



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



Trade Office of Swiss Industries, Taipei, August 1-31, 2018

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Science / Technology

2018 FIRA RoboWorld Cup to kick off in Taichung Aug. 7 (Focus Taiwan, 1.8.2018)

The 2018 Federation of International Robot- Sports Association (FIRA) RoboWorld Cup will kick off at Feng Chia University in Taichung on August 7, with 1,208 participants from 12 countries, the organizers said at a press conference on August 1. The competition, hosted jointly by FIRA and the Central Taiwan Science Park Bureau, features FIRA's first robot-human competition in archery, in which archery teams from two schools in Taichung will participate.

Taipei's PTO to try out solar-powered bus stops (Taiwan News, 2.8.2018)

Taipei's Public Transportation Office (PTO) will install solar-powered smart bus stops at selected spots across the city in recent days as a part of a pilot program, the agency announced in a news release on August 1. The PTO said that it has been pushing to convert as many traditional bus stops into smart ones as possible, but as some bus stops are not connected power lines due to location factor, it is trying out two types of smart bus stops which utilize solar power.

Taiwan could send new satellite into space by year end (Focus Taiwan, 3.8.2018)

The second satellite constellation jointly developed by Taiwan and the United States, named FormoSat-7/COSMIC-2, could be launched from Kennedy Space Center by the end of this year or next year, according to program chief Chu Chung-huei. FormoSat-7 will replace FormoSat-3 with state-of-the-art instruments and equipment to collect meteorology, ionosphere and climate data and continue FormoSat-3's legacy as one of the "most accurate and stable thermometers in space," Chu said.

President Tsai reaffirms commitment to indigenous submarine program (Taiwan Today, 7.8.2018)

President Tsai Ing-wen said August 6 that development of indigenous weapons systems is the backbone of the government's national defense strategy, with production of Taiwan's first submarine playing a key role in the process. Homegrown subs will enhance the navy's operational capabilities while strengthening the spirit of the armed forces, Tsai said. They also represent the innovative approach of the government to meeting its obligations to the fighting men and women of Taiwan, as well as the people, she added.

Taiwan's top digital content expo marks 10th year with AR/VR focus (Taiwan Today, 9.8.2018)

Digital Taipei opened its doors on August 8 with more than 100 exhibitors from home and abroad taking part in the 10th edition of Taiwan's top digital content trade show. Technological trends in augmented and virtual realities, animation, digital payments, education, gaming, intellectual property and online media are the focus of the two-day event, organized by the Industrial Development Bureau under the Ministry of Economic Affairs. More than 200 overseas buyers from 20-plus countries and territories are invited to the fair at Taipei International Convention Center.

Gogoro extends reach to eastern Taiwan (Focus Taiwan, 11.8.2018)

Gogoro Inc., a Taiwan-based electric scooter company, has extended its reach to eastern Taiwan for the first time by opening two stores in Yilan City. The electric scooter maker opened its first two stores in the region on August 10, and is planning to open new stores in Hualien in September and Taitung in November. To complement the new outlets, battery swapping Gostations will soon be opened in Yilan County in Yilan City, Luodong, Suao, Jiaoxi and Toucheng, and others will be opened in Hualien and Taitung later this year, according to Gogoro. The new stations will make it possible for riders to travel around Taiwan on a Gogoro bike by the end of 2018, the company said.

Taiwanese space scientist admitted to International Academy of Astronautics (Taiwan News, 16.8.2018)

Distinguished Taiwanese academic Cheng Chin-Hsiang was honored as an Academician of the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) for his outstanding academic contribution last month, reported CNA. Cheng, a Distinguished Professor at National Cheng Kung University, has published over 150 journal articles and holds 31 patents. He is an expert in stirling engines, concentrated solar power systems, and optimization of thermal/fluid/energy devices. The IAA was established in Sweden in 1960, and has become a leading congregator of experts in astronautics and space exploration. The IAA aims to promote peace and social development of mankind through technology.

**Self-service garbage collection system demonstrated in Taipei (Taiwan News, 20.8.2018)**

The common scene of people chasing a garbage truck on the street after they hear the melody of "A Maiden's Prayer" approaching their houses might be a thing of the past as the Taipei city government has begun to experiment with a self-service garbage collection system, i-Trash. Chen Hui-min, an official from Taipei City's Department of Information Technology, said the service provider is testing the i-Trash system in a community on Linyi Street, in Zhongzheng District. It will continue the demo process with two other locations later this year and is hoping to expand the trial next year, said Chen.

Qualcomm Taiwan operations hub to be inaugurated early 2019 (Focus Taiwan, 25.8.2018)

U.S.-based chip designer Qualcomm Inc. is scheduled to open a new operations center in Taiwan in early 2019 as part of the American firm's commitment to invest in the country over the next five years. Jim Cathey, senior vice president and president of Qualcomm's Asia Pacific and India operations, announced on August 24 that the company will set up a Center for Operations, Manufacturing Engineering and Testing (COMET) in Taiwan as a hub for the firm to extend its reach overseas.

Taiwan is moving to commercial use for 5G in 2020 (Taiwan News, 28.8.2018)

Taiwan wants to become an international pioneer for the commercial use of 5G, which should start in 2020, the Cabinet-level National Development Council (NDC) said on August 28. At the third edition of the "What's Next! 5G" summit in Taipei, NDC Deputy Minister Cheng Cheng-mont emphasized that last January, the government and Chunghwa Telecom had formed a national team, the Taiwan 5G Development Alliance, to integrate efforts by the government, organizations and the private sector, the Liberty Times reported. In order to promote the digital economy, the NDC was hard at work in areas such as relaxing legislation, promoting experiments, recruiting creative talent and perfecting the capital market, Cheng said.

