



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



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Science / Technology

Danish firm CIP inks deal with Taiwan company to reach country's 2025 wind power goals (Taiwan News, 2.10.2018)

A new deal that will see the construction of two wind turbines off the coast of Changhua County has been signed by Taiwanese firm Century Iron and Steel and foreign firm Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP). In Taipei on October 2 CIP and Century Iron and Steel signed a deal for NT\$16.5 billion (US\$538 million) to cooperate on the construction project that is expected to bring 300 to 500 new jobs to the region. CIP will be responsible for preparing the seabed for the construction of the two turbines.

TSMC, foreign tech giants set up cloud technology alliance (Focus Taiwan, 6.10.2018)

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. (TSMC), the largest contract chipmaker in the world, has teamed up with several foreign tech giants to set up a cloud technology-based alliance. TSMC unveiled its fifth Open Innovation Platform alliance, the OIP Cloud Alliance, on October 3, saying the inaugural members of the alliance - Amazon Web Services (AWS), Cadence, Microsoft Azure, and Synopsys - are working with TSMC to certify that the capabilities of traditional microchip design automation service flows can be utilized through the cloud. TSMC's Open Innovation Platform consists of five alliances: the EDA (electronic design automation) Alliance, IP (intellectual property) Alliance, Design Center Alliance, Value Chain Aggregator Alliance, and the latest, the Cloud Alliance.

Taiwan tests drone for difficult mail delivery (Taiwan News, 13.10.2018)

Taiwan's National Development Council (NDC) has begun to test drones as a form of mail delivery, with a parcel of tea and coffee sent 3 kilometers as the crow flies on October 11. If all goes well, drone deliveries could be rolled out to rural areas as soon as next year, reports suggest. The NDC commissioned consultancy Nomura Research Institute of Taiwan to devise an innovative method to deliver mail, and Zuozhen District of Tainan City was chosen to play host, NDC said in a statement.

Taiwan's TSMC to continue as Apple's exclusive A-series chip supplier (Taiwan News, 13.10.2018)

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC) has won the 2019 contract to be the exclusive supplier of Apple's new A13 chips, used in upcoming iPhone and iPad products, media reports said. The deal is set to continue TSMC's position as the exclusive supplier of the 7nm A-series chips since 2016, industry sources told Digitimes. The new contract is believed to be largely due to TSMC's new wafer packaging technology, which is more competitive than its competitors.

Acer, Asustek PC shipments ranked 5th and 6th globally (The China Post, 13.10.2018)

Acer Inc. and Asustek Computer Inc., two of Taiwan's leading personal computer brands, ranked fifth and sixth, respectively, in terms of global PC shipments in the third quarter of the year, according to market information advisory firm Gartner Inc. In a recent research report, Gartner said Acer shipped 4.07 million PCs in the July-September period, the fifth highest number, accounting for 6.1 percent of the global shipments. Asustek, meanwhile, shipped 4.01 million units in the third quarter to take a 6.0 percent share of the global PC market, which put its ranking at 6th, Gartner said.

Tsai inaugurates National Biotechnology Research Park in Taipei (Taiwan Today, 16.10.2018)

President Tsai Ing-wen said on October 15 that the inauguration of the National Biotechnology Research Park in Taipei City marks a major step forward for the local biomedical sector and key milestone in the advancement of Taiwan's R&D prowess. The park is expected to serve as a hub for upstream, midstream and downstream companies, creating a clustering effect and driving innovation in the field, Tsai said. By connecting with the Hsinchu Biomedical Science Park in northwestern Taiwan, the facility will help form a comprehensive industry supply chain as well as attract, develop and retain world-class biotech talent, she added.

Taiwan promoting its solar glass on global market (Focus Taiwan, 17.10.2018)

Taiwan is taking steps to launch a heat insulation solar glass (HISG) product, which it developed, in the global market, including in the United Kingdom and United Arab Emirates, National Taiwan University of Science and Technology (NTUST) said on October 17. HISG is a transparent material capable of blocking 80 percent of heat penetration, while at the same time generating electricity from solar energy, according to the team of inventors, which was led by Young Chin-huai, a distinguished professor at NTUST's Department of Civil and Construction Engineering.

**HTC Vive Pro wins VR headset award in London (Focus Taiwan, 18.10.2018)**

Taiwan-based HTC Corp. won the award for the Best Virtual Reality Headset of the Year with its Vive Pro, at a show in London this week, the company said on October 18. At the 2018 VR Awards on October 16, the Vive Pro won in the headset category from a field of four nominees that included another HTC headset, the Vive Focus. The Vive Pro, which was unveiled in January at the Consumer Electronics Show 2018 in Las Vegas and went on sale globally in April, is equipped with dual OLED displays and high-performance headphones with a built-in amplifier that offer a heightened sense of presence and richer sound, according to HTC.

