



**Press Review Taiwan
Science, Technology and Education**



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Science/Technology

Taiwan plans to launch its first indigenous AUV within 5 years (Focus Taiwan, 1.9.2017)

Taiwan will soon start development of its first indigenous autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV), with the goal of launching it in five years' time, officials behind the project said on September 1. NSYSU President Cheng Ying-Yao said the project would mark a milestone in Taiwan's application of underwater technology, bringing together the power of academic institutions and the industrial sector to contribute to society.

More than 400 Gogoro GoStations now available in Taiwan (Focus Taiwan, 8.9.2017)

Taiwan-based Gogoro currently has over 400 battery-swapping GoStations around the country, the electric scooter company announced on September 8. In a further attempt to be environmentally conscious, Gogoro has installed two solar-powered GoStations. These smart stations not only provide fully-charged batteries but also information on fuel reduction and green energy use, so that scooter riders know how they are contributing environmental sustainability.

Asia's first Merck application development center founded in Kaohsiung (Focus Taiwan, 8.9.2017)

German multinational company Merck KGaA founded its first IC Materials Application Development Center in Asia on September 8 in Kaohsiung, southern Taiwan. The newly founded center, which was a NT\$100 million (US\$3.33 million) investment, provides both front- and back-end applications. The center's location in Kaohsiung will allow clients in Taiwan and nearby Asian countries, such as South Korea, Japan and China, to receive customer service more quickly than before.

World Congress on Information Technology opens in Taipei (Taiwan Today, 11.9.2017)

The World Congress on Information Technology officially opened September 11 in Taipei City, drawing nearly 4,000 captains of industry, government officials and IT experts from 80 countries and territories for one of the most influential high-tech gatherings in the world. Republic of China (Taiwan) President Tsai Ing-wen said in her opening address that the event represents an excellent opportunity to share best practices and strengthen international collaboration in promoting the digital economy and smart applications.

FormoSat-5 images out of focus; adjustment may take months: NARLabs (Focus Taiwan, 19.9.2017)

The first photos taken by Taiwan's FormoSat-5 satellite were fuzzy and marred by light spots, which were caused by a focusing problem on the satellite's remote sensing instrument (RSI), the designer National Applied Research Laboratories (NARLabs) said on September 19. Yu said that after days of observation, the NSPO had concluded that there was a problem with the RSI's focusing function and was trying to make some adjustments.

FormoSat-5 functioning as expected: science minister (Focus Taiwan, 20.9.2017)

Taiwan's FormoSat-5 satellite is performing as expected, even with the problem of blurred images, Science and Technology Minister Chen Liang-gee said on September 20. Even with the resolution problem, however, the data currently provided by the satellite is still clear enough to be used for natural disaster prevention, he said. According to Wu Kuang-chong, vice president of National Applied Research Laboratories (NARLabs), the current assessment is that the image adjustment process will take about two to three months to complete.

Taiwan seeks exchanges with renewable energy developers in Europe (Focus Taiwan, 23.9.2017)

In an effort to expand Taiwan's renewable energy development, a team of experts headed by Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Su Fong-chin recently left for Europe to seek exchanges with a number of renowned European renewable energy developers. According to the technology ministry, the team comprised of academics and industry players from Taiwan already toured the city of Genk in Belgium, home of EnergyVille, a renowned sustainable energy research institute.

Taiwan to invest over NT\$1 billion annually in AI (Focus Taiwan, 25.9.2017)

Taiwan intends to invest over NT\$1 billion (US\$33.1 billion) annually in the development of artificial intelligence (AI) and related talent, Science and Technology Minister Chen Liang-gee said on September 25. Speaking at a workshop on AI-related regulations, Chen said his ministry is committed to creating an AI-friendly environment; including building basic infrastructure for cloud computing that makes AI more accessible.

**Taiwan, Philippines sign agreements on industrial collaboration (Focus Taiwan, 28.9.2017)**

Taiwan signed six agreements with the Philippines at the 2017 Taiwan-Philippines Industrial Collaboration Summit in Manila on September 28 for collaboration in the field of Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence (AI), and smart machinery. The CNFI and the PCCI signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to establish a formal window of communication through which both groups can share the latest industrial development news and collaborate on talent development, industry tours and forums.

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Education**MOE upgrades Taiwan's Mandarin proficiency test (Taiwan Today, 1.9.2017)**

The number of exam dates for all levels of the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language, Taiwan's official Mandarin proficiency qualification, will double to six beginning next year as part of government efforts to boost access to the certification system. MOE Deputy Minister Yao Leehter said on August 30 at an event marking the 12th anniversary of the test's establishment that the upgrades will further strengthen the TOCFL's status as an authoritative Chinese-language qualification.

President Tsai welcomes overseas compatriot students from SE Asia (Taiwan Today, 12.9.2017)

On September 11 President Tsai Ing-wen welcomed overseas compatriot students from Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam enrolled in Taiwan vocational institutions, saying they will play an important role in strengthening ties between the nation and its key partners in Southeast Asia. The president made her remarks at an opening ceremony for a study program for overseas compatriot students in southern Taiwan's Kaohsiung City. The three-year program is overseen and sponsored by the Overseas Community Affairs Council.

Government offers research grants for women scientists (Focus Taiwan, 29.9.2017)

The Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) has unveiled a NT\$90 million (US\$2.96 million) research grant program for women scientists as part of its campaign to retain research talent, Minister Chen Liang-gee said on September 28.

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