



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



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Science / Technology

Taiwan's ITRI showcases smart living-related technologies at IFA 2018 (Focus Taiwan, 1.9.2018)

The Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI), a leading high-tech applied research institution in Taiwan, is showcasing smart living-related technologies at IFA 2018, the largest trade show for consumer electronics and home appliances in Europe that is taking place between August 31 and September 5 in Berlin, the institute said in a statement issued on August 31. The ITRI exhibits include an intelligent vision system (IVS) for companion robots, pesticide residue detection technology, intelligent UV direct drinking water sterilizer, and Genki Bot, a non-invasive sleep-aid system, at the IFA Next, considered to be a global innovation hub for researchers, industry professionals and startups to exchange ideas, the statement said.

Information security alliance formed in Taiwan (Focus Taiwan, 3.9.2018)

An alliance has been set up by local enterprises and related groups in Taiwan to strengthen the country's ability to ensure information security, the Taipei Computer Association (TCA) said on September 3. In a statement, the TCA said the presence of the new partnership - the Information Security Application Services Alliance - is expected to help Taiwan's industries build their own information security platforms and boost the country's global competitiveness.

MOEA tour seals smart industry deals with firms in France, Germany (Taiwan Today, 4.9.2018)

Taiwan's top R&D institute has signed memorandums of understanding on autonomous cars and intelligent production with companies in France and Germany that will spur the integration of the local smart technology sector with the global industry, the Ministry of Economic Affairs said on September 1. State-backed Industrial Technology Research Institute inked the two agreements with French software design firm Dassault Systemes and German engineering giant Siemens AG during a recent MOEA-organized tour to Europe.

Joint flexible hybrid electronics agreement inked in Taipei (Focus Taiwan, 6.9.2018)

Four Taiwanese and global academic and research organizations signed an agreement to jointly develop flexible hybrid electronics and draft a developmental blueprint for related industrial technology in Taipei on September 6, according to a statement from the Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI). Under the agreement, ITRI, Chang Gung University, National Taiwan Sport University and SEMI, a global industry association, will focus on smart wearable products that will assist athletes collect and analyze data, the statement said. This will help to identify athletes with potential and ensure coaches make better tactical decisions, it noted.

Tsai vows to build Taichung into global smart machinery hub (Focus Taiwan, 7.9.2018)

President Tsai Ing-wen said on September 7 that the government is determined to build Taichung City into a smart machinery manufacturing hub in the world. Speaking at a ceremony to inaugurate a smart machinery development center in Taichung, Tsai said the production value of Taiwan's smart machinery industry topped NT\$1.1 trillion (US\$35.75 billion) in 2017, making the island the fourth largest machinery exporter in the world. Tsai said Taichung has become an anchor of Taiwan's machinery production, and through the establishment of a smart machinery development center in the city, it is expected to continue to be an irreplaceable part of the global supply chain in machinery.

Taiwan-made satellites among highlights at Indian space expo (Focus Taiwan, 8.9.2018)

Taiwanese satellites and space components have been among the many star attractions on show at the 6th Bengaluru Space Expo in India, with several experts expressing an interest in working with Taiwan, a top official said on September 8. Taiwan successfully demonstrated its strength in space technology development at the show, said Henry H. H. Chen, director of the Science and Technology Division under the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in India.

Taiwan's H. Spectrum and 5 biotech companies to cooperate on innovation (Taiwan News, 10.9.2018)

Asia's largest biomedical accelerator, H. Spectrum announced that it will collaborate with five major companies on a range of innovative medical technologies during the Trans 2018 digital health conference in Taipei on September 8-9. Global giants Bayer, Merck, and GE Ventures have come aboard, and will collaborate with H. Spectrum on applications of artificial intelligence, and to explore new opportunities with U.S. tech company NVIDIA, according to Liberty Times. Taiwan's H. Spectrum is the largest biomedical startup accelerator in Asia, and strives to foster entrepreneurship through creative advisory. The accelerator recently outlined an international expansion plan, through which it will collaborate with Wisconsin biotech organizations BioForward, Sutter Health, and Lab Central.

**Microsoft to join innovation efforts in Linkou Startup Terrace (Focus Taiwan, 18.9.2018)**

U.S.-based tech giant Microsoft Corp. announced on September 18 that it will join innovation efforts planned for Taiwan's Startup Terrace in a bid to help the younger generation here strengthen their abilities in new tech development. Ken Sun, general manager of Microsoft Taiwan, said the decision to join the Startup Terrace launched by the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) is aimed at using the company's resources in cloud-based technology, artificial intelligence (AI) and big data to provide assistance to Taiwanese start-ups. According to Microsoft, the U.S. is keen to cultivate a talent pool in Taiwan, and through an innovation accelerator program under the Microsoft Technology Center, is expected to lay down a solid foundation in the Startup Terrace for tech development.

Energy Taiwan 2018 to spotlight latest clean energy technologies and solutions (Taiwan News, 18.9.2018)

With Taiwan poised to become a nuclear-free homeland in 2025, the stage is set for the inaugural Energy Taiwan, the country's largest green energy technology exchange platform that spotlights the entire renewable energy supply chain and offers the latest renewable energy market information. Organized by SEMI, the global industry association representing the electronics manufacturing supply chain, and TAITRA, a non-profit government trade promotion organization in Taiwan, Energy Taiwan 2018 comprises international exhibitions and forums. The three-day event is set to open at Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center, Hall 1 on September 19.

