

Press Release

Immediate release

HKSTP and CIC Host SciTech Challenge 2020 to Nurture Innovators, Drive Technology Adoption and Advance Industry Development

(Hong Kong, 19 November 2020) – Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) and the Construction Industry Council (CIC) co-hosted SciTech Challenge 2020 today to give promising innovators the opportunity to develop market-ready solutions to cater to industry demands, and propel the construction sector into the digital era. Node THL, an incubatee of HKSTP, was crowned champion of the Open Group for the active noise cancelling sensory technology at construction site while HeightSecure Technologies won at the Student Group for the sensor to detect micro-vibrations of bamboo scaffolding in the competition today.

Under the theme of “Sensory Technology for Construction”, SciTech Challenge 2020 brought together startups and students with potential users in construction sector the first time to pitch their products and solutions. In view of accelerating digital transformation in various industries, the construction sector recognises the need to modernise operations to raise efficiency, productivity, quality and safety.

Mr. Albert WONG, CEO of HKSTP, said, “HKSTP is committed to unearthing the best innovation and technology talent with the aim of propelling Hong Kong’s business and society forward with their innovations. SciTech Challenge 2020 has provided prominent young entrepreneurs with the ideal platform to learn and collaborate with construction leaders, develop their ideas into ready-to-deploy solutions and support the industry for wider technology adoption in the future.”

Mr. CHAN Ka-kui, Chairman of CIC said “One of the most important missions of CIC is to drive Hong Kong’s construction industry to embrace innovative thinking and culture, after establishing Construction Innovation and Technology Application Centre (CITAC), CIC continues to accelerate the adoption of innovation technologies by different approaches, SciTech Challenge provides a great opportunity to inspire the construction participants for Construction digitalization.”

Mr. Donald CHOI, Chairperson of CITAC Board, pointed out in the ceremony that Sensory technology is often considered as the first step for digitalising the physical environment, which forms the foundation for other technology development such as robotics as well as smart city. That is the very reason why sensory technology for construction was chosen to be the theme of SciTech Challenge 2020.

This year’s competition attracted over 60 group applications from educational institutions and corporates. The contestants gained unique access and collaboration opportunities with leading industry players through a series of training workshops and webinars.

After rounds of screening, the eight finalists were selected to present their innovative ideas at the final presentation today. This final challenge tested the level of enthusiasm and commitment of the contestants, as they competed for cash prizes and the chance to enjoy fast track to HKSTP's Science and Technology Entrepreneur Programme (STEP) and win a membership of Robotics Catalysing Centre.

This year the winners included:

	Open Group	Student Group
Champion	Node THL	HeightSecure Technologies
First runner up	Varadise	Createoryx
Second runner up	HKUST & Arup	SEED-01
Most Innovative Award	HeightSecure Technologies	
Best Presentation Award	HeightSecure Technologies	



Photo 1: Judges of final presentation at SciTech Challenge 2020

- Mr. Donald CHOI, Chairperson of CITAC Board (5th from the right)
- Dr. Crystal FOK, Director, AIR Platform & Precision Engineering (3rd from the left)
- Dr. Carmen FUNG, Assistant Director, Electronics Cluster (2nd from the left)
- Ir Alex KWAN, CEO, Asia, Global Infrastructure Solutions Inc. (4th from the right)
- Ms. Rosana WONG, Executive Director, Yau Lee Group (3rd from the right)
- Mr. Tony CHEN, Investment Director, Hong Kong X Foundation (2nd from the right)



Photo 2: Mr. CHAN Ka-kui, Chairman of the Construction Industry Council awards Node THL, an HKSTP incubatee, the Open Group Champion prize at SciTech Challenge 2020.



Photo 3: Mr. Donald CHOI, the Chairperson of the CITAC Board awards HeightSecure Technologies with the Student Group Champion prize at SciTech Challenge 2020. The team also wins the Most Innovative Award and the Best Presentation Award.

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About Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation

Comprising Science Park, InnoCentre and Industrial Estates, Hong Kong Science & Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) is a statutory body dedicated to building a vibrant innovation and technology ecosystem to connect stakeholders, nurture technology talents, facilitate collaboration, and catalyze innovations to deliver social and economic benefits to Hong Kong and the region.

Established in May 2001, HKSTP has been driving the development of Hong Kong into a regional hub for innovation and growth in several focused clusters including Electronics, Information & Communications Technology, Green Technology, Biomedical Technology, Materials and Precision Engineering. We enable science and technology companies to nurture ideas, innovate and grow, supported by our R&D facilities, infrastructure, and market-led laboratories and technical centres with professional support services. We also offer value added services and comprehensive incubation programmes for technology start-ups to accelerate their growth.

Technology businesses benefit from our specialised services and infrastructure at Science Park for applied research and product development; enterprises can find creative design support at InnoCentre; while skill-intensive businesses are served by our three industrial estates at Tai Po, Tseung Kwan O and Yuen Long. More information about HKSTP is available at www.hkstp.org.

About the Construction Industry Council

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed in 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and Government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to the Government, provide professional training and registration services, and serve as a communication channel between the Government and the construction industry.

Please visit www.cic.hk for further details.

About Construction Innovation and Technology Application Centre (CITAC)

Established by the Construction Industry Council (CIC) in 2017, CITAC aims to explore and identify innovative techniques and technologies, both locally and internationally, which are suitable for adoption in the Hong Kong construction industry, to bring greater productivity, sustainability and safety. CITAC will serve as a knowledge hub by collecting, showcasing and promulgating the latest local and overseas construction technologies; establish a global research network and a collaboration platform with a view to encourage interdisciplinary research activities and collaboration, as well as to nurture a culture within the construction



industry that is receptive and conducive to continuous innovation.

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