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- The Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) mapped out an innovation and R&D project, cooperating with 18 firms and research institutions (ITRI, Chung-Shan Institute of Science and Technology, Institute for Information Industry), to revitalize Taiwan's industries. The project, which will invest an estimated NT\$ 10 bio. in R&D in 2009, will focus on 12 industries, incl base metal, machinery, vehicle, information technology & telecommunications, electronics, opto-electronics, information service, digital content, hi-tech service, biomedicine, food & consumer goods, textile, petrochemicals, and green energy.
- The government will provide NT\$ 86.4 bio. as seed money to launch an ambitious 4-year medical care improvement plan, which is expected to raise the health care industry's production value by an estimated NT\$ 346 bio. and to create 300'000 new jobs by 2012. The project will cover three categories, health, medical and long-term care - intelligent medicine, medical service globalization and public health and safety. The most noteworthy feature of the package is the development of intelligent medicine, given Taiwan's competitive edge in the IT industry. Dubbed Operation Health Care Platinum is to improve medical service and sell it abroad as one of Taiwan's six new strategic industries. Another feature is internationalization of medical services (medi-tourism). Investment is encouraged to develop vaccines (NT\$ 2.6 bio. worth of flu vaccines to be produced by 2012).
- As part of its priority investment plan, the government wants to invest heavily in the new energy industry, with photovoltaic and LED lighting as two mainstays. 10 % of the NT\$ 500 bio. budget for expanded infrastructure projects in the next four years will be used in installing green-energy facilities. The plan aims to boost the output value of the new energy industry to NT\$ 1.16 trillion by 2015, up from the current NT\$ 160 bio. Other than PV and LED lighting, the industry also covers five other lines, wind power, bio-fuel, hydrogen energy and fuel cell, energy information/communication, and electric car. The government will double the annual energy research budget to NT\$ 10 bio. and it also aims to double the output of sophisticated agriculture to NT\$ 50 bio. by 2012. It will focus on the development of organic agriculture, agricultural biotech, in-depth rural travel, orchid, and grouper.
- National Synchrotron Radiation Research Center (NSRRC), begins to execute the seven-year establishment project of Taiwan Photon Source (TPS) with the budget of NT\$ 6.88 billion.



### 1. Taiwan Photon Source Starts to Operate in 2013

(China Times, 31 03 2009)

National Synchrotron Radiation Research Center (NSRRC), begins to execute the seven-year establishment project of Taiwan Photon Source, TPS, with the budget of NT\$ 6.88 billion. The acceptance test of TPS is expected to occur in 2013. The medium energy accelerator in plan is the third generation of 3GeV Synchrotron Light Source, which can produce hard X-ray in high state with the energy scope reaching 20keV, one of the best-performed synchrotrons in the world.

Full article:

<http://web1.nsc.gov.tw/techwp.aspx?id=0980326004&ctunit=208&ctnode=287&mp=7>

### 2. Taiwan's WEF Networked Readiness Index Slightly Improved

(National Science Council, 31 03 2009)

According to the new-announced "2009 Networked Readiness Index," NRI, of World Economic Forum, WEF, Taiwan wins ranking number thirteen, four places higher than last year. Denmark, Sweden and the US occupy the first three places. Among Taiwan's main competitors in Asia, Taiwan is only ahead of Japan while after Singapore, South Korea and Hong Kong.

Full article:

<http://web1.nsc.gov.tw/techwp.aspx?id=0980328002&ctunit=208&ctnode=287&mp=7>

### 3. HTC debuts new smartphone at CITA Wireless 2009

(Taiwan Economic News, 06 04 2009)

The Taiwan-based High Tech Computer Corp., a world-caliber supplier of smartphones, debuted the newest HTC Snap, or called HTC Maple, series at CITA Wireless 2009, closing on April 3 in Las Vegas, the U.S. as its sales booster in the second quarter of this year.

The HTC Snap is 1.2cm thick and built with a Qwerty keypad and high-capacity battery, allowing 8.5 hours of continuous use. The phone adopts Microsoft's Windows Mobile 6.1 operating system and supports 3G and 3.5G communication technologies. Besides, the phone features innovative Inner Circle Email-filtering function, helping users to easily identify, organize and read useful emails.

