

Press Release For immediate release

# State Level Entrepreneurship Contest "Maker in China" Hong Kong Chapter Calls for Entries

Covering areas such as Artificial Intelligence and New Energy
Paving Way for Start-ups to Venture into the GBA and Develop New Quality
Productive Forces

Hong Kong, 16 July 2024 — As one of the annual flagship events of Cyberport, 2024 "Maker in China" SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship Global Contest - Hong Kong Chapter ("Hong Kong Chapter") is now calling for entries until 16th August. The Hong Kong Chapter Final will be held on 26th September, the top three winning teams will represent the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) to compete in the "Maker in China" Global Contest Final, seizing the valuable opportunity to venture into the Mainland market. The Hong Kong Chapter this year covers key areas of I&T and strives to accentuate new quality productive forces such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Big Data, New Energy, and Web3.0. The top 10 finalists will have the opportunity to receive support to participate in international exhibitions, interview opportunity for "Cyberport Incubation Programme", and admission to various entrepreneurial and accelerator programmes to access to potential funding opportunities.

Ir Eric Chan, Chief Public Mission Officer of Hong Kong Cyberport, said, "The Hong Kong Chapter has been successfully held for five editions, consistently attracting robust participation from start-ups every year. Last year, it attracted nearly 150 teams to participate. It is encouraging that Hong Kong's start-ups, with their cutting-edge innovative projects, have achieved remarkable success in the finals, with the Hong Kong representatives winning the global championship in three editions. These award-winning start-ups have leveraged the contest as a springboard to expand into the Mainland market, successfully venturing into the Greater Bay Area (GBA). As the digital technology flagship and entrepreneurial incubator of Hong Kong, Cyberport provides a platform for start-ups through the organisation of the Hong Kong Chapter. This platform offers start-ups the opportunity to showcase their innovative solutions, facilitate financing and collaboration, accelerate the transformation and realisation of outcomes, and cross-boundary application of the innovations. I firmly believe that more and more young entrepreneurs from Hong Kong will leverage the platform of 'Maker in China' to establish close connections with the Mainland market, continuously explore new quality productive forces, and support the high-quality economic development of the GBA and our country."

As one of the signature events of local I&T sector, the Hong Kong Chapter is jointly organised by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer of the HKSAR Government, the China Centre for Promotion of SME Development of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the People's Republic of China, the Department of Youth Affairs of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR, and the China International



Cooperation Association of SMEs; formulated by Hong Kong Cyberport, Angel Investment Foundation, and Guangzhou SME's Promotion For Specialization Refinement Differentiation Innovation Development. The Hong Kong Chapter 2024 encompasses 10 I&T categories, namely "FinTech", "Al and Big Data", "Advanced Network Equipment", "Third Generation Internet (Web3.0) and Metaverse", "Quantum Technology", "Advanced Manufacturing", "New Materials", "New Energy and Green Technology", "Biomedicine", and "Smart Living and Smart Mobility". New quality productive forces represent a significant leap in productivity driven by cutting-edge technologies, factors of production are being transformed towards digitalisation, internet-powered and intelligentisation. Start-ups are encouraged to actively explore and develop new quality productive forces, utilising advanced technology to improve people's livelihood and business operations, boosting efficiency, and enhancing quality of life for the community.

The top 10 finalists in the Hong Kong Chapter will have the chance to engage in various activities designed to help grow their businesses and enhance their industry connections. These activities include business matching opportunities with investors and entrepreneurs. meeting with angel investors, heads of venture capital funds, and entrepreneurs from the GBA, participation in two large-scale exhibitions for free - InnoEX 2025 and a renowned Innovation and Technology Expo held in the Mainland next year. Moreover, they will have the opportunities to interview for the "Cyberport Incubation Programme", enjoy three months of free usage of Cyberport's co-working space called Smart-Space, and be considered for the "Flash Forward" Acceleration Program offered by Angel Investment Foundation, and direct entry into the semi-finals of the "Qianhai-Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao-Taiwan Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition". Furthermore, the Champion, First Runner-up and Second Runner-up of the Hong Kong Chapter will represent the HKSAR to compete in the "Maker in China" Global Contest Final to be held in Guangzhou in November. They will be competing for support to enter the Mainland market by connecting with Mainland investors, setting up in Mainland entrepreneurial parks, and potentially joining the "HK Tech 300 Seed Fund" Programmme by City University of Hong Kong, gaining valuable opportunities to receiving guidance on result transformation.

