

Dr. Chunyuan Gu receives Shanghai Magnolia Award

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The award is designed to honor outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions to promoting Shanghai's international exchange and cooperation and pushing forward Shanghai's economic construction and social development



Shanghai, September 4, 2014 - The Shanghai Municipal Government today granted the 2014 Shanghai Magnolia Award to Dr. Chunyuan Gu, head of ABB North Asia and Chairman and President of ABB (China) Limited. The award recognizes Dr. Gu's positive contributions to Shanghai's economic and social development, including friendly international exchange, advanced technology and management experience, and local philanthropy.

Named after the city flower of Shanghai, the Magnolia Award was set up by the Foreign Affairs Office of the Shanghai Municipal Government in 1989. Once a year, it is awarded to foreign individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Shanghai's economic development, social progress and international exchange and cooperation. In the past, several ABB experts have been named as recipients.

Dr. Chunyuan Gu said: "Winning the Magnolia Award is not only a great individual honor, but the award itself is recognition of the active participation of ABB employees in the modernization of the city; it also affirms ABB's long-term localization development strategy. Such a great honor motivates me and all ABB employees to continue contributing to the prosperity and sustainable development of both Shanghai and China."

Considering China's environmental pressure and energy constraint as well as the government goals to economic restructuring and industrial upgrading, Dr. Chunyuan Gu put forward the Smart Technology Intelligent Upgrading strategy for ABB, advocating innovative smart technologies to solve constraints in energy, human capital, space and funding, with targets to lower energy consumption, enhance productivity and product quality, minimize the adverse impact to environment, and jointly realize intelligent upgrading.

In line with the new strategy, Dr. Gu has been committed to the localization of ABB business in China and continuously improved ABB's local R&D and innovation capabilities through continued investment and R&D footprint optimization. Several ABB global business centers including the Robotic Car body painting lab; Power Train Assembly Center; Global R&D Center for Flow, Pressure and Temperature Instrumentation, among others have been settled in Shanghai. These centers strongly support the development of ABB's global business and contribute to the development of the high-end equipment manufacturing industry in Shanghai.

Under this leadership, ABB and its partners have co-worked to support the sustainable development of China in the areas of smart city and grid, smart manufacturing and production, smart home and building. ABB has also participated in the construction of many key national projects, such as the south-to-north water diversion project, the west-to-east power transmission project, the Beijing Olympic Games stadiums, the Beijing International Airport expansion project, Beijing-Shanghai High-speed Railway and Shanghai Expo projects. Through these efforts, ABB supports the intelligent upgrading of China's utility, industry, transportation and infrastructure.

At the same time, Dr. Gu along with ABB Group executives actively participate in Shanghai's International Business Leaders Advisory Council, submitting plans

on improving Shanghai's soft power and promoting innovation in Shanghai's Free Trade Zone.

As a company with a long history of having roots in China, ABB has been an active corporate citizen under Dr. Chunyuan Gu's leadership. In Shanghai, ABB has helped to upgrade the facilities at 31 retirement homes, touching the lives of over 2,500 of the city's elderly. Nationally, ABB has used platforms such as the University Innovation Contest, Automation Essay Contest, tertiary education scholarships, as well as various research cooperation agreements with universities to fully support the development of China's education system and cultivation of industry talent. In addition, when disaster strikes, ABB immediately responds with support for those affected. As of today, ABB has donated over 18 million RMB to disaster recovery efforts, including the recent Ludian earthquake in Yunnan.

Dr. Gu joined ABB in 1989 and served as the Head of Robotics R&D within ABB Group for many years. He is a globally recognized expert in industrial robotics and industrial automation. In early 2014, he took charge of ABB North Asia and China. He is the first person with Chinese background to serve in this important post. In April, Dr. Gu was selected as one of 16 "Pudong Annual Economic Figures", receiving the "International Vision" award.

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve their performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs about 150,000 people. ABB has a full range of business activities in China, including R&D, manufacturing, sales and services, with 19,000 employees, 37 local companies, and an extensive sales and service network across 109 cities.

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