



A robot attracts audiences at the 2016 China International Big Data Expo held in Guiyang. This year's expo lasts from May 25-28. ZHANG KAI / FOR CHINA DAILY

Trade, analysis of information increase value

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Guiyang Big Data Exchange, or GBDE, is expecting robust profit growth in the near future thanks to the growing popularity of data trading, said a senior manager of the company.

"Trade in data is creating bigger and bigger value nowadays, and data is urgently needed for whoever wants to win in the fierce market," said Wang Sanshou, executive president of GBDE. "Both the trading volume and value will see dramatic leaps in the future."

GBDE was founded in 2015 as the world's first big data exchange. At the Big Data Expo being held from May 25-28, the company is showcasing its latest developments, including its new trading system and data platforms for the Belt and Road.

The company will use data related to the Belt and Road to help the country to make better decisions in areas such as policy, infrastructure, trade and finance.

Wang said that after data masking, cleaning, analyzing and model building, the data products are safe and tradable and can be applied to a wide range of areas.

"Data sources were very limited and negotiations usually involved more than one company. It was hard to reach mutual agreement, which also affected the quality of data," Che said. "The quality of data collected is vital in the company's big data application sector. Data for us is the raw material of production. Without the good raw materials, even the best way of thinking in data application can not

help to produce data products."

He said GBDE has provided Hangzhou CNCR-IT with safe, legal, timely and cost-effective access to the database.

"Companies could not tolerate such high time costs," he said. "But GBDE has a rich source of data, as it has strong resources, which will greatly reduce the time spent collecting new data."

In a white paper on China's big data exchange, released by GBDE in 2016, the company estimates that by 2020, the scale of China's big data industry will grow to 1.36 trillion yuan (\$197 billion), including 54.5 billion yuan in big data trading. GBDE also hopes to list on the Chinese stock market.

Up to now, more than 1,000 members have registered with GBDE in China, including Tencent, Huawei, Alibaba, China Unicom and Tianhong Asset Management.

Wu Hequan, academician with the Chinese Academy of Engineering, said that the value of data lies in the potential of integration and data mining, while the mobilization and trading of data helps to boost data integration and mining.

GBDE will launch its data-sharing platform for the Guiyang government during the expo. The platform has collected data from more than 30 lines of work, including mining, agriculture, fishery, wholesale, retail and transportation. The platform is expected to widen the government's information integration and sharing, and help to realize the value of data.



Visitors to Guiyang Big Data Exchange look at real-time transactions on screens at the company. TAO LIANG / XINHUA

Intelligent platforms change lifestyles, business models

Provincial capital embraces new sector that has become a crucial growth engine, **Chen Meiling** reports.

Truck Alliance, China's online information sharing platform for freight transport, said it will expand its business in the truck services market after securing a second round of financing of up to \$156 million — led by Baidu — this month.

The company will introduce online financial tools, including insurance, loans, payment and settlement, to develop a related logistics service business, including the sale of electronic toll collection cards, in addition to its business trading in trucks, tires and auto parts, said Chen Tianting, manager of the business development department of Truck Alliance.

By the end of April, the company had distributed 1 million ETC cards, with a recharge amount of more than 50 million yuan (\$7.26 million) per day, she said.

Dai Wenjian, CEO of Truck Alliance, said at a recent forum in Beijing: "An industry platform must construct a service system to increase value ... In 2016, trucks ETC was a breakthrough for us. We increased the use of ETC among Chinese trucks from 1 percent to 20 percent. That alone will help Truck Alliance to achieve profitability in 2017."

Founded in 2013 in Guiyang, capital of Southwest China's Guizhou province, the company has become a giant in the province's freight industry with an estimated value of more than \$1 billion.

It had set up 1,000 service centers in 360 domestic cities by the end of April. It has 3.7 million registered trucks.

On the Truck Alliance online platform, more than 5 million messages requesting freight transportation are uploaded every day for truck drivers from across the whole country to consider, according to Chen.



Truck Alliance, a big data enterprise in Guiyang, is an online platform sharing freight transport information. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY



“An industry platform must construct a service system to increase value.”

Dai Wenjian, CEO of Truck Alliance

Detailed data such as the route, weight of goods and requirement of the trucks height are collected to efficiently match the request with an appropriate truck driver.

More and more companies are locating their big data business in Guiyang, including big names such as Google, Intel, Microsoft, IBM and Foxconn.

Foxconn built a tunnel between two mountains in Guiyang to accommodate its 6,000 machines that store 300 million gigabytes of data for its factory in Guiyang. In the tunnel, natural wind is used to cool the servers down to save energy.

