

High-tech report

中国日报 CHINA DAILY A JOINT PUBLICATION OF CHINA DAILY AND STATE-LEVEL WEIFANG HIGH-TECH INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE



Regional progress on many fronts

A technician with Shengrui Transmission assembles an 8AT, the company's signature product. PHOTOS PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

Business development boosts growth in surrounding area

By JU CHUANJIANG and TANG ZHIHAO

High-tech industry clusters in the Weifang High-Tech Industrial Development Zone play crucial roles in supporting regional development in Weifang.

The national-level economic development zone, established in 1991, has been recognized as a national independent innovation demonstration zone, a national independent innovation technology park and an intellectual property rights protection pilot zone.

"The zone is looking to develop locally featured industries to strengthen its core competitiveness. Some emerging businesses have demonstrated strong growth potential," said Chu Baojie, Weifang's director of communications and Party chief of the zone's Working Committee.

Chu said the zone has developed several nationally or even globally leading industry clusters to strengthen its core competitiveness.

There are 10 national-level and 17 provincial-level industrial bases to support the zone's modern industry development. The zone has established five pillar industries, namely vehicle and equipment manufacturing,

acoustics and optoelectronics, biotechnology, software information and new materials, according to Chu.

So far, the zone has attracted 115 high-tech companies and 21 provincial-level or above innovation-driven companies.

In 2015, high-tech industries contributed 67 percent to the zone's overall production value.

The zone is home to more than 50 vehicle parts developers, including Weichai Group, Foton Shandong Multifunction Plant and Shengrui Transmission. A complete auto industrial chain, which can support China's high-end vessels and the development of its automotive industry, has been established, according to Chu.

Foton's internet automotive industrial base was launched in March this year. The base will be capable of producing 700,000 engines annually upon completion. By 2025, the base will be able to supply 2.3 million units of vehicles totaling 280 billion yuan (\$42 billion).

The zone also has an optoelectronic industrial cluster with more than 200 companies. Companies including GoerTek and Shandong Inspur Huaguang Optoelectronic reported a total income of 22 billion yuan in 2015. The total optoelectronic industri-

"The zone is looking to develop locally-featured industries to strengthen its core competitiveness."

Chu Baojie, Weifang's director of communications and Party chief of the zone's Working Committee

al output value of the cluster will reach 100 billion yuan by 2020.

Biopharmaceutical and software industries are expected to report 10 billion yuan and 20 billion yuan of overall revenue, respectively, by 2020.

"Innovation capacity is the key to supporting the zone's development, and innovation platforms are the foundations on which to support innovation capacity enhancement," said Song Chifeng, the zone's deputy Party chief and director of the zone's administrative committee.

An innovation-supporting platform named Blue Wis-

dom Valley was launched in the zone last year. The valley has three incubators: Yanyuan High-Tech Park, supported by Peking University; the Chinese Academy of Sciences (Weifang) Innovation Park; and Tuspark Innovation Park supported by the Tsinghua University Science Park.

The zone also launched the InnoSpring Incubator in Silicon Valley, and partnered with Rice University's Richard E. Smalley Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology and the Houston Technology Center to support innovation.

The zone also partnered with over 150 research institutions and universities to develop innovation platforms. There are four national technology business incubators and three provincial incubators in the region.

The premium innovation environment strongly supports business growth in the zone. Shengrui Transmission claimed that they have developed the first front-engine, front-drive, hybrid and plug-in 8AT in the world.

"We have development platforms in five cities in three countries. It is a product developed with global intelligence," said Liu Xiangwu, chairman of the board of Shengrui.

Companies in the zone have established over 30 overseas

research and development centers to introduce more foreign technologies to China.

"The first-class R&D platform and top talents will help the zone to develop more new projects and industries," Chu said.

Increasing numbers of companies are seeking business opportunities abroad, aimed at supporting long-term growth goals.

Weichai acquired French engine maker Moteurs Baudouin in 2009. It also acquired a 25 percent stake in German forklift maker Kion Group in 2012, which announced plans to acquire US logistics company Dematic for \$2.1 billion in July.

GoerTek's products are sold in Japan, South Korea, Europe and North America.

More than 100 companies in the zone are selling their products in overseas markets. The zone's total import and export revenue last year was \$2.2 billion, a year-on-year increase of 29 percent. Companies have launched more than 100 offices, marketing centers and R&D centers abroad. A total of 771 international trademarks have been registered by companies in the zone.

Contact the writers through tangzhihao@chinadaily.com.cn.



Visitors take a look at Weichai Group's station at the China-Japan-Korea Industries Expo 2016.

Zone's firms attract attention at expo

By DONG JIDONG
dongjidong@chinadaily.com.cn

More than 410 enterprises, including 217 from Japan, South Korea and other countries, recently attended the China-Japan-Korea Industries Expo 2016 in Weifang, Shandong province.

The three-day expo kicked off at the Shandong Taiwan Convention and Exhibition Center in Weifang on Sept 23.

