

Innovative strength of Yantai's tech zone growing

By **JU CHUANJIANG** and **ZHAO RUIXUE** in Jinan

The Yantai High-Tech Industrial Zone in Shandong province has developed into one of China's top bases for emerging industries and marine economy thanks to its innovative capacity, said Liu Hongbo, secretary of the working committee for the zone.

Last month, the zone won the honor of Innovation Pioneer Zone in China at the 15th China International High-Tech Expo held in Beijing, showcasing its innovation strength in high-tech sector.

To sharpen its core competitiveness, the zone prioritizes the high-end manufacturing and service industries.

Its manufacturing industry focuses on biopharmaceutical, new materials, electronic information and aerospace science, while the service industry covers research and development, software development and outsourcing, financial service, and creative sectors.

In fact, they have their own special industrial bases, such as an aerospace science and technology park, an intelligent technology park, the Shandong International Biotechnology Park, the Luye Pharmacological Science and Technology Park and the National Biological New Materials Park.

These high-end industrial parks have greatly contributed to the zone's innova-

tion profile. The Luye Pharmacological Science and Technology Park, committed to developing, manufacturing and selling natural medicines and biomedicine, has obtained several international-class intellectual property rights. Now the zone has been named a national-level innovation base for biomedicine.

To attract more research-focused projects to the zone, the zone is working on building business incubators to provide its customers with technological support.

The leadership of the zone has pledged to develop business incubators of 1 million square meters in combined size by the end of 2015.

It also promised that at least five of the business incubators built in the zone will be in the national class. When completed, these incubators are expected to give technological support to more than 500 small and mid-sized companies.

Actually, some of the business incubators are now operational. The Shandong International Biotechnology Park is now home to more than 20 projects that are incubated by famous universities and organizations including Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica under Chinese Academy of Sciences and Tongji University.

To enhance research and development strength, the zone has joined hands with famous academic organizations around the world, including the Institute of

Computing Technology under Chinese Academy of Sciences, Fudan University, Yantai University and Russian Academy of Sciences.

With support from this partnership, a series of bases for research and development have been built in the zone in the fields of electronic information, high-end manufacturing, new materials and marine technology.

With the help of the Sino-Russian Technology Park, the zone has formed relationships with more than 150 organizations in Russia and other nations from the Commonwealth of Independent States.

More than 1,000 research-focused projects have been introduced to Chinese enterprises, 100 of which are now under development, and 17 have gone into production.

Additionally, the zone extends a hand in cooperation with Japan and South Korea. It has secured long-term cooperation with Kyonggi High-Tech Park in Korea.

Infrastructure and services

During the past three years, the zone has worked to update its infrastructure and services, according to Liu.

Modern infrastructure and services in the zone are attracting increasing investment from both domestic and foreign companies.

A total of 55 projects involving a combined investment of 52.2 billion yuan (\$8.2 billion) are slated to be built in the zone, 16 of which are valued at more than 1 billion yuan.

Currently, 42 key projects that involve a combined investment of 38 billion yuan are under construction. These projects include a 1.5 billion yuan aerospace science and technology park and an 800 million yuan intelligent technology park.

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Model of the Shandong International Bio-technology Park.



PHOTOS PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

Ground-level view of the entrepreneur building in the Yantai High-Tech Industrial Zone.

Economic area becoming new investment hot spot

By **ZHAO RUIXUE** in Jinan
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As a national-level economic base, the Yantai High-Tech Industrial Zone is now a hot investment destination in East China's Shandong province due to its geographical advantages and sound infrastructure and services.

Located on the east of the Shandong Peninsula and neighboring Bohai Bay and the Yellow Sea, the zone sees Japan and Korea across the sea, making it a regional transportation hub to the reach the world.

Neighboring Yantai's administration center, the zone also has easy access to urban transportation, conveniently located 15 kilometers from railway and port facilities and 6 km from Yantai Airport.

The living environment is also favorable for investors.

With a good natural environment and a pleasant climate, the zone's rate of green coverage is 35 percent and it has first-class air quality based on national assessments.

With its prime natural environment as a foundation, the Yantai High-Tech Industrial Zone improves its infrastructure and services to sharpen its competitive edge in terms of investments.

During the past three years, the zone has spent two billion yuan (\$314 million) to construct additional service facilities, including an international convention and exhibition center, a professional business community, environmentally friendly residential areas, and the Yantai Geological Museum and botanical garden.

The next two years will see the zone spend another 2 billion yuan further improving the basic facilities for drinking

water, electricity, gas and roads.

In the aspect of services, investors here can enjoy "one-stop" service covering registration, application, approval and construction.

Through 10 years of development since its establishment in 1990, the zone was upgraded to national high-tech industrial zone by the State Council in 2010.

It is now one of the 10 Chinese zones open to Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. It is also China's first demonstration base for Sino-Russian high-tech cooperation.

To date, the zone has formed several industrial clusters focused on such sectors as biopharmaceuticals, new materials, electronic information, modern logistics and modern manufacturing.

Zhang Yunpeng contributed to this story.