

## Press Release For Immediate Release

## Launch Ceremony of Hong Kong Artificial Intelligence Educational Base cum Baidu Al Cloud Innovation Centre Signing Ceremony

**Hong Kong, 22 November 2024** – The "Hong Kong Artificial Intelligence Educational Base", jointly established by Baidu Al Cloud and Hong Kong Qianfan Technology, held its grand launch ceremony on November 22 at the Arcade at Cyberport. The event also marked the signing ceremony for the establishment of the "Baidu Al Cloud Innovation Centre".

The launch ceremony was officiated by John Lee Ka-chiu, Chief Executive of the HKSAR Government; Prof Sun Dong, Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry; Dr Christine Choi Yuk-lin, Secretary for Education; Dr Shen Dou, Executive Vice President of Baidu and Chief of Baidu Al Cloud; Karson Choi Ka-tsan, Chairman of Hong Kong Qianfan Technology; Prof William Shum Wai-lam, and Rachel Chan, Directors of Hong Kong Qianfan Technology. All together, they presided over the activation of the "Hong Kong Artificial Intelligence Educational Base".

The "Hong Kong Artificial Intelligence Educational Base" is dedicated to the development of new quality productive forces through advanced technology and innovation. At the same time, the Base aims to popularize Al application knowledge among university students in Hong Kong, enabling young people to gain early exposure to Al and nurturing future technology talent within Hong Kong's innovation and technology ecosystem.

In the presence of John Lee, Chief Executive of the HKSAR Government, and Prof Sun Dong, Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, the signing ceremony for the establishment of the Baidu Al Cloud Innovation Centre was presided over by Karson Choi, Chairman of Hong Kong Qianfan Technology; Dr Shen Dou, Executive Vice President of Baidu and Chief of Baidu Al Cloud; and Simon Chan, Chairman of Cyberport. The establishment of the Centre marks a significant step forward in Hong Kong's Al development.

Spanning 20,000 square feet, the Educational Base features an AI Exhibition Hall showcasing the latest AI technologies across various industries. It offers interactive experiences and training programmes focused on core topics such as product innovation and technology transfer, providing participants with foundational knowledge and practical skills.

Following its establishment, the Base plans to invite Baidu's research team, backed by its strong internet infrastructure, to launch a series of teaching and training programmes in 2025. Through partnerships with local tertiary institutions, the Base will offer five course series



annually, aiming to equip Hong Kong students with valuable AI knowledge and practical skills to contribute to value-added industry innovation. We are committed to expanding the understanding and application of AI technology, enabling more young people to engage with AI at an early stage. These initiatives are expected to benefit over 1,000 local young individuals each year, fostering the development of practical AI knowledge and skills.

The establishment of "Hong Kong Artificial Intelligence Educational Base" and "Baidu Al Cloud Innovation Centre" represents a significant milestone in Hong Kong's Al development, highlighting the city's progress in technological innovation and education. With technology and innovation serving as the driving force, the Base aims to accelerate the modernization of Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area, cultivate new quality productive forces, and promote Hong Kong as an international innovation and technology (I&T) hub and a model smart city.

The University of Hong Kong (HKU) will be the first partner institute of the "Hong Kong Artificial Intelligence Educational Base". A memorandum of understanding was signed during the ceremony to formalise the partnership.

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For high-resolution photos, please download via this <u>link</u>.



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**John Lee Ka-chiu**, Chief Executive of the HKSAR Government, delivered a speech at the launch ceremony.



For media enquiries, please contact:

## Cyberport

Cindy Fung

Tel: (852) 3166 3841

Email: cindyfung@cyberport.hk

## **About Cyberport**

Cyberport is Hong Kong's digital technology flagship and incubator for entrepreneurship with over 2,100 members including over 900 onsite and over 1,200 offsite start-ups and technology companies. It is managed by Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited, wholly owned by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, and committed to the vision to inject new impetus into digital economy and smart city development through innovation and technology, and to connect enterprises to Mainland China and overseas markets. Cyberport strives to nurture a vibrant tech ecosystem by cultivating talents, promoting entrepreneurship among the youth, supporting start-ups, fostering technology industry development by promoting strategic collaboration with local, Mainland Chinese and international partners, and integrating new and traditional economies by accelerating digital transformation in public and private sectors.

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