

PRESS RELEASE

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Global Construction Robotic Day Successfully Concludes Reshaping the Construction Industry through Robotics

Hong Kong • 8 May 2024 – Organised by the Construction Industry Council, the Global Construction Robotic Day has successfully concluded today at Hong Kong Science Park. The event was well-received by the industry and has attracted over 8,000 visits, marking a significant milestone in the field. Building upon the success of last year's Hong Kong Workshops on Construction Robots, this year's event has been expanded into a comprehensive two-day programme. It includes a two-day exhibition, together with a global conference on the first day, and a technology pitching session on the second day. Esteemed robotic experts, professors, and technology ventures from around the world have gathered to exchange their expertise and provide valuable insights into the realm of construction robots.

During these two days conferences and technology pitching session, over 4,000 attendees, both physical and online, had the opportunity to gain precious information on the current state of robotics in the construction industry, and distinguished speakers took it a step further by inspiring attendees to envision the transformative potential of robots in making construction a productive, safe, and sustainable industry.

Officiating at the morning session of the conference, Mr. David LAM, Under Secretary for Development, said in his opening remarks that the Government has been supporting the industry through the subsidies from the Construction Innovation and Technology Fund. Apart from the current funding mechanism, the Government is proactively studying the entire ecosystem of robotic application in the construction industry, including identifying the key enablers and formulating relevant measures to promote wider adoption in the industry.

Ir Prof. Thomas HO, Chairman of the CIC, said in his welcome speech that "The adoption of construction robots will not only ensure a safer working environment. But also drives productivity, fosters creativity, and enables workforce development. This transformative shift in the construction industry holds the potential to redefine the sector and position it

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for a more prosperous and sustainable future."

While the morning session highlighted the pioneering trends in construction robotics, shedding light on the latest advancements and cutting-edge technologies, the focus shifted to real-world experiences of robotic adoption in various countries in the afternoon session. Esteemed speakers shared their own journeys and the challenges they encountered, providing invaluable perspectives in the practical implementation of robotics in construction projects.

The Guest of Honour of the afternoon session, Mr. Victor TAI, Under Secretary for Housing, stated in his opening remarks that addressing the aging and shortage of traditional skilled labour in the construction industry, the Hong Kong Housing Authority has included a new requirement in tender submission regarding the use of construction robotics for evaluation in new construction contracts. Construction robots are now being deployed or will soon be adopted in more than 40 public housing projects.

Ir Albert CHENG, Executive Director of the CIC, said in his welcome speech, "We recognise the need for reskilling and upskilling practitioners to successfully adopt and integrate construction robots into the construction process. To support industry practitioners in this transformation, the CIC is planning to organise Robotic Training Courses that equip our practitioners with the essential knowledge of robotic operation and maintenance."

Apart from the global conference, the Construction Robot Exhibition has also showcased 24 top-notch construction robots that are used all over the world, with a wide range of applications, covering different construction stages such as measurement, floor grinding, demolition and façade cleaning, allowing the local construction industry to gain a deeper understanding of their performance and potential. The exhibition has drawn numerous industry practitioners, offered opportunities for them to directly engage with the robot suppliers to explore the detailed functionalities of specific robots and enquire about the procurement details. Please <u>click here</u> for the information of the exhibitors and the exhibits.





Ir Prof. Thomas HO, Chairman of CIC, delivers the Welcome Speech in the morning session of the global conference





Mr. David LAM, Under Secretary for Development, delivers the Opening Remarks in the morning session of the global conference





Ar. Donald CHOI, Chairperson of CITAC Management Board, delivers the Closing Remarks in the morning session of the global conference





Group Photo of the morning session of the global conference





Ir Albert CHENG, Executive Director of CIC, delivers the Welcome Speech in the afternoon session of the global conference





Mr. Victor TAI, Under Secretary for Housing, delivers the Opening Remarks in the afternoon session of the global conference





Group Photo of the afternoon session of the global conference







The exhibition features 24 top-notch construction robots

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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.

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