Taiwan team finds cure for hair loss from chemo, radiation therapies (Focus Taiwan, 19.9.2018)

A research team at National Taiwan University (NTU) has found a way to prevent the hair loss caused by chemotherapy or radiation therapy suffered by cancer patients, but the remedy is not expected to be commercialized for 10 years. The team, headed by Lin Sung-jan, a professor of biomedical engineering at NTU, made the breakthrough while conducting stem cell research using fluorescent gene targeting under the Ministry of Science and Technology's cross-field research program.

President Tsai plans to make Taiwan an Asian hub for startups (Focus Taiwan, 25.9.2018)

President Tsai Ing-wen said on September 25 that her administration will offer incentives and revise regulations as part of its plan to develop Taiwan as a regional hub for startups. The incentives will include more tax credits, Tsai said in an address at the opening of the annual congress of the World Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce in Taipei. She said the government is also moving to cultivate talent, attract more foreign professionals and abolish the outdated regulations in the Company Act. Taiwan has already launched a startup park in Linkou District, New Taipei, which is linked to Taiwan Tech Arena in Taipei, Asia Silicon Valley in Taoyuan County, and the Hsinchu Science Park, Tsai said.

Qualcomm plans to set up multimedia, AI R&D centers in Taiwan (Focus Taiwan, 26.9.2018)

U.S.-based chip designer Qualcomm Inc. plans to establish a multimedia research and development (R&D) center and a mobile artificial intelligence (AI) enablement center in Taiwan, which are expected to begin operations in early 2019, the firm announced on September 26. The establishment of the two facilities is part of Qualcomm's commitment to long-term investment in the country and is aimed at speeding up R&D, deepening industrial cooperation and helping Taiwan to cultivate talent and develop its own R&D capability, according to the company.

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Education

Taiwan renews participation in global science, education program (Focus Taiwan, 10.9.2018)

Taiwan and the United States have signed an agreement renewing Taiwan's participation in an international science and education program, according to a press release issued on September 10 by the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT). The program is aimed at cultivating environmental stewardship, fostering intercultural understanding and facilitating scientific exchanges, the press release said. The agreement to participate in the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Program for another five years was signed on August 14 by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the U.S. and AIT.

National Taiwan University ranks 81st worldwide for graduate employability (Focus Taiwan, 13.9.2018)

Eight Taiwan universities have been listed in the 2019 Graduate Employability Rankings that were released on September 12, with National Taiwan University (NTU) gaining the highest place among the eight at 81st. Rising from its ranking between 101st and 110th last year, NTU make it back into the top-100 among the 497 institutions in the world that were rated as best at producing employable graduates, according to the list released by the British QS education network. Meanwhile, National Yang-Ming University made the list for the first time this year, ranking between 301st and 500th, in the same range as National Central University and National Tsing Hua University.

CNA to continue overseas internship program next year (Focus Taiwan, 15.9.2018)

The Central News Agency (CNA) is planning to run its overseas internship program again in 2019 following the success this year of the inaugural program for undergraduate college students, CNA president Chang Jui-chang said on September 15. At the closing ceremony of this year's program, Chang said CNA will always open its doors to students with the goal of giving them an experience that is different from studying in school. He said planning had already started for the 2019 edition of "I'm an Overseas Correspondent," as the internship program is called, after the success of this year's initiative.

Education ministry clarifies titles for female scientists in textbooks (Focus Taiwan, 17.9.2018)

The Ministry of Education clarified on September 17 that a guideline adopted in the 12-year national natural sciences curriculum to promote gender equality mandates the use of female scientists' full names in textbooks even though they are better known by their husband's surname. The ministry's curriculum review committee approved a set of guidelines for the curriculum a day earlier, including one stating that "in portrayals of major scientific discoveries, there should be provision of such information as gender, ethnicity or other background relevant to the scientists who have contributed to the findings." This was interpreted in some media reports that Marie Curie, the well-known French-Polish scientist, would be referred to in Taiwanese textbooks as Maria Skłodowska-Curie, along with references to other female scientists commonly known in the rest of the world by their husband's surname.

New research center founded as Taiwan-India interaction platform (Focus Taiwan, 24.9.2018)

Two universities, one in Taiwan, the other in India, have jointly set up a Center for South Asian and Southeast Asian Studies (CSSAS) with the aim of making the facility an important platform for academic and policy exchanges between the two countries. The center was founded in Pune, the second-largest city in the western Indian state of Maharashtra, by Taiwan's National Chengchi University and Flame University of India on September 21, according to a statement released by the new institute.

32 Taiwanese universities included in world university rankings (Focus Taiwan, 26.9.2018)

Led by National Taiwan University (NTU), Taiwan has 32 institutions among the best universities in the world, according to the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2019 published on September 26. Performing at the top of the 32 Taiwanese universities, NTU was ranked 170, moving up from last year's 198, the rankings showed.

Premier pushes for easing of preschool English education rules (Focus Taiwan, 28.9.2018)

Premier Lai Ching-te has directed the Ministry of Education (MOE) to look at ways to ease regulations that currently ban English education at preschools, in an effort to start the process of transforming Taiwan into a country that speaks Chinese and English. Lai issued the instruction during a meeting with officials from the MOE and National Development Council, Cabinet spokeswoman Kolas Yotaka told CNA on September 27 when asked about the premier's plan to make Taiwan a bilingual country, with English and Chinese as official languages.

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