



Press release

For Immediate release

HKSTP and RTHK Expand Data-driven Ecosystems to Fuel Technology Breakthroughs and Nurture Future AIR Talent via ABU Robocon

The partnership will promote exchange between HKSTP Park companies and RTHK's broadcasting data via HKSTP's Digital Living Lab plus global AI talent pull from ABU Robocon 2026

- HKSTP and RTHK will jointly nurture the next generation of local AI and robotics talent by organising the International ABU Robocon in 2026 and more.
- Both parties will also promote cross sector data sharing to drive technological breakthroughs in the industry and unlock Hong Kong's potential as a digital economy potential, ultimately developing the city into an international I&T hub.
- HKSTP will assist RTHK in scouting innovative solutions to address its business and operational challenges, boosting cross sector collaboration.

(Hong Kong, 5 January 2024) – Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) has agreed to a three-year Smart Broadcasting partnership to join forces with Hong Kong's sole public service broadcaster Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) to forge a data-driven ecosystem to promote cross-sector innovation and build Hong Kong into an international innovation and technology (I&T) hub.

The goal is to sharpen Hong Kong's competitive edge from three perspectives: advance Hong Kong in the global I&T talent race through the international ABU Asia-Pacific Robot Contest (ABU Robocon) in 2026; data collaboration through combining RTHK's rich historic data with HKSTP's Digital Living Lab; and driving new cross-sector technology solutions scouting.

Jointly organising International ABU Robocon in 2026

Global investment in Artificial Intelligence (AI) is at an all-time high, with AI skills becoming a critical foundation for a thriving digital ecosystem. HKSTP and RTHK will tap into Hong Kong's AI and Robotics (AIR) talent by jointly organising the International ABU Robocon in 2026. By hosting the regional competition, HKSTP and RTHK hope to nurture cross-disciplinary expertise in AI and robotics among education institutions. The hope is to inspire the next generation local and overseas I&T talent to fulfil their AI ambitions in Hong Kong, boosting the city's standing as a hub for world-class AI and broader I&T development.



Broadcasting data to elevate city's digital ecosystem

As an esteemed and sole public service broadcaster, RTHK has committed to achieving business and operational excellence through digital innovation. It will share its ample and historic broadcasting data with HKSTP's Digital Living Lab to drive cross sector data sharing and unlock Hong Kong's digital economy potential. The extensive dataset, spanning television and radio programs from its archives, including text, audio and video, will be a rich resource for Hong Kong's tech ventures. By requesting, accessing, and leveraging the data, qualified HKSTP Park companies can access the data to train AI models and advance other cutting-edge technologies.

A rich data-driven ecosystem featuring trusted data exchange capabilities will help deliver accelerated breakthroughs in technology such as AI, Optical Character Recognition (OCR), Natural Language Processing (NLP), real-time translation, sign language, and more. This will boost cross-sector innovation, particularly in untapped sectors such as arts, culture and entertainment.

Solution scouting to accelerate digital adoption and industry transformation

Under the partnership, RTHK will also share their specific business and operational challenges with HKSTP for tech ventures to explore business matching opportunities. Through HKSTP's scenario-based validation services as well as its network of local and overseas tech ventures, it will help RTHK identify potential solutions and find opportunities to co-create proof-of-concepts (PoC). This virtuous cycle of matching, collaboration and innovating is a conduit to the continued success of Hong Kong's I&T ecosystem, as well as a way to transform the broadcasting and media landscape with digital innovation.

Professor Sun Dong, Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, said, "I am delighted that HKSTP and RTHK will jointly organise the ABU Robocon 2026. Such large-scale international competitions will surely enhance the I&T atmosphere in Hong Kong and nurture the city's I&T talent. The Government has adopted a data-driven approach to encourage government departments and organisations to open up and share data, ultimately developing Hong Kong into an international I&T hub. I believe the collaboration between HKSTP and RTHK will serve as a good example for government departments to follow, encouraging more of them to make good use of I&T to improve efficiency and bring convenience to the public. This also capitalises on Hong Kong's role in connecting the Mainland and overseas and its advantages in internationalisation."

Albert Wong, CEO of HKSTP, said, "This partnership with RTHK will create unique I&T opportunities for Hong Kong by addressing two critical challenges – unlocking the value of data and nurturing top tech talent. We are jointly organising the ABU Robocon 2026 to put Hong Kong on the map as a destination for global AIR talent. RTHK's past and current rich programme content provides a vital data foundation for



tech ventures to advance AI development, explore a myriad of new technology solutions and fuel the growth of Hong Kong's I&T ecosystem.”

Eddie Cheung, Director of Broadcasting, said, “RTHK will jointly organise with HKSTP the ABU Robocon 2026, which will send a signal that Hong Kong is embracing new technologies such as AI and robotics and is serious about innovation. RTHK is also excited to collaborate with the city's largest innovation network led by HKSTP to fuel new value, growth and R&D opportunities from our historical broadcasting datasets.”