Full article:

[http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news\\_inner\\_26935.html](http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news_inner_26935.html)

### 4. Gov't to Set Up Taiwan Biotech Firm

(Taiwan Economic News, 06 04 2009)

The government will set up Taiwan Biotech Firm (temporary title) to spearhead the development of domestic biotech industry and is looking for candidates to head the prospective firm. One leading candidate is Yue-teh Jang, general partner of Vertical Group, a noted venture capital firm for medical-care industry in Silicon Valley. Another is Su Huai-ren, senior vice president of Shire of the U.S. Both are advisors to the Executive Yuan (the Cabinet) for biotech industrial strategy.

Full article:

[http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news\\_inner\\_26925.html](http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news_inner_26925.html)

Related articles:

<http://taiwanjournal.nat.gov.tw/ct.asp?CtNode=122&xItem=49490&mp=2>

### 5. Pig dung flower pots ready for mass production

(Taipei Times, 07 04 2009)

The technology for making eco-friendly flower pots from recycled paper and processed pig dung is ready for commercialization, the Livestock Research Institute said.

"The solid and liquid parts of pig waste are first separated, then the methane gas processed. The remaining waste is then pressed and mixed with recycled paper pulp to make the flower pots."



Because the materials are completely organic, farmers can raise plant seedlings in the pots and place them into the soil with the pot.

Full article:

<http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2009/04/07/2003440453>

## **6. Agriculture agency to use handheld computers to collect crop data**

(Central News Agency, 07 04 2009)

The Agriculture and Food Agency will use personal digital assistant (PAD) technology to collect data on four domestically grown crops considered "sensitive" because of their vulnerability to supply and demand imbalances, a Council of Agriculture official said. COA plans to use Pads, or handheld computers, to collect field data in view of the importance of establishing an accurate information database on sensitive crops to maintain a balance between supply and demand.

If it is implemented successfully, the measure is expected to reach a data collection rate of more than 90 %, compared to less than 50 % at present.

Full article:

<http://english.cna.com.tw/ReadNews/Detail.aspx?pSearchDate=&pNewsID=200904070017&pType1=ST&pType0=xST&pTypeSel=0>

## **7. Taiwanese hospitals advanced in organ transplants: health bureau**

(Central News Agency, 08 04 2009)

Several hospitals in Taiwan have perfected advanced techniques in organ transplants, with the Taipei-based National Taiwan University Hospital (NTUH) regarded as excellent in the field of kidney transplants. Statistics show that the average five-year survival rate for heart transplants was 69 % during the 1997-2007 period, while the figure for kidney transplants reached 93 %, with 80 % recorded for liver transplants and 24 % for lung transplants.

Full article:

<http://english.cna.com.tw/ReadNews/Detail.aspx?pSearchDate=&pNewsID=200904080013&pType1=HH&pType0=xHH&pTypeSel=0>

## **8. NCKU unveils prototype of convenient breast cancer detector**

(Central News Agency, 10 04 2009)

Researchers at National Cheng Kung University (NCKU) have successfully developed the world's first pocket-sized breast cancer detector for household use, the university in southern Taiwan's Tainan City announced. Experiments on human beings may start later this year to pave the way for mass production next year.

The device, whose size is similar to an iPhone, was invented using near-infrared technology and is intended for the early detection and warning of breast cancer.

Full article:

<http://english.cna.com.tw/ReadNews/Detail.aspx?pSearchDate=&pNewsID=200904100017&pType1=ST&pType0=xST&pTypeSel=0>

## **9. Gov't Plans to Develop New Energy into another NT\$1 Trillion Industry**

(Taiwan Economic News, 13 04 2009)

The government will invest heavily in the new energy industry, with photovoltaic and LED (light emitting diode) lighting as two mainstays, in the hope of creating another industry with annual output value exceeding NT\$1 trillion, according to the "flagship plan for the new energy industry."

Officials in charge noted that the new energy industry has been designated by the government as an industry of priority development and will as such be included in the list of priority investment items by the National Development Fund, under the Executive Yuan.

Full article:



[http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news\\_inner\\_27090.html](http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news_inner_27090.html)

### **10. Taiwan makes breakthrough in new drug for diabetes patients**

(Taiwan News, 19 04 2009)

Taiwan has developed a new drug for diabetes patients that will begin its first clinical trials on humans at a local medical center in 2010, marking the first drug ever to be developed on the island. The National Health Research Institutes (NHRI) announced that it has formed an alliance with six local pharmaceutical manufacturers to conduct investigational new drug trials on humans of its developed anti-diabetes drug, DPP-IV, at Taipei Veterans General Hospital (TVGH).