Uber's COO unveils "Uber for Taiwan" plan (Taiwan News, 28.8.2018)

At a forum held on August 28 in Taipei, Uber's Chief Operating Officer Barney Harford unveiled the company's "Uber for Taiwan" plan, which includes working with the Taiwanese government on providing an integrated platform for public transportation as well as helping nurture Taiwan's talent for self-driving technology and artificial intelligence (AI). The "Smart Cities - The Future of Transportation" forum was opened on August 28 morning by Director of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) Brent Christensen, Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je, and Tseng Wen-sheng, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Economic Affairs. Uber's COO was invited to deliver a keynote speech on the ride-sharing company's upcoming projects in Taiwan.

Taiwan aims to become global hub for smart machinery (Focus Taiwan, 29.8.2018)

President Tsai Ing-wen said on August 29 that the government is committed to promoting the smart machinery industry in Taiwan with the aim of making Taiwan a global manufacturing hub for intelligent machinery and helping manufacturers in the industry to become more high-value-added. Tsai was speaking at the opening ceremony of the Series of Asia Industry 4.0 & Intelligent Manufacturing Exhibition in Taipei. Tsai said she is grateful for the industry's efforts in developing automation intelligence and robotics technologies and showing the world the results of these innovative technologies.

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Education

Taiwan President opens Austronesian Forum with promises to better education for indigenous people (Taiwan News, 1.8.2018)

Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen said on August 1 the government will continue to carry out work of transitional justice for the indigenous peoples in Taiwan and support the education that helps preserve their culture and languages. The Austronesian Forum began at the Grand Hotel in Taipei the morning of August 1 as part of the commemorative events celebrating the Indigenous Peoples' Day.

72 Indonesian students receive scholarships from Taiwan government in 2018 (Taiwan News, 2.8.2018)

72 Indonesian students who received 2018 Taiwan Scholarships had a pre-departure briefing session with The Taipei Economic and Trade Office (TETO) in Indonesia. Those scholarships are the Taiwan Scholarship from Ministry of Education and Ministry of Science and Technology, Huayu Enrichment Scholarship from the Ministry of Education, and the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) Scholarship.

Taoyuan to offer SE Asian language classes for 2nd generation immigrants (Taiwan News, 8.8.2018)

The Taoyuan New Immigrants Culture Center will open Southeast Asian language classes to provide second generation immigrants an opportunity to learn the language and explore the cultures of their parents' home country, starting in September 2018. Regulated by Ministry of Education, the classes will run for two months and will include courses in Chinese, Vietnamese, Thai, Indonesian, and Burmese. The class will be divided into primary and advanced classes and are free of charge.

Taiwanese students in U.S. taking on Taiwan's rural education gap (Focus Taiwan, 12.8.2018)

A nonprofit organization founded by Taiwanese students studying in the United States has been active in trying to raise awareness of the education gap in Taiwan's rural areas and get more involved in teaching children in those areas. Ko Han-wen, a co-founder of the Students for Taiwanese Educational Progress (STEP), told CNA in an interview that the idea behind the group was motivated by the sizable education gap between rural and urban areas she noticed during her high school days in Taiwan.

Taiwan signs MOU with U.S. university on talent recruitment (Focus Taiwan, 18.8.2018)

Taiwan's Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) has signed a memorandum of understanding with the University of California, Irvine (UCI) on bilateral cooperation in the areas of talent recruitment and academia-industry exchanges. The MOU was signed by Chang Ming-pin, director general of the MOEA's Department of Investment Services, and Gary Matkin, UCI's vice provost for career pathways and dean of Continuing Education, at a ceremony on the UCI campus on August 17, according to a statement issued by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Los Angeles. Under the MOU, the university will provide its students and alumni with information about Taiwan enterprises seeking to recruit talent, the office said.

ASEAN Chinese language school principals' meeting kicks off in Taipei (Focus Taiwan, 20.8.2018)

The first meeting featuring heads of Chinese language schools based in Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries and South Korea kicked off in Taipei on August 20 in a move to enhance closer cooperation between the Taiwan government and local schools. The meeting, organized by the Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC), the government agency in charge of liaising with ethnic Chinese and communities abroad, featured 108 school principals or top managers from seven ASEAN countries. The two-day meeting is aimed at allowing the participants more understanding of the government's ongoing push for its New Southbound Policy targeting ASEAN countries, India, Australia and New Zealand, and the country's decades-long support of Chinese-language schools overseas, Premier Lai Ching-te said in an address at the opening.

EU officials take part in MOE programs on Taiwan-related studies (Focus Taiwan, 22.8.2018)

A group of 36 officials from the European Union participated in two seminars held by Taiwan's Ministry of Education (MOE) earlier this month to provide insights into Taiwan's language, politics and economy, the ministry said on August 22. The first forum, the 2018 Taiwan Study Seminar for EU Officials, was held on August 5-11 at National Chengchi University in Taipei and discussed political and economic issues, the MOE said in a press release. The second event was the 2018 Mandarin Training Programme for EU Officials, which took place on August 4-17 at Fu Jen Catholic University in New Taipei, the ministry said.

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