A staff member with Foxconn said that companies usually use cooling systems to keep servers at a consistent temperature to avoid machines being damaged. Because servers give off a lot of heat, the energy used around the world to cool servers is as much as that generated by the Three Gorges Dam, a hydroelectric power station in Central China's Hubei province.

Recent developments

Guizhou, featuring a mountainous landscape and cool climate even in summer, has made big data an engine of development.

In February 2016, Guiyang became China's first national big data experimental zone. By the end of 2016, there were



Technicians with Guiyang Hisense Electronics assemble flat-screen television sets on the company's production line.

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more than 4,000 big data-related enterprises in the city, with an industry scale of more than 130 billion yuan.

Guiyang also has China's first big data exchange center, the first civil traffic information database and incubators and entrepreneurs' town in many districts of the city.

Guizhou's big data industry is expected to surpass 500 billion yuan with annual growth of 20 percent in the 13th Five-Year-Plan period (2016-20), according to the government working conference held in January 2016.

Big data applications have entered the citizens' intelligent, connected lifestyles.

Xiao Ai, the first civil affairs services robot in Guiyang, produced by local high-tech company Xiaoi Robot Technology, made its debut in a community of Wudang district of Guiyang this month. Equipped with a dynamic digital knowledge base, the robot can replace human labor to answer citizen's questions and improve the efficiency of consultancy and information searching.

Her sister, Xiao I hosts the opening ceremony of the 2017

China International Big Data Expo in Guiyang from May 25 to 28.

As of May 23, as many as 51,000 people had registered to attend the expo, according to the organizers. That includes 573 distinguished guests from China and 514 from overseas. Overseas attendees will travel from 22 countries, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Israel, Russia, Singapore, Japan and India.

Businessmen, experts and officials from across the world will attend the event to discuss major topics of the big data industry, such as the digital economy, intelligent cities and artificial intelligence, as well as to find possible business opportunities at the exhibitions of various big data products.

The organizer said recently that CEOs of world-famous IT companies, including Jack Ma of Alibaba, Ma Huateng of Tencent and Li Yanhong of Baidu, would come, along with 137 executive managers of Fortune Global 500 enterprises such as Apple, Facebook and Amazon.

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Big data expo showcases latest industry trends, achievements

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Various cutting-edge technologies are available at the 2017 China International Big Data Expo in Guiyang, capital of Guizhou province in Southwest China.

Visitors can experience visual speech recognition technology that can recognize what people are saying by reading the shape of their mouths, facial recognition systems to help the police arrest suspects and home-made artificial robots that can present ceremonies.

The expo is hosted by the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, the Cyberspace Administration of China and the provincial

government of Guizhou.

More than 300 enterprises will take part in the event, covering an exhibition area of 60,000 square meters. Six exhibition halls will cover a wide range of high-tech themes, creating an international big data communication platform for worldwide firms.

Seventy eight forums and 15 activities are planned during the event, covering topics related to the national big data pilot zone, digital economy, block chain, digital security and risk control, data sharing and opening, artificial intelligence and smart manufacturing.

Some of the event's highlights are in the artificial intelligence sector forums, one of them being the Artificial Intelligence & New Genera-



Xiao I, a robot produced by local high-tech company Xiaoi Robot Technology, is displayed at last year's big data expo.

DENG GANG / FOR CHINA DAILY

tion Information Technology Innovation Summit Forum.

At the summit to be held on May 27, industry experts will share the fundamental

theories, technology updates and typical applications of the IT industry and AI fields, and will discuss the latest developments and future

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Chen Min'er, Guizhou's provincial Party chief

trends of the industry.

Several experts will attend the core forum, including

Shen Changxiang and Tan Jianrong, academicians at the Chinese Academy of Engineering. Shen will give a speech on information industry safety.

Chen Min'er, Guizhou's provincial Party chief, said at a recent meeting that poverty alleviation, big data and environmental protection are the province's three "big strategies".

"We will further promote the big data strategy, using it to lead economic transformation and upgrades, to improve the ability of government management, and to serve people's livelihood and social welfare," Chen said at the 12th Provincial Congress of the Communist Party of China in Guizhou.

Chen Gang, a member of the Standing Committee of

the Guizhou CPC Provincial Committee and Guiyang's Party chief, said at a meeting of big data enterprises in Guiyang that the city is ready to put big data to use in government management, civilian and commercial fields, and provide other cities and regions in China with related services, expanding the market for enterprises.

In 2016, the province received approval from the central government to build the country's first big data experimental zone and released China's first local regulations for big data.

More than 200 global companies, including IBM and Qualcomm, have invested over 240 billion yuan (\$34.84 billion) in Guizhou's big data industry, which is now worth more than 500 billion yuan.