Dr Crystal Fok, Head of STP Platform, HKSTP, said, “Data truly is the lifeblood of today’s digital innovation, but seamless data access and collaboration is the heart that will drive a thriving I&T ecosystem towards success. By unlocking RTHK’s rich historical datasets via HKSTP Digital Living Lab, we are empowering tech ventures to embrace the power of public data and explore innovative new solutions and value to transform business and industry.”



Photo 1: Ir Dr HL Yiu, Chief Corporate Development Officer of HKSTP (front row, left) and Raymond Sy, Deputy Director of Broadcasting (front row, right) signed the collaboration agreement to announce a three-year partnership to forge a data-driven ecosystem to promote cross-sector innovation and build Hong Kong into an international I&T hub. The signing ceremony was witnessed by (last row, from left) Albert Wong, CEO of HKSTP, Professor Sun Dong, Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry and Eddie Cheung, Director of Broadcasting.



Photo 2: Officiating guests included Professor Sun Dong, Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry (middle); Albert Wong, CEO of HKSTP (second from left); Ir Dr HL Yiu, Chief Corporate Development Officer of HKSTP (first from left); Eddie Cheung, Director of Broadcasting (second from right), and Raymond Sy, Deputy Director of Broadcasting (first from right).



Photo 3: Champion of Robocon Hong Kong Contest 2023, “The Lord of the Rings” team from the Chinese University of Hong Kong represented Hong Kong at the ABU Robocon 2023 in last August and defeated 13 champion teams to win the first runner-up and the Best Design Award. Guests include (second row, from left) Professor Tsang Hon Ki, Interim Dean of Engineering, The Chinese University of Hong Kong; Ir Dr HL Yiu, Chief Corporate Development Officer of HKSTP; Albert Wong, CEO of HKSTP; Professor Sun Dong, Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry; Eddie Cheung, Director of Broadcasting; Raymond Sy, Deputy Director of Broadcasting; Natalie Chan, Assistant Director of Broadcasting (TV & Corporate Businesses), and Dr Crystal Fok, Head of STP Platform, HKSTP, awarded trophies to the winning team.



Photo 4: The HKSTP and RTHK partnership will create unique I&T opportunities for Hong Kong by addressing two critical challenges – unlocking the value of data and nurturing top tech talent.

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About Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation

Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) was established in 2001 with a mission to position Hong Kong as an international innovation and technology (I&T) hub. HKSTP has created a thriving I&T ecosystem supporting over 10 unicorns with more than 13,000 research professionals and around 1,600 technology companies from 24 countries and regions focused on healthtech, AI and robotics, fintech and smart city technologies.

We offer comprehensive support to attract and nurture talent, accelerate and commercialise innovation for technology ventures on their I&T journey. Our growing innovation ecosystem is built around our key locations of Hong Kong Science Park in Shatin, InnoCentre in Kowloon Tong and three modern InnoParks in Tai Po, Tseung Kwan O and Yuen Long. The three InnoParks are realising a vision of new industrialisation for Hong Kong, where sectors including advanced manufacturing, micro-electronics and biotechnology are being reimaged for a new generation of industry.

To support Hong Kong's future development and its growing demands of the I&T industry, HKSTP is actively connecting the city with Shenzhen. This aims to strengthen cross-border exchange, attract technology companies as well as talent from around the world, helping them go global by exploring the mainland China and overseas markets.

Hong Kong Science Park Shenzhen Branch in Futian, Shenzhen, opened in September this year with a gross floor area of 31,000 square meters. The two buildings provide both dry and wet laboratories, co-working



areas, conference and exhibition spaces, and more. We will focus on attracting enterprises in seven key areas: Medtech, big data and AI, robotics, new materials, microelectronics, fintech and sustainability.

Through our infrastructure, services, expertise, and network of partnerships, HKSTP will help establish I&T as a pillar of growth for Hong Kong, while reinforcing the city's international I&T hub status as a launchpad for growth at the heart of the GBA innovation powerhouse.

More information about HKSTP is available at www.hkstp.org.

About RTHK

Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) is a government department and the sole public service broadcaster of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR). It provides radio, television and new media services to Hong Kong people through eight radio channels, five digital terrestrial television (DTT) channels, the official website "rthk.hk", mobile applications and social media.

The Charter of RTHK (the Charter), signed in August 2010, guides the operation and programme production of RTHK. Under the Charter, RTHK is to fulfil the public purposes and mission, which include sustaining citizenship and civil society; providing an open platform for the free exchange of views without fear or favour; encouraging social inclusion and pluralism; promoting education and learning; and stimulating creativity and excellence to enrich the multi-cultural life of Hong Kong people.

More information about RTHK is available at rthk.hk.

Media Contact:

Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation

Fion Tse

Tel: +852 2629 6789

Email: fion.tse@hkstp.org

Edelman Public Relations

Sonia Leung

Tel: +852 2837 4775 / 9684 9460

Email: Sonia.Leung@edelman.com/
Edelmanhkstppr@edelman.com

RTHK

Corporate Communications and Standards Unit

Kanas Hui

Tel: +852 2867 3320

Email: huiym@rthk.hk