

Yantai looks for talent to drive growth

By WANG QIAN and ZHAO JIN in Yantai

The Yantai High-Tech Industrial Zone in Shandong province is now attracting high-caliber personnel from China and abroad with the offers of large grants to holders of advanced intellectual property and people with high levels of expertise in science and management.

"Talented people play an important role in boosting the zone's development. We will continue to implement favorable policies to make the zone attractive to them," said Liu Hongbo, a senior official at the zone's administrative committee.

Highlighting advanced manufacturing, biomedicines, new materials, electronic information and modern services, the zone was approved as a national high-tech industrial zone in 2010.

"We are determined to develop into one of China's leading high-tech hubs," Liu said.

The zone recently released an ambitious plan to attract 100 quality professionals for its advanced industries by 2015.

They are required to hold high academic degrees and have extensive research experience. Local authorities expect that at least 10 of them will have held leadership positions in universities, research institutions and enterprises worldwide.

This plan was made as a supplement to the central government's Talent 1,000 program, an initiative to attract professionals from overseas.

The science park of the Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the Institute of Mechanics under the Chinese Academy of Sci-

ences and six other research organizations have helped in drafting the plan.

Liu said the zone has a range of favorable policies in place for introducing talented people, including tax reduction, preferential loans, subsidies for business startups, research and human resources support.

He said the zone's administrative committee will set aside a special fund of 100 million yuan to help enterprises recruit and train skilled workers, and another 100 million yuan will be used to support research facilities.

A qualified professional who holds significant intellectual property rights will have access to subsidies of up to 20 million yuan for starting a new business.

And a team of such professionals will be eligible for financial assistance of up to 50 million yuan.

The zone also awards people with great achievements in research. Anyone who has won the National Technology and Invention Award or the National Science and Technology Progress Award can qualify for a reward of up to 1 million yuan.

Newly elected members of the Chinese Academy of Sciences or Chinese Academy of Engineering will be awarded 200,000 yuan. The holder of a patent recognized abroad will be given 30,000 yuan as a reward and 5,000 yuan for each patent approved in China.

Besides the financial support, the zone's administrative committee also is paying much attention to personnel training. It now has partnered with more than 20 overseas institutes and universities to organize regular training workshops and academic exchange activities.

Its service team can provide a full range of services ranging from business registration to healthcare.

The zone also provides a comfortable work and living environment for businesspeople and employees as well, with such facilities as office buildings, residential areas, an international convention and exhibition center and a botanical garden.

To attract more overseas talent, the zone has organized many promotional campaigns in countries such as Japan, South Korea, the United States and Canada. It also has connections with 23 overseas organizations and headhunting agencies.



An artist's rendering of the Shandong International Biotechnology Park, one of the eight major projects to be launched in the zone.

High-tech zone seeking investors

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The administrators of the Yantai High-Tech Industrial Zone are now looking for investors and talented people to join in the development of eight key projects involving an estimated total investment of 17 billion yuan.

The marine engineering research institute project, backed by the China International Marine Containers Group's investment of 600 million yuan, will consist of nine R&D centers and three labs.

It is expected to attract more than 1,500 personnel for research, including top scientists and engineers from China and abroad.

The Yantai Biotechnology Industrial Park is seeking investment partners. With such facilities as a research center, labs, plants and office buildings, the park is expected to produce more than 100 varieties of antigens, antibodies and rapid test kits, with annual

sales revenue projected to hit 300 million yuan.

The Shandong International Biotechnology Park, with a total investment of 6 billion yuan, is a State-level R&D hub for new pharmaceuticals. It is planned to attract the world's renowned medical companies to open more than 40 research centers there.

The central business district, with a total of 8 billion yuan in backing, will feature a software park, a creative industrial park, an R&D center and office buildings. The software park alone is expected to attract more than 200 software services outsourcing enterprises when it is put into operation by the end of this year.

The Zhengyuan Geographic Information Industrial Park will focus on software development for remote sensing and mapping and will need a total of 230 million yuan in backing. It is projected to achieve 1 billion yuan in annual revenue and pre-tax profits of 150 million yuan after

becoming operational.

The titanium fasteners research and production park will provide fasteners for the nation's aircraft industry. It demands an investment of 800 million yuan.

The Yantai Institute of Computing Technology, a branch of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, was put into operation last October using a total investment 500 million yuan. It seeks cooperation with companies involved in information technology, software outsourcing and public technology services.

The advanced mechanical technology research center is backed by the Chinese Academy of Mechanical Science and Technology. It is hoping to form partnerships with companies in the development and production of automobile moulds and other components.

For more information, visit <http://ytxq.gov.cn/> Email: ytxqrc@163.com Tel: 86-535-6922045



A newly planned business district in the Yantai High-Tech Industrial Zone, where a number of office buildings will be offered for new business startups

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