

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Cyberport Congratulates the Opening of Hong Kong Branch of The National Torch Academy of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Zhongguancun)

Bridging Innovation Ecosystems Across Regions to Build Platforms for R&D, Talent, and Industry

Hong Kong, 5 June 2025 – The Hong Kong Branch of The National Torch Academy of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Zhongguancun) (HKNTAIE) officially held its opening and plaque unveiling ceremony at Cyberport yesterday (4 June), marking a significant step in fostering collaboration on innovation talent cultivation and enterprise incubation between the two regions. The ceremony was officiated by **Lillian Cheong, Acting Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry**, and **Zhang Ruobing, Director of the Beijing Municipal Talent Work Bureau**. It was witnessed by various distinguished guests, including **Zhong Weigong, Standing Committee Member and Director of Organisation Department of the Beijing Daxing District Party Committee**; **Elizabeth Lee, Chairman of HKNTAIE and Chairman of the Hong Kong Alumni Association of Beijing Universities (HKAABJU)**; **Simon Chan, Chairman of Cyberport**; and **Dr Rocky Cheng, CEO of Cyberport**. Following the ceremony, the guests toured the office facilities of HKNTAIE and engaged in discussions with representatives from around 20 inaugural tenant companies to understand their latest business developments.

HKNTAIE is an international innovative offshore industry incubation and acceleration platform. It also serves as a practical platform for cultivating talent in core technology innovation and entrepreneurship, as well as a national-level significant platform dedicated to the deep incubation of major innovative technologies. It is committed to accelerating R&D outcomes and results transformation and focusing on nurturing high-level tech entrepreneurial talent proficient in technology, market-oriented, and skilled in management and cultivating world-class core technology enterprises. This effort will further accelerate Hong Kong's development of new quality productive forces and contribute innovative momentum to the country's high quality development. Currently, the HKNTAIE has introduced approximately 55 outstanding I&T companies from the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region to set up base in the Cyberport Campus, covering areas such as AI, aerospace technology, biomedicine, blockchain, and smart cities.

Lillian Cheong, Acting Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, said, "HKNTAIE, as a national-level significant accelerator for technology outcome transfer and

transformation, shouldering the important mission of connecting talents and innovation and technology resources between Beijing and Hong Kong, serving both places and radiating globally to cultivate and develop new quality productive forces. She added that Hong Kong, under the ‘One Country, Two Systems’ principle, has unique advantages of “enjoying strong support of the Motherland and being closely connected to the world”. Hong Kong is promoting and strengthening the efficient collaboration among the government, industry, academia, research and investment sectors, fully utilising its unique roles as a ‘super-connector’ and ‘super value-adder’ in helping Mainland enterprises to “go global and attract foreign investment”. The Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau of the HKSAR Government will continue to assist more Mainland enterprises in coming to Hong Kong for development.”

Zhang Ruobing, Director of the Beijing Municipal Talent Work Bureau, said, “The official establishment of the HKNTAIE marks another important achievement in jointly building a national high-level talent hub in Beijing and Hong Kong. We hope the Hong Kong branch will become a key source of technology transfer and transformation between Beijing and Hong Kong, exploring a new service path of ‘global innovation – torch transformation – international industrialisation.’ It will gather talent for technology transfer and transformation in Hong Kong; serve as an important hub for talent exchange and interaction between Beijing and Hong Kong, promoting exchanges in innovation, industry, funding, and talent chains between Beijing and Hong Kong through activities like the ‘IQTalk light social event’; and act as a vital platform for industrial connectivity and complementarity between the two regions by establishing strategic cooperation under the principle of ‘jointly posing questions and jointly answering,’ to serve industrial upgrading and efficiency enhancement in both regions.”

Simon Chan, Chairman of Cyberport, said, “The official opening of the HKNTAIE at Cyberport will assist Hong Kong in cultivating international high-end talent and establishing a new international academic and scientific research hub. As a ‘State-level Scientific and Technological Enterprise Incubator,’ Cyberport is home to over 2,200 start-ups and technology companies, including 5 listed companies and 7 unicorns, with total financing exceeding HK\$ 43.4 billion and expanded to 35 global markets, including promising emerging markets such as the Middle East and ASEAN. Looking ahead, we will continue to play the roles of ‘super-connector’ and ‘super value-adder,’ helping the settling companies to advance on their international milestones and jointly nurturing more leading innovative enterprises to accelerate the development of new quality productive forces and contribute innovative strength to the country’s modernisation of its industrial system and high-quality development.”

