

Expo puts Internet Plus technology in spotlight

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The fourth China (Guangdong) International Internet Plus Exposition, to be held from Wednesday to Saturday in Foshan, will offer visitors the chance to see new technologies and products in fields such as e-commerce and telecommunications.

Themed “Digital Life, Business and Production”, the 50,000 square-meter expo will feature six display areas: advanced Internet Plus technology; digital business; digital life; innovation and entrepreneurship; robots; and intelligent manufacturing. Nearly 700 exhibitors including Baidu and Huawei are expected to attend.

The event has drawn much attention from overseas, according to the organizers, with 10 exhibitors from German trade fair CeBIT due to appear, bringing their latest products, solutions and innovative ideas in fields such as big data processing.

In the British pavilion, eight UK-based enterprises will showcase high-end facial recognition, design simulation, intelligent building and smart city technologies.

Not to be outdone, e-commerce giant JD is set to display some of its “unmanned” technologies used in aerial vehicles, cars, warehouses and supermarkets.

While in the Baidu AI united pavilion, the company’s self-driving bus and virtual reality technology will be on show, as well as its DuerOS artificial intelligence operating system.

In the intelligent logistics section, Honeywell and 14 other brands will exhibit their high-quality products,



Children pose in a picture with robots during the third China (Guangdong) International Internet Plus Exposition.

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A visitor uses a virtual reality product at the third China (Guangdong) International Internet Plus Exposition.

and three Chinese telecoms companies will showcase their latest achievements in the application of digital technology.

Talks will also be held on

new internet, big data and AI products and technologies, to promote the upgrading of traditional industries.

Hao Pinwei, president of Shenzhen-based CNET Tele-

com, will deliver a speech on “smart” agriculture, communications technology and traditional Chinese medicine, in his role as exhibitor’s representative.

Foshan initiated the China (Guangdong) International Internet Plus Exposition in 2015 and has developed it into a platform for exhibiting, buying, discussing and cooperating in Internet Plus technologies. The event aims to promote the application of the government’s Internet Plus strategy in industrial and social management, its organizers said.

This year’s exposition also includes a series of forums. The ongoing Sino-German (Foshan) Intelligent Manufacturing Cooperation Conference, hosted by German Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers’ Association,

has gathered 50 international CEOs to discuss the newest topics and development trends in the industry.

The conference will promote understanding between the association, also known as ZVEL, and local companies in Foshan, insiders said.

Other activities taking place during the expo include a digitalized factory application and development conference, an unmanned aerial vehicle industry development forum and a robot and AI competition.

The unmanned aerial vehicle forum will discuss UAV production standards and regulations, safe movement at low altitudes and key technologies related to UAVs — plus agriculture — while the robot and AI competition, now in its third year, will focus on innovation.

Foshan focuses on innovation, upgrading

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120
billion yuan

By the end of 2020, the industrial output value of robots and intelligent equipment in Foshan is seen above this target

Foshan is striving to become an innovation hub in China’s manufacturing sector by constantly upgrading traditional businesses with the implementation of the country’s Internet Plus strategy, according to officials.

Lu Yi, Party chief of Foshan, said the city will use its status as an important manufacturing center in South China’s Guangdong province to focus more on intelligent and high-end development.

Nowadays, information technology is advancing rapidly and is deeply integrated with all sectors of society, making it a key factor in enhancing both national and regional comprehensive competitiveness, Lu said.

Xie Shaofeng, director of the Informatization and Software Service Division at the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, said Foshan should use the resources it has accumulated in the manufacturing and internet sectors to combine innovative technologies, products and new industrial development patterns in the hope of converting old economic growth drivers into new ones.

To better implement China’s innovation-driven and Internet Plus strategies, Foshan launched the first China (Guangdong) International Internet Plus Exposition in 2015. After three sessions, this annual event has effectively boosted the utilization of internet technologies in the city and helped to form new economic growth points.

In 2017, Foshan generated 2.24 trillion yuan (\$322.83 billion) in total industrial output value, while the out-

put value of its advanced and high-tech manufacturing sectors grew by 9.8 percent and 16.3 percent, respectively.

In July this year, the city’s economy and information technology bureau issued a three-year action plan (2018-20) for technological reform in local industrial enterprises.

One of the highlights of the plan is to promote the use of robots in industries such as automobile manufacturing, ceramics and building materials, household electrical appliances and electronic information.

By the end of 2020, the industrial output value of robots and intelligent equipment in Foshan is expected to exceed 120 billion yuan, with an average annual growth rate of more than 15 percent, according to the plan.



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