



NIO's ET9 takes center stage at this year's Auto Shanghai, leading the brand's display. — IC

Jiading's industry strength on display at Auto Shanghai

Staff Reporters

THIS year's Auto Shanghai, running from April 23 to May 2, highlights electric car innovations and advanced safety features.

Jiading-based businesses are showcasing cutting-edge products and technologies, underscoring the district's advantages in the automotive sector and its strengths in innovation.

SAIC Volkswagen has brought multiple models, covering fuel, pure electric and extended-range vehicles under its Volkswagen and AUDI brands, underscoring the company's latest breakthroughs in electrification and intellectualization.

These include the E5 Sportback, the first car under the new AUDI brand, and the ID.ERA, Volkswagen's

first full-size extended-range SUV concept with a range of more than 1,000 kilometers.

By 2030, the company plans to introduce more than 20 new models, including 10 in 2026, seven of which will be new-energy cars.

NIO, an electric vehicle manufacturer, is making its fifth appearance at the exhibition with a robust representation of its three brands: NIO, ONVO and Firefly.

The Smart Electric Executive Flagship ET9, the culmination of NIO's