



Press Release  
Immediate Release

## **“Maker in China” SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship Global Contest Brings I&T Companies to Greater Bay Area Hong Kong Chapter Opens Call for Entries**

**Hong Kong, 1 June 2022** - To recruit the outstanding Innovation and Technology (I&T) teams in Hong Kong for the annual state level entrepreneurship contest “Maker in China” SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship Global Contest 2022, the Hong Kong Chapter opens call for entries today and ends on 8th July. The Hong Kong Chapter Final will be held in August. The event is also one of the celebration events of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), with the objective of promoting I&T development in Hong Kong, which is highly valued by the Central Government and Hong Kong Government.

The Hong Kong Chapter is recruiting start-ups and small and medium enterprises from 10 innovation and technology categories, including “FinTech”, “Internet of Things”, “Artificial Intelligence & Big Data”, “New Generation Information Technology”, “New Materials”, “New Energy, Energy Saving & Environmental Protection”, “Digital Entertainment & eSports Software”, and three modified categories namely **“Industrial Internet & Advanced Manufacturing”**, **“Biomedicine & Biotechnology”** and **“Smart living, Mobility & Healthcare”**. These enhanced categories will allow the event to keep up with the trend of I&T development in the society under the new normal, uncover more diversified new economy companies and help them expand into mainland China’s market, thus accelerating the overall development of the Greater Bay Area (GBA) as an international innovation and technology hub. The top 10 finalists in the Hong Kong Chapter will have 1-on-1 business matching sessions with investors and enterprises from the GBA, interview opportunity for “Cyberport Incubation Programme”, 3-months free use of Smart-Space in Cyberport and one-year of external Chief Financial Officer Service offered by Angel Investment Foundation. The Champion, First Runner-up and Second Runner-up will represent Hong Kong to compete in the “Maker in China” SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship Global Contest 2022 Final in mainland China to be held later this year. They will compete against the winners from Central and Eastern Europe, ASEAN, Japan & South Korea and Macao Special Administrative Region, for the support in business expansion in the GBA market, including matching with mainland investors, entering mainland entrepreneurial parks, and mentorship for the transformation of technological achievements.

**Eric Chan, Chief Public Mission Officer of Cyberport**, said, “With the rise of the Greater Bay Area as an international I&T hub, more tech talents and companies are attracted to tap into the market for synergistic development. Cyberport has been maintaining close ties with the GBA by cooperating with leading technology parks and incubators in the region to connect members of the Cyberport community with the

channels for developing market of the region. ‘Maker in China’ Hong Kong Chapter has been successfully hosted for three years and received support from various local universities and over 40 groups from business and innovation and technology sectors each year. The competition serves as an incubation and collaboration platform for SMEs and start-ups to accelerate, communicate and present their ideas with mainland enterprises for financial support. Through discovering and incubating the outstanding projects and teams, the competition will draw education, technology, and economics together, to transform innovative ideas into real services or products and facilitate cooperation among the Government, industries, academia and research institutes. I encourage Hong Kong and Cyberport start-ups to actively participate in this competition and grasp this great opportunity to develop their businesses in the GBA. Together we can build a more vibrant and diverse start-up ecosystem, and support the development of the GBA into an international innovation and technology hub.”

The Cyberport community has always been very keen to participate in the Hong Kong Chapter. Half of the top ten teams from last year were members of the Cyberport community, including Neuropix, AQUOMON, MAD Gaze, Benefit Vantage and SyZyGy, highest among past years. Among them, MAD Gaze won the championship of the “Maker in China” SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship Global Contest against 9 qualifying teams from other regions, with its AR smart glasses technology.

**Mr Jordan Cheng, founder and CEO of MAD Gaze Ltd**, the Champion of 2021 Maker in China Global Contest, said, "We are honoured to represent Hong Kong in last year's global competition and beat other top I&T projects from other countries, proving that Hong Kong's technology has the ability to lead the world. I hope that more Hong Kong technologies can lead the world in the future. After the competition, we established collaboration with a company in Huizhou in the GBA and set up a branch in Foshan. We are also thrilled to receive assistance from the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and Angel Investment Foundation to connect with mainland funds and Hong Kong listed companies to source for next round of fund-raising. I encourage more I&T companies in Hong Kong, seize the opportunity to participate in this year's Hong Kong Chapter."

**Mr Martin Zhu, Co-founder of I2Cool**, the champion of the 2021 Hong Kong Chapter and first runner-up of the Global Contest, said: “ ‘Maker in China’ provides an important platform to increase our visibility in the Mainland China and the world, allowing us to establish closer relationship with companies outside Hong Kong and promoting products to a wider market. We have gradually landed in the GBA and established our own supply chain and sales network. I hope this year's contestants can gain a better understanding of the national and global markets through the competition and seize the opportunity to expand their business and network.”

The Hong Kong Chapter was started in 2018. This year the contest is jointly organised by China Centre for Promotion of SME Development, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the People's Republic of China, Office of the Government Chief Information Officer, the Government of the HKSAR, 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, including bridging together innovative technologies and enterprises, market-ready projects, and technology parks, marketised operations and government policies, and deal-flow within the industry chain through building innovative industrial cooperation and upgraded service platforms. Through facilitating business matching in these areas, the contest aims to synergise innovation of industries and to enhance overall competitiveness.

For details and application of the Hong Kong Chapter, please visit <https://www.smeiegq.hk/>

Annex: Contest agenda

<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Date</b>
Application period	1 June to 8 July 2022
Webinars for project recruitment	14 June and 28 June 2022
Semi- Final of Hong Kong Chapter	22 July 2022(TBC)
Final of Hong Kong Chapter and business matching	19 August 2022
“Maker in China” SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship Global Contest	Late 2022





Eric Chan, Chief Public Mission Officer of Cyberport says, the competition serves as an incubation and collaboration platform for SMEs and start-ups to accelerate, communicate and present their ideas with mainland enterprises for financial support. Through discovering and incubating the outstanding projects and teams, the competition will draw education, technology, and economics together, to transform innovative ideas into real services or products and facilitate cooperation among the Government, industries, academia and research institutes.



For media enquiry, please contact:

### **Cyberport Corporate Communications**

**Joyce Ma**

T: (852) 3166 3880

E: [joycemaws@cyberport.hk](mailto:joycemaws@cyberport.hk)

### **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](http://www.cyberport.hk)