

## Aptiv more 'intelligent' after recent upgrade

Li Huacheng and Tom Qian

THE upgrade of Aptiv Central Electric (Shanghai) Co has been completed in Jiading's Anting Town, making it the largest manufacturing base of Aptiv Group's connectors globally.

After the upgrade of its intelligent manufacturing capabilities, the Shanghai factory can produce 20 percent more products without adding more workers.

"Aptiv Central Electric is Aptiv Group's largest connector system manufacturing plant in the world. With the development of our business, we need to increase production capacity," said Shen Guoliang, general manager of Aptiv Group's Connectors China Division. "At this time, it coincides with the launch of the 'zero increase in land' reconstruction and expansion in Jiading District. The project helped us break through the land bottleneck of business development."

With the zero increase in land project, the company set up a fully automated intelligent warehouse and carried out a complete production and management upgrade to make it more intelligent.

"Take the injection and stamping process as an example. Through automation, digitization and intelligent transformation, we have reduced the manpower requirement by about 60 percent compared to the traditional manufacturing process," said Zhang Yiding, director of Aptiv's injection molding and stamping plant.

The new automated intelligent warehouse covers an area of about 8,300 square meters and is 24 meters high. It can accommodate 8,530 standard trailers and 40,500 boxes of goods.

The intelligent warehouse not only facilitates the unmanned and automated management of each link — such as warehouse entry, warehousing and delivery — but also the comprehensive intelligent management and automatic scheduling of material transportation, distribution, and finished product entry into the warehouse with each production line, as well as real-time transmission of management information systems.

"Relying on the construction of automated smart warehouses and smart factories, Aptiv has implemented a swift manufacturing strategy and created a brand-new smart manufacturing collaborative management benchmarking platform. This reduces storage and transportation costs, improves logistics efficiency and saves money. It has also provided support for the digital transformation of enterprises," Shen said.

# Jiangqiao Town vows to support development of four key industries

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JIANGQIAO Town has pledged to focus on the high-quality development of four major industries and promote the Hongqiao Medical Equipment Industry Platform, North Hongqiao Digital Trade Industry Platform and Shanghai Seafood Flavor Industry Innovation Center.

The four major industries include health and precision medicine, intelligent service and manufacturing, automobile research and development and

design, fashion and tourism.

Located at the Hongqiao International Open Hub, Jiangqiao aims to set up platforms to support the development of enterprises in the area to meet surging demand in the online new economy, high-end medical equipment and robots.

In the first seven months of the year, 11 medical equipment companies set up shop in the township area. The accumulated tax income of the sector jumped 46.72 percent over the same period last year

to 37.98 million yuan (US\$5.84 million).

The cosmetic platform has attracted more than 50 companies, generating tax income of 64.75 million yuan between January and July, an increase of more than 166 percent over the same period last year.

Yifei Group has set up 20 livestreaming rooms for cosmetic companies and online celebrities to promote their products. The group also provides support for research and development, branding,

marketing and transactions.

The platform has helped more than 600 domestic cosmetic brands enter the market, according to Yifei's Qian Qiu.

The Center for Cardiovascular Innovations has set up a CT imaging room, as well as clean and surgical operating rooms, in a standard factory workshop in Hongqiao Medical Equipment Industrial Park. The facilities can be used as a platform to make original medical equipment, from innovative concepts to product prototypes.



## Charity bazaar brings community together

Hearing-impaired people sell bottles of coffee at Sunye Shopping Mall in Juyuan New Area as part of a charity bazaar on September 10. Neighborhood centers, sports clubs and volunteer centers also take part in the event. Activities such as games, painting, DIY and first-aid training are offered, which are popular among visitors. The organizer hopes the event can help residents understand the concept of a creative charity. — Zhu Minmin

## Innovation and startup system growing

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TWENTY-TWO companies in Jiading District have been included in the city-level scientific innovation and startup system in 2021, according to Jiading District Science and Technology Commission.

Among them, 16 companies have been included on the technology business incubator list, while the other six are makerspaces listed by Shanghai government.

The Xiaolin Dream Factory is one of the makerspaces.

Hu Yan, who works for a new media company, uses its livestreaming room to record programs.

For the past six months, Hu has grown her team from four to 20 members, in addition to more than 70 Internet celebrities who have signed on.

"Our company has transformed from a traditional media company to an online new economy enterprise thanks to the Xiaolin Dream Factory incubation center. We integrated the new media channels, developed apps

and upgraded the technology through the incubator," Hu said.

The incubation center has set up a think-tank service system composed of industry elites, senior experts, university professors and entrepreneurs, according to Sun Wenli, founder of Xiaolin Dream Factory.

Since its opening, Sun and her team have recruited more than 20 partners for the think tank, providing affordable talent services for startups to help their long-term development.

## A first for surgical robots in district

Wang Jiajun and Tom Qian

A ROBOTIC surgery on a prostate cancer patient was completed at No. 3 Hospital affiliated to Naval Medical University in Jiading District on September 2.

It's the first minimally invasive surgery for prostate cancer conducted in Jiading with the world-leading Da Vinci surgical robot.

The patient surnamed Zhang, in his late 70s, decided to undergo the surgery at the hospital due to its experience using robots in operations.

"Prostate cancer surgery is a relatively difficult operation in urology. The prostate is very deep and the pelvic space is very small, so surgeons may face unclear vision, inaccurate dissociation and difficult to tie knots. With the assistance of surgical robots, these problems become easier to solve," said Liu Bing, director of the urology department who performed the surgery on Zhang.

The surgery took Liu and his team around 100 minutes to completely remove the prostate and tumor.

"The surgical trauma is small, so the recovery will be quick, and the pain is relatively light. The patient can get out of bed to move and eat food by himself the next day," Liu said.



Liu Bing uses a Da Vinci surgical robot during the operation. — Wang Jiajun