

Press Release
For Immediate Release

“Maker in China” Hong Kong Chapter Announces Winners Sees Record High Participation with 50 Deal Flow Sessions Generated

Hong Kong, 18 August 2021 – The Hong Kong Chapter of “Maker in China” SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship Global Contest 2021 (“Hong Kong Chapter”) has successfully concluded today. The contest was met with great enthusiasm, drawing a record number of more than 100 teams. As a result of the event, more than 100 patents were created and 50 deal flows facilitated, helping bring promising start-ups to the Greater Bay Area (GBA) and promoting the development of GBA into an international innovation and technology hub.

The Champion of the Hong Kong Chapter was **I2COOL** with its novel energy-free and environment-friendly passive radiative cooling paint. Cyberport’s start-up **MAD Gaze** was the first runner-up with its augmented reality (AR) smart glasses while the second runner-up was **Greater Bay Biotechnology** with its cryomicroneedles (CMNs) platforms for therapeutic cells and other biomedical products. The top three teams will represent Hong Kong in the “Maker in China” SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship Global Contest 2021 Grand Final to be held in Mainland China in mid-September, competing against other winners from Central and Eastern Europe, ASEAN, Japan and South Korea for support in expanding their businesses to GBA markets such as matching sessions with Mainland investors, opportunities in entering local technology parks and mentorship for the transformation of technological achievements.

Cyberport Community Members Shine in the Hong Kong Chapter

Of the top 10 finalists, half of them were Cyberport Community members, namely Neuropix, AQUOMON, MAD Gaze, Benefit Vantage and SyZyGy, the most ever. Video conference matching sessions were arranged for the top 10 finalists with representatives of Mainland enterprises and investors, yielding 50 successful deal flow sessions to help promising start-ups seek fund raising opportunities.

Creative Ideas Focused on “Artificial Intelligence and Big Data” and “Smart Living and Mobility”

The theme of the Hong Kong Chapter was “Synergic Development of Technological Innovation and Entrepreneurship”. Participating companies covered 10 innovation and technology categories, including FinTech, Artificial Intelligence and Big Data, Internet of Things, New Generation Information Technology, Advanced Manufacturing, Biomedicine, New Materials, New Energy, Energy Saving and Environmental Protection, Smart Living and Mobility, and Digital Entertainment and Esports Software. Among over 100 teams, most projects are under the categories of “Artificial Intelligence and Big Data”, “FinTech” and the newly added category of “Smart Living and Mobility”, showing the start-ups are concentrating their efforts in these areas, and are enthusiastic about developing

innovative smart living solutions as well as entering the GBA market.

Mr. Zhou Jian, Deputy Director of China Centre for Promotion of SME Development, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the People's Republic of China, said, “Through ‘Maker in China’ we have brought forth new ideas and converged the entrepreneurial resources to create a positive atmosphere of ‘Innovation and Entrepreneurship’. This provides small and medium enterprises and start-ups a platform to demonstrate and exchange ideas, to match with technology demands and to incubate. We believe that Hong Kong, the Pearl of the Orient, and its outstanding talents will create more excellent innovation projects. Through the contest we hope to join hands to bridge the innovative entrepreneurial projects between Hong Kong and the Mainland, injecting impetus into strategic innovation strategies and industries upgrades in the Mainland and Hong Kong to assist the SMEs to grow and expand.”

Professor Song Lai, Deputy Director General, Department of Youth Affairs, Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR, said, “To develop an international innovation and technology hub is the consensus of the national and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region governments. It is an important part of the national development strategy of achieving self-reliance in science and technology. It is also an essential path for Hong Kong to reshape its core competitiveness as an international city to make up for its developmental shortcomings. Through the ‘Maker in China’ contest, I hope more and more young entrepreneurs from Hong Kong will become more closely connected with the Mainland market and resources and be able to participate in the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. This will support Hong Kong’s development into an international innovation and technology hub and contribute to the realisation of self-reliance in science and technology at the national level.”