Full article:

[http://www.etaiwannews.com/etn/news\\_content.php?id=924066&lang=eng\\_news&cate\\_img=49.jpg&cate\\_rss=news\\_Society\\_TAIWAN](http://www.etaiwannews.com/etn/news_content.php?id=924066&lang=eng_news&cate_img=49.jpg&cate_rss=news_Society_TAIWAN)

### **11. Lingsen Precision Strikes Gold With MEMS-integrated Microphones**

(Taiwan Economic News, 20 04 2009)

With years of efforts on developing applications of MEMS (micro electro mechanical systems) chips, Taiwan-based Lingsen Precision Industries Ltd., a seasoned semiconductor assembly company, has successfully joined Askustica's supply chain of MEMS-integrated microphones, according to company sources.

Akustica is a large-sized MEMS application product supplier in the U.S., with internationally famous IT companies, like Nokia and Dell, on its client list. In other words, supplying to Akustica has helped Lingsen Precision gain a solid ground in the global market for MEMS-integrated microphones.

Focusing on the segment for NOR flash memory and analog IC (integrated circuit) packaging, Lingsen Precision has built a distinct profile in the line for years. Optimistic about the market prospects for MEMS applications, Lingsen Precision has ventured into the field since 2003, and has cooperated with Taiwan's government-funded Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI) to work out several related cutting-edge technologies, including packaging and testing technology for ultra-thin capacitive CMOS (complementary metal oxide semiconductor) MEMS sensors, as the foremost of this kind on the island.

Full article:

[http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news\\_inner\\_27236.html](http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news_inner_27236.html)

### **12. Taiwan's IC Industry Geared Into MEMS Device Production**

(Taiwan Economic News, 20 04 2009)

Manufacturers across Taiwan's IC industry are readily making micro-electro-mechanical system (MEMS) devices, which are estimated to bring Taiwan's chip industry another crown after Taiwan becomes the world's No.1 supplier built-to-order chips.

Taiwan's first-tier silicon foundries including Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. (TSMC), Vanguard International Semiconductor Co. (VISC) and Advanced Semiconductor Engineering (ASE) Inc. have outfitted themselves with MEMS-manufacturing capability while second-tier suppliers like Lingsen Precision Industries, Ltd. and Siguard Microelectronics Corp. have begun offering contract manufacturing of the devices.

Full article:

[http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news\\_inner\\_27230.html](http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news_inner_27230.html)

### **13. Taiwan's Machine-tool Makers Tap Windpower Equipment Sector**

(Taiwan Economic News, 21 04 2009)

With windpower seen as a major industry to sustain economic development in Taiwan, China and the U.S., leading domestic makers of machine tools, including Goodway Machine Corp., Kent Industrial Co., Falcon Machine Tools Co., and Roundtop Machinery Industries Co., are scrambling to develop tools to roll out parts and components for windpower equipment.

Full article:



[http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news\\_inner\\_27242.html](http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news_inner_27242.html)

#### **14. Taiwan develops world's first Android notebook**

(Central News Agency, 23 04 2009)

The Institute for Information Industry (III) recently developed the world's first Android-based notebook, which is expected to help create enormous business opportunities for Taiwan's information and communication technology (ICT) industry, according to an industry report.

Android is a software platform and operating system developed by Google and later the Open Handset Alliance, which enables developers to create compelling mobile applications. It is built on the open source Linux Kernel.

The successful development of the Android notebook is an important milestone for the notebook market, and the products are likely to take a slice of the market, according to the report released by the III's Market Intelligence & Consulting Institute (MIC).

Full article:

<http://english.cna.com.tw/ReadNews/Detail.aspx?pSearchDate=&pNewsID=200904230016&pType1=ST&pType0=xEMST&pTypeSel=0>

#### **15. Taiwan academic awarded for achievement in liver study**

(Central News Agency, 24 04 2009)

Academia Sinica member Chen Ding-shinn has won the International Recognition Award by the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL), becoming the first Taiwanese to receive the award, Taiwan's top-notch research institute said.

The research conducted by Chen and his team has contributed to understanding the natural history of the hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection, the early detection and treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma, and the prevention of HBV infection.

