with national development strategy.”

The YSIP was designed for local, full-time tertiary or post-secondary students aged between 18 and 30. Each employer under the programme could engage interns in full-time, part-time or mixed modes of employment, with a government subsidy of up to HK\$10,500. Interns were required to complete at least 100 work hours during the three-month internship period, and participate in training activities organised by Cyberport, such as business sharing sessions, entrepreneurship experience activities.

Cyberport start-up Alpha AI, provides AI vehicle damage assessment solution that empowers drivers to inspect car damage instantly after accidents using their phones, with the aim to streamline the insurance claims process. Through YSIP, Alpha AI hired Ivana, a first-year student at CityU majoring in data science, as an intern last year to assist in machine learning and programming projects. Ivana said, "At first, I was worried that I may not be able to cope with the work, but it turned out to be a valuable experience. The team was very willing to share insights and the work culture was friendly. The CTO and CEO were willing to guide me directly, and assigned tasks from easy to challenging ones. After the three-month internship, I could work independently. This experience has given me a deeper understanding of the basics of machine learning development, function creation, data collection and training of AI. It has also deepened my interest in I&T. I hope to gain more practical experience before graduation."

Desmond Ho, CEO of Alpha AI, said, "The programme outcome has exceeded my expectation. There is a great demand for jobs related to technology development, machine learning and data science. We are thirsty for talents. Every project team in our company is cross-function involving software development, UI/UX design or machine learning at the same time. We hope that in the future, a team of interns with different skills can be assigned to the startup, not only will this matching help start-up recruit, but also showcase the whole product development process to the interns, achieving win-win for both parties.”

Cyberport has previously launched “iTalent”, an integrated recruitment platform for I&T talent, to provide Cyberport community start-ups with cost-effective job matching and help companies to search for talents. The platform has been backed by government departments, technology giants and tertiary institutions in Hong Kong. It caters to jobseekers’ needs and makes it easier for them to find their dream jobs while improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the overall recruitment process. The Cyberport Career Fair 2022 was successfully held in early June, attracting a record high of over 1500 I&T-related jobs from over 150 companies with over 1,000 jobseekers participated in the three-day event.

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Annex: Details of applications of Youth Start-up Internship Programme

Cluster	Percentage of total applications
Digital Entertainment / Esports	9%
FinTech	38%
Smart Living – EdTech	12%
Smart Living – EnvironmentalTech	2%
Smart Living – HealthTech	5%
Smart Living – MarTechnology	8%
Smart Living – RetailTech/ E-Commerce	15%
Smart Living – Robotics / IoT	7%
Smart Living – Smart Mobility	4%

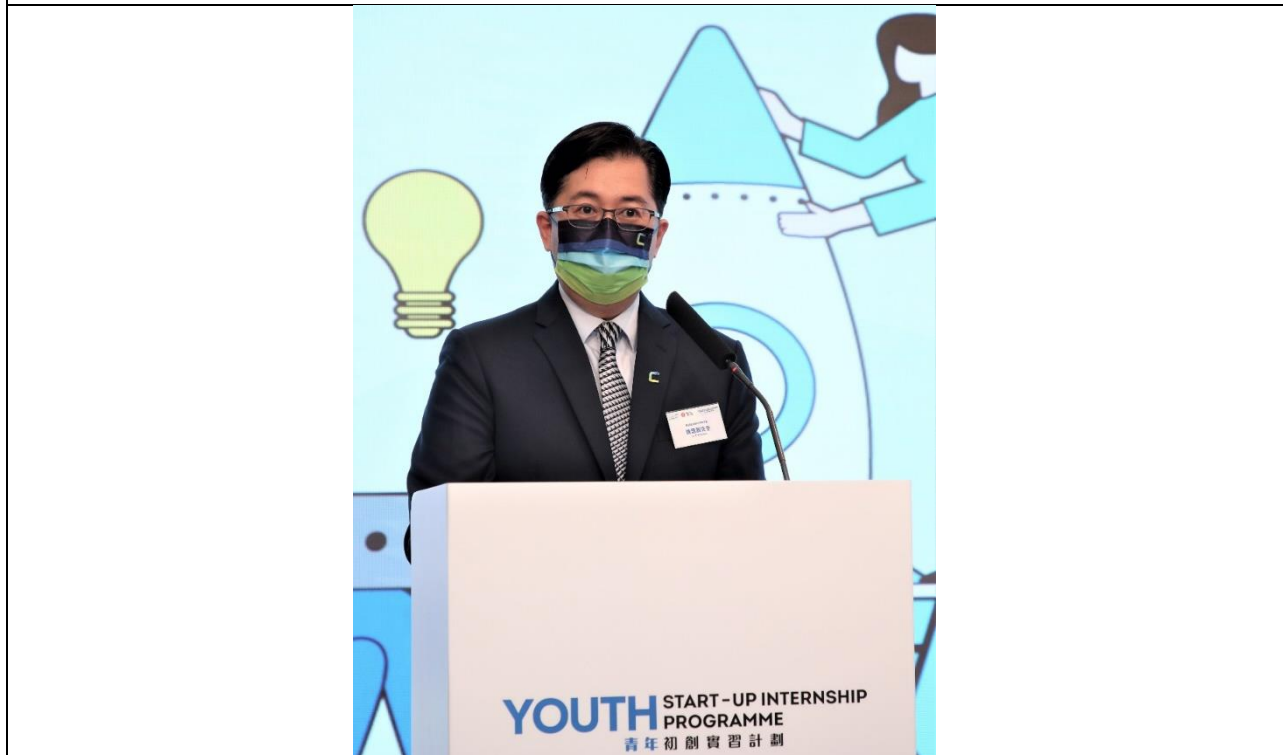
For high-resolution photos, please download via [this link](#).



The Youth Start-Up Internship Programme, launched in collaboration between Cyberport and the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau, successfully concluded with over 4,900 job applications.



Miss Alice Mak, Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs, officiates at the closing ceremony and encourages the young interns to actively equip themselves and contribute to the development of the local innovation and technology related industries in future.



Mr Eric Chan, Chief Public Mission Officer of Cyberport is encouraged by the overwhelming response to the Youth Start-up Internship Programme. He says Cyberport will continue to join hands with HYAB to drive youth development in the golden era of Innovation and Technology, building a brilliant future for Hong Kong.”



Photo 1: Participating start-ups and interns shared how they benefitted from the Youth Start-up Internship Programme.

Photo 2: Desmond Ho, CEO of participating start-up Alpha AI, and intern Ivana.

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About Cyberport

Cyberport is an innovative digital community with over 1,800 members including over 800 on-site and 900 off-site start-ups and technology companies. It is managed by Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited, wholly owned by the Hong Kong SAR Government. With a vision to be the hub for digital technology, thereby creating a new economic driver for Hong Kong, Cyberport is committed to nurturing a vibrant tech ecosystem by cultivating talent, promoting entrepreneurship among youth, supporting start-ups, fostering industry development by promoting strategic collaboration with local and international partners, and integrating new and traditional economies by accelerating digital transformation in public and private sectors.

For more information, please visit www.cyberport.hk