The number of purchasers at the event totaled 19,300, including 950 from overseas.

Wang Suilian, deputy governor of Shandong province, said in her speech at the opening ceremony that the expo will feature competitive industries, advanced technologies, high-end products and well-known brands from the three countries.

The event is expected to generate new opportunities for high-level economic cooperation between the three countries, Wang said.

Companies from Weifang High-Tech Industrial Development Zone attended the expo, with those such as Weichai Group, GoerTek, Shengrui Transmission and Zhong Dong Media attracting much attention.

Weichai exhibited a full range of buses, business purpose vehicles, passenger vehicles and special-purpose vehicles, as well as new energy dynamic system products. The products particularly attracted clients from Henan and Shanxi.

Shengrui Transmission independently developed the front-drive, front-engine 8AT in Jiangling Motor Holding's Land Wind X5 model, a breakthrough for Chinese SUVs.

Zhong Dong Media used the latest 3-D technology to make the cartoon *Super Bear*. It became the first Shandong-originated film to appear in cinemas nationwide.

The Weifang High-Tech Industrial Development Zone

410 enterprises

from Japan, South Korea and other countries attended the China-Japan-Korea Industries Expo 2016

19,300 purchasers

participated in the expo in Weifang, Shandong

has insisted on the development concept of independent innovation, and formed a high-tech industrial cluster and base, an important engine in boosting the development of Weifang.

Yang Houlan, secretary-general of the China-Japan-ROK Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat, said the neighboring countries have advantages in such areas as markets, capital and technology that are complementary to each other.

Their cooperation will contribute to the cultivation of a regional economic community and the growth of the world economy, Yang said. The expo will promote mutual understanding and friendship between the countries and have a positive impact on their cooperation, she added.

A seminar was also held at the expo, focusing on developing service trade, cooperating in modern agriculture and facilitating investment and trade, all of which are hot topics related to the creation of a free trade area. A large number of representatives, including heads of commerce chambers, business leaders and renowned entrepreneurs, attended the seminar. More than 120 experts from domestic and foreign think tanks participated.

Communities work together for better lifestyles, more involvement

By DONG JIDONG

"We will improve our services and encourage residents to ... jointly promote harmony among the people."

Yu Cong, a staff worker of the Xinlinli community committee

The Weifang National Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone in East China's Shandong province has named people's livelihoods as its top priority and made great strides in improving the infrastructure and environment of local communities.

The zone has set the goal of building communities that feature comprehensive functions, considerate life services, safe infrastructure and sound management mechanisms, which all have distinct advantages.

In the Xinlinli residential community, people used to complain about non-residents' cars that parked near a club in the Fuhaiyuan neighborhood, which could be dangerous for children on summer vacation. After receiving the report, Shi Qing, a staff worker for the management committee of the Xinlinli community, discussed the issue with the head of the neighborhood's property man-

agement company and some representatives of the residents. The company decided to ban non-residents' cars from parking on the street in the neighborhood and tighten the supervision of illegal parking.

"No illegal parking occurred after the committee settled the issue. We now don't need to worry about children being



Residents of Fuhua community, Xincheng subdistrict in the Weifang Hi-Tech Zone prepare a paper-cutting activity to celebrate the National Day holiday.

unsafe when they play in our neighborhood," said a resident surnamed Guo.

The service center of the Xinlinli community, where the committee is headquartered, provides consulting services on social security, family planning and civil affairs policies to the residents. In addition, the center has launched music-train-

ing courses for local residents.

Xinlinli has a large number of well-educated residents, said Yu Cong, a staff worker of the community committee.

"We will improve our services and encourage residents to interact with their neighbors and jointly promote harmony among the people," she said. "We will also offer timely help

to the elderly who have difficulty getting around."

In the Jiankangdongjie community, local police officers and staff workers of the community committee have launched inspections of the property management companies' night patrols in the community's 13 residential neighborhoods.

"The inspections are ran-

domly arranged. If the night patrol staffs are not on their shifts, we'll publicize the case and ask the company to rectify," said Yang Daibo, an employee of the community committee.

The community installed surveillance cameras covering the whole residential area and set up patrol teams to ensure the safety of residents, Yang said.

In July, two residential neighborhoods in the community were deemed four-star neighborhoods, by the Weifang National Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone, and four other neighborhoods were given three stars.

The community has improved its governance mechanism and encouraged neighborhoods to set up property owners' committees.

"After the committees were established, the residents were motivated to cooperate with us and contribute to the improvement of the neighborhood's environment," Yang said.

In another community, two

exhibition halls that display agricultural tools and local chronicles recently gained the attention of visiting kindergarten children and their parents.

"The exhibition halls are part of our folk culture that highlights filial piety and integrity. The people are expected to get a better understanding of traditional Chinese culture through the visit and promote the virtues in this culture," said Feng Yan, a member of Fenghuang community Party committee.

Guo Yajing contributed to this story.

To comment or contribute, please e-mail wangqian2@chinadaily.com.cn or call +86-531-58775018.