Chen's achievements also extend to hepatitis C virus, having developed a new and effective treatment for chronic hepatitis C.

Full article:

<http://english.cna.com.tw/ReadNews/Detail.aspx?pSearchDate=&pNewsID=200904240023&pType1=ST&pType0=xEMST&pTypeSel=0>

Related article:

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#### **16. Researchers extract brain nutrient from squid skins: report**

(Taipei Times, 25 04 2009)

A local research team has successfully extracted a brain-boosting nutrient from squid skin, a fisheries official said. Researchers at the Council of Agriculture's Fisheries Research Institute have extracted PL-DHA (phospholipid docosahexaenoic acid) — a substance that can improve memory and enhance learning ability — from the skin of squid, the official said.

The official said PL-DHA was better than TG-DHA — another form of docosahexaenoic acid that is commonly found in deep-sea fish oil — in inhibiting degradation of the intellect because it can cross the blood brain barrier and be absorbed directly into the brain.

The researchers have also discovered that the PL-DHA extract is effective in reviving neural cells and enhancing the content of three oxidation-resistant enzymes — GSH, CAT and SOD — as well as moderating free radical-induced oxidative damage to neural cells, thus slowing down the accumulation of plaque and tangles in brain cells.

Full article:

<http://www.taipetimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2009/04/25/2003441928>

<http://english.cna.com.tw/ReadNews/Detail.aspx?pSearchDate=&pNewsID=200904230030&pType1=ST&pType0=xEMST&pTypeSel=0>



### **17. TPO's SRP-MIP Tech Enables Hi-res Display at Miniscule 1mw**

(Taiwan Economic News, 27 04 2009)

TPO Displays Corp. (formerly Toppoly Optoelectronics Inc.), a major supplier of small/medium-sized mobile displays, recently announced its successful development of a self-refreshing-pixel (SRP)-memory-in-pixel (MIP) technology on a 3.47-inch nHD thin film transistor-liquid crystal display (TFT-LCD) transfective display with 211 pixel-per-inch (ppi) resolution using 1mw in reflective mode.

The 3.47-inch nHD demo display proves TPO's SRP-MIP technology to be a power miser at full-screen display. TPO also claims that the technology has two other major advantages: extended battery life of a mobile device and full-screen display. That means, users of mobile devices can enjoy full-screen images in a reflective mode without sacrificing battery life.

Full article:

[http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news\\_inner\\_27316.html](http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news_inner_27316.html)

### **18. Taiwan to Launch NT\$10B. Project to Revitalize Industries**

(Taiwan Economic News, 27 04 2009)

To help the nation regain strength amid the global recession, the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) recently mapped out an innovation and R&D project, cooperating with 18 firms and research institutions, to revitalize Taiwan's industries.

Besides private firms, the government-backed research institutions joining the project include Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI), Chung-Shan Institute of Science and Technology, and Institute for Information Industry (III). The project will invest an estimated NT\$10 bio. in R&D this year, which may generate businesses worth NT\$100 bio.

The project will focus on 12 industries, including base metal, machinery, vehicle, information technology (IT) & telecommunication, electronics, opto-electronics, information service, digital content, hi-tech service, biomedicine, food & consumer goods, textile, petrochemicals, and green energy.

### **19. ITRI Joins Global Galileo Ind. Alliance for GPS Development**

(Taiwan Economic News, 29 04 2009)

The Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI), a national industry technology research organization, recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the European Satellite Navigation Competition (ESNC) of Europe Union (EU) to take part in the Global Galileo Industry Alliance (GGIA).

ITRI announced Taiwan is honored to be the only Asian country taking part in the ESNC. This contest awards EU's best ideas for innovative satellite navigation applications.

Full article:

[http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news\\_inner\\_27365.html](http://cens.com/cens/html/en/news/news_inner_27365.html)

### **20. Huge funds to be invested in health care industry upgrading**

(Central News Agency, 30 04 2009)

The government will invest NT\$86.4 billion (US\$2.59 billion) over the next four years to upgrade the health care industry, Department of Health (DOH) Minister Yeh Ching-chuan said.

According to Yeh, the investment project is aimed at raising the the health care industry's production value by an estimated NT\$346.4 billion by 2012 and creating an additional 310,000 jobs during the four-year period.