Victor Lam, JP, Government Chief Information Officer, said, “The GBA brings unlimited possibilities for Hong Kong's Innovation and Technology (I&T) industry. China’s 14th Five-Year Plan has further boosted the city’s position as an international centre of innovation and technology. I&T is the key to the development of the future world, and it brings prosperity and quality career opportunities, which accelerate the upgrade and transformation in economic structure and ultimately improve the quality of living of our citizens. I encourage all industry practitioners to actively participate in I&T competitions for constant pursuit of innovation and excellence, and make full use of the opportunity to connect with companies and investors of the GBA, thus making valuable contribution to Hong Kong’s I&T sector.”

Peter Yan, Chief Executive Officer of Cyberport, said, “We are pleased to see a record number of participating companies, demonstrating the eagerness of local start-ups to expand to the Greater Bay Area market. Cyberport community members have excelled in this competition and, together with other participants, have created over 100 patents. The competition has facilitated 50 deal flow sessions to bring endless innovative ideas for industries, in turn speeding up digital transformation within society. With more Hong Kong start-ups receiving investments from the Mainland and landing in the Greater Bay

Area, this growing synergy within the region will further promote the development of Greater Bay Area into an international innovation and technology hub.”

Ivan Shum, Chairman of Angel Investment Foundation, said, “Having taken part in this contest as a planner and judge for the third time, I am happy to see that the contest has successfully attracted university R&D projects and excellent start-ups to cooperate with corporate investors to explore the Chinese market together. This will certainly strengthen the momentum of innovation at a national level and open up infinite prospects for start-ups.”

This year the Hong Kong Chapter is jointly organised by China Centre for Promotion of SME Development, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong's Office of the Government Chief Information Officer, Department of Youth Affairs, Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR and China International Cooperation Association of SMEs, co-organised by Cyberport, Angel Investment Foundation and Chamber of Commerce of Guangzhou Industrial Parks. It aims to promote matching in four areas, namely bringing together innovative technologies and enterprises; market-ready projects and technology parks; marketized operations and government policies; and deal flow within the industry chain through building innovative industrial cooperation and upgraded service platforms. By facilitating investment matches in these areas, the contest aims to synergise innovation and to enhance overall competitiveness.

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



The Hong Kong Chapter of “Maker in China” SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship Global Contest 2021 successfully concluded today and was met with enthusiasm, drawing a record number of over 100 participating teams.



The champion, first runner-up and second runner-up of the Hong Kong Chapter are I2COOL (middle), MAD Gaze (left) and Greater Bay Biotechnology (right). They will represent Hong Kong in the Grand Final to compete for support in expanding to GBA markets.



Through the contest **Mr. Zhou Jian, Deputy Director of China Centre for Promotion of SME Development, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the People's Republic of China** hopes to join hands to build the bridge the innovative entrepreneurial projects between Hong Kong and the Mainland, injecting impetus into strategic innovation strategies and industries upgrades in the Mainland and Hong Kong to assist the SMEs to grow and expand.



Professor Song Lai, Deputy Director General, Department of Youth Affairs, Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR hopes through the “Maker in China” contest, more and more young entrepreneurs from Hong Kong will become more closely connected with the Mainland market and resources and be able to participate in the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.



Victor Lam, JP, Government Chief Information Officer encourages start-ups to actively participate in innovation and technology competitions for constant pursuit of excellence. He also urges the participants to make full use of the opportunity to connect with companies and investors of the Greater Bay Area, thus making valuable contribution to Hong Kong’s innovation and technology sector.



Peter Yan, Chief Executive Officer of Cyberport applauded Cyberport community members for excelling in this competition and, together with other participants, having created over 100 patents. He also suggested the 50 deal flow sessions facilitated by the competition will bring endless innovative ideas for industries, in turn speeding up digital transformation within society.



Having taken part in this contest as a planner and judge for the third time, **Ivan Shum, Chairman of Angel Investment Foundation** is happy to see that the contest has successfully attracted university R&D projects and excellent start-ups to cooperate with corporate investors to explore the Chinese market together. This will strengthen the momentum of innovation at a national level and open up infinite prospects for start-ups.



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About Cyberport

Cyberport is an innovative digital community with over 1,650 start-ups and technology companies. It is managed by Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited, which is 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 the 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