Elizabeth Lee, Chairman of HKNTAIE and Chairman of HKAABJU, introduced the Branch’s functional positioning and future development plans. She said, “The establishment of the HKNTAIE will serve as a hub for technology innovation and an international cooperation bridge between Beijing and Hong Kong, leveraging Hong Kong’s international

advantages alongside Beijing's tech resources, providing original technical supply for regional industrial development, and offering innovative services for the incubation, cultivation, and development of technology-oriented SMEs. We are committed to becoming an overseas practical platform for nurturing talent in core technology innovation and entrepreneurship, a national-level deep-service platform for major innovative technologies, and a high-end international dialogue and cooperation platform for the Beijing-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area."

Over the past two years, the HKAABJU has successfully organised two editions of the "Hong Kong World Youth Science Conference" series of thematic activities, where more than 100 outstanding innovation enterprises from Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Hong Kong, and Macau signed the "Memorandum of Understanding for Development in Hong Kong" with the HKAABJU, Cyberport and others during the opening ceremony. These leading enterprises are focused on frontier technologies including AI and big data. With strong support from the HKSAR Government, the HKAABJU and Cyberport will continue to drive more outstanding enterprises to settle in Cyberport, further enhancing the innovation ecosystem and promoting enterprise growth.

As Hong Kong's digital technology hub and AI accelerator, Cyberport will continue to promote innovation and entrepreneurship, leveraging its role as a gateway connecting Mainland China and the world, and serving as a successful springboard for enterprises to "bring in" global innovation and "go out" to international markets.

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On day of the event, the Beijing Municipal Talent Work Bureau (Daxing District) and HKNTAIE jointly held a signing ceremony for the establishment of the Daxing International Innovation Cooperation Centre (Hong Kong Station) and the launching ceremony of the Daxing–Hong Kong Youth Innovation and Technology Training Camp.



Simon Chan, Chairman of Cyberport, Dr Rocky Cheng, CEO of Cyberport, Georgina Chu, Chief Corporate Development Officer of Cyberport, and other attending guests toured the office facilities of HKNTAIE and engaged in discussions with representatives from around 20 inaugural tenant companies to understand their latest business developments.

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About Hong Kong Cyberport

Wholly owned by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government, Cyberport is Hong Kong's digital tech hub and AI accelerator, with a vision to empower industry digitalisation and intelligent transformation, to promote digital economy and AI development, and to foster Hong Kong to be an international AI, innovation and technology (I&T) hub. Cyberport gathers over 2,200 companies, including 5 listed companies and 7 unicorns. One-third of onsite companies' founders come from 26 countries and regions, while Cyberport companies have expanded to over 35 global markets.

Cyberport, with Hong Kong's largest AI Supercomputing Centre and AI Lab as the engine, has been building the AI ecosystem with industry-leading AI companies and around 400 AI and data science start-ups. Through development of tech clusters, namely AI, data science, blockchain and cybersecurity, Cyberport empowers industries across smart city and government, banking and finance, digital entertainment, culture and tourism, healthcare, education and training, property management, construction, transportation and logistics, green environment and more, while hosting Hong Kong's largest FinTech community. Commissioned by the HKSAR Government, Cyberport has implemented proof-of-concept and sandbox schemes, subsidisation for digital tech adoption, industry tech training and start-up incubation, to drive technology R&D, translation and commercialisation, thus propelling digital transformation and intelligent upgrade across industry and society.

Also as Hong Kong's key incubator, Cyberport supports entrepreneurs with funding and office space, extensive networks of enterprises, investors, technology corporations and professional services for business growth and expansion to Mainland China and overseas markets, all-round facilitation for landing in Hong Kong, talent attraction and cultivation, ready as a launchpad to take start-ups in any stages of development to the next level.

For more information, please visit <https://www.cyberport.hk/en>.