

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

<u>CIC Plaque Unveiling Ceremony for WorldSkills Training Bases</u> <u>Nurturing Elite Craftsmen, Stepping onto the World Stage</u>

Hong Kong • 18 July 2025 – The Construction Industry Council (CIC) held the Plaque Unveiling Ceremony for WorldSkills Training Bases at HKIC – Sheung Shui Campus. To mark this special occasion, Ir Ricky LAU, Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) of the Development Bureau, together with Ir Prof. Thomas HO, Chairman of the CIC, Ir Albert CHENG, Executive Director of the CIC, and guests to celebrate this significant step in nurturing young talents for the construction industry.

To ensure the competitors strive for excellence in the WorldSkills Competition, the CIC has established training bases equipped with competition-designated tools and facilities specified for the WorldSkills Competition, offering competitors the most realistic simulated environment for training, thereby enhancing their skills levels. The training bases covered eight skills competitions in Bricklaying, Cabinetmaking, Concrete Construction Work, Joinery, Painting and Decorating, Plumbing and Heating, Wall and Floor Tiling, and Welding, providing comprehensive support to competitors.

Ir Ricky LAU, Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) of the Development Bureau, said, "The WorldSkills Competition acts as a bridge to connect the elites from worldwide, fostering the training and exchange among Hong Kong and overseas, and introducing innovative technologies and development from the Mainland and overseas into Hong Kong, boosting productivity and enhancing cost effectiveness in the construction industry, enabling us tell good stories of Hong Kong construction industry on the international stage."

Ir Prof. Thomas HO, Chairman of the CIC, remarked, "The launch of the training bases demonstrates CIC's strong commitment to nurturing construction talents and passing on skills. We provide competitors training environments aligned with international benchmarks to fully prepare them for winning medals at the WorldSkills Competition, enabling them to master world-leading skills to create the future."

Ir Albert CHENG, Executive Director of the CIC, stated that "The WorldSkills Competition empowers competitors to continuously improve their skills while building resilience through challenges. Through engaging in international competitions, the legacy of craftsmanship will be sustained, and Hong Kong's construction industry will reach new heights. At the same time, we let the public knows skills change lives, that skilled individuals are important pillars of society, and to change the industry's image to attract more young people to join."

Two Gold Medallists in Bricklaying from Mainland China, Mr. LIANG Zhibin and Mr. CHEN



Zifeng, were invited to join this ceremony to share invaluable experiences and winning tips with Hong Kong competitors. They also presented badges to the CIC competitors, symbolised a key step onto the global stage and served as encouragement for them to embrace future challenges.

Following the ceremony, the guests toured the competitor workshop and training bases, gaining insights into the facilities, competition formats, and test project designs, experiencing the professionalism and rigour of the WorldSkills Competition.

The WorldSkills Competition, also hailed as the "Skills Olympics" is a biennial international event hosted in different countries since 1950. The CIC competitors have consistently achieved outstanding results, obtaining several medals. The 48th WorldSkills Competition will be held in Shanghai in September 2026, and the CIC will participate in eight skills competitions, striving for outstanding results once again, together achieve the goal of "World-class Skills, Building the World".



Ir Ricky LAU, Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) of the Development Bureau, (3rd right), Ir Prof. Thomas HO, Chairman of the CIC, (3rd left), Ir Albert CHENG, Executive Director of the CIC (2nd right), and other guests for a group photo at the ceremony, marking the official launch of the WorldSkills training bases

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Ir Ricky LAU, Permanent Secretary for Development (Works), Development Bureau, said that WorldSkills Competition acts as a bridge to connect the elites from worldwide, fostering the training and exchange among Hong Kong and overseas, boosting productivity and enhancing cost effectiveness in the construction industry





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Ir Albert CHENG, Executive Director of the CIC, stated that the WorldSkills Competition empowers competitors to continuously improve their skills while building resilience through challenges





Two Gold Medallists in Bricklaying from the Mainland China, Mr. LIANG Zhibin (Right) and Mr. CHEN Zifeng (Left) shared invaluable experiences and winning tips with Hong Kong competitors





The two Gold Medallists presented badges to the CIC competitors, encouraging them to embrace future challenges





The guests toured the competitor workshop and training bases, gaining insights into the competition formats and technical requirements



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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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