Taiwan's HTC launches early access version of world's first blockchain smart phone (Taiwan News, 24.10.2018)

An early access version of the world's first "blockchain smartphone", the HTC Exodus 1 is now available to the public, and can only be bought with using digital currencies Bitcoin or Ethereum. The early access phone provides interested individuals first access to the phone, and will help HTC developers improve key features of the phone ahead of its wider launch. The primary feature of the Exodus 1 is its focus on security, and its ability to safely store your digital assets or cryptocurrencies. The phone has a cryptocurrency wallet separate from its Android operating system, according to HTC. The Exodus 1 is also able to run decentralized apps and programs that run on the blockchain.

Taiwan to get upgraded F-16V fighter jets after US arms sale approved (South China Morning Post, 26.10.2018)

Some 144 fighter jets will be revamped so they can better detect, track and identify a larger number of targets. Upgrading Taiwan's fighter jets to F-16Vs will boost the self-ruled island's defences, but in terms of combat capability the revamped aircraft will still lag behind Beijing's, military analysts said. The upgrade is expected to move ahead after the US Congress approved a new round of arms sales to Taiwan as it comes under increasing pressure from mainland China. Under the deal, the United States will provide spare parts for Taiwan's F-16 fighter jets, C-130 cargo planes, its Indigenous Defence Fighters, and all other aircraft systems and subsystems.

WeMo scooter-sharing system to expand into New Taipei City next year (Taiwan News, 28.10.2018)

Electric scooter-sharing company, WeMo will expand its operations beyond Taipei City and into four New Taipei City districts next year, reported CNA. The company is also in talks about exporting its software and hardware overseas in 2019, said WeMo CEO Jeffery Wu. WeMo, an app-based scooter sharing system launched in October 2016, will have 3,000 scooters on the road for single-use trips by the end of the year. The service, currently restricted to sections of Taipei City has around 100,000 users.

Micron inaugurates back-end DRAM facility in Taichung (Taiwan Today, 30.10.2018)

A back-end facility for dynamic random-access memory manufacturing was inaugurated on October 26 by semiconductor giant Micron Technology Inc. in Taichung City's Central Taiwan Science Park. The site, which complements Micron's two fabs in the central Taiwan metropolis and northern Taiwan's Taoyuan City, is the only one in the U.S. outfit's network with DRAM vertical-integration manufacturing capacity. It is expected to require an additional 1,000 employees, bringing Micron's workforce to 8,000 in Taiwan.

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Education

Learning materials for new immigrant languages created (Focus Taiwan, 2.10.2018)

First-phase editing of digital textbooks and materials for learning seven Southeast Asian languages has been completed and the materials put online, the Ministry of Education said in a statement issued on October 2. The ministry has completed the editing of four volumes of digital materials for learning seven Southeast Asian languages, including bilingual overdubs and subtitles, as well as interactive question-and-answer sessions and songs, the ministry said, adding that the material is available online.

Taiwan to increase hours of English taught in schools, 4,600 new foreign teachers needed (Taiwan News, 11.10.2018)

The Ministry of Education (MOE) announced plans to both increase the number of hours of English taught starting in third grade, raise the number of bilingual classes to over 160, generating a requirement for an estimated 4,600 more foreign English teachers, reported Liberty Times. In response to Premier William Lai's announcement in August of plans to make English a second official language in Taiwan next year, MOE Acting Director-General Hsu Li-chuan said that the ministry is working with the Executive Yuan on formulating clear short, medium, and long-term programs, and the implementation plans to raise English proficiency throughout the national education system. In addition to relaxing the restrictions on teaching English in kindergarten, Hsu stated that the MOE is planning on amending the law and curriculum to expand the number of hours of English taught from elementary school through high school, and raising the number of bilingual classes.

National Taiwan Normal University improves global education ranking (Focus Taiwan, 18.10.2018)

National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU) was ranked 15th for the subject of education in the 2019 Times Higher Education World University Rankings table, an improvement of seven places on last year. The result is the best in Taiwan and second highest in Asia, after the University of Hong Kong (HKU), the survey showed. The ranking uses 13 performance indicators in five areas, such as teaching, research, citations, international outlook, and industry income. NTNU's performance improved in all five areas this year.

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