The Cyberport start-ups community excelled in the Hong Kong Chapter last year, clinching both the Champion and First Runner-up titles. Dai3mimi won the championship with its patented acoustic technology of material conduction system, while Datality Lab secured the first runner-up position with its AI communication and presentation training platform "MOODIE.AI". These outstanding achievements not only highlight the innovative prowess of Cyberport's incubated enterprises but also demonstrate the unique value and growth potential of Hong Kong start-ups.

Stephen Lam, Founder and Product Creator of Dai3mimi Health-Tech Limited and Champion of the Hong Kong Chapter 2023, said, "We are honoured to have achieved Championship in the contest last year. This accomplishment serves as a significant milestone for us, demonstrating the competitiveness of our products and representing a crucial step towards entering the Mainland market. It has also laid a solid foundation for expanding our



product network to overseas markets. We would like to express our gratitude to the HKSAR Government and Cyberport for their unwavering support and assistance. The 'Maker in China' platform has connected us with the Mainland investors, providing us with valuable opportunities to flourish. Moving forward, we are committed to maintaining robust partnerships with the HKSAR Government and Cyberport, harnessing various policies and resources to drive further growth and success."

The Hong Kong Chapter was first held in 2018 with an aim to fostering connections in four major areas, including connection between innovative technologies and enterprises; market-oriented operations and government policies; I&T projects and technology parks; and facilitating collaborative innovation and industrial upgrading across industries. The goal of the contest is to facilitate synergistic innovation of industries and enhance their overall competitiveness.

For details and application of the Hong Kong Chapter, please visit <a href="https://makerinchina.hk/en/">https://makerinchina.hk/en/</a>.

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## **Annex: Contest Agenda**

Contest Agenda	Date
Open for application	15 Jul to 16 Aug 2024
First Contest Briefing Session	23 Jul 2024
Second Contest Briefing Session	8 Aug 2024
Hong Kong Chapter Final and Business Matching	26 Sept 2024
"Maker in China" SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship	Nov 2024
Global Contest Final	

For high resolution photos, please download via this <u>link</u>.



The application of the Hong Kong Chapter – 2024 "Maker in China" SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship Global Contest has been launched. The top 10 finalists will have the interview opportunity for the "Cyberport Incubation Programme", admission to various entrepreneurial and accelerator programmes, and matchmaking with investors and enterprises from the GBA. The top three winning teams will represent the HKSAR to compete in the "Maker in China" Global Contest Final, receiving supports to venturing into the Mainland market.





Ir Eric Chan, Chief Public Mission Officer of Hong Kong Cyberport says, it is encouraging that Hong Kong's start-ups have achieved remarkable success across the years of participation in the "Maker in China" Global Contest Final with their cutting-edge innovative projects, in which Hong Kong representatives have attained global championship in 3 editions. It is his firm belief that more and more young entrepreneurs from Hong Kong will leverage the platform provided by "Maker in China", to establish close connections with the Mainland market, continuously explore new productive forces, and support high-quality development of the economy of our country and GBA.

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## **About Cyberport**

Cyberport is Hong Kong's digital technology flagship and incubator for entrepreneurship with over 2,000 members including over 900 onsite and over 1,100 offsite start-ups and technology companies. It is managed by Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited, wholly owned by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, and committed to the vision to inject new impetus into digital economy and smart city development through innovation and technology, and to connect enterprises to Mainland China and overseas markets. Cyberport strives to nurture a vibrant tech ecosystem by cultivating talents, promoting entrepreneurship among the youth, supporting start-ups, fostering technology industry development by promoting strategic collaboration with local, Mainland Chinese and international partners, and integrating new and traditional economies by accelerating digital transformation in public and private sectors.

For more information, please visit www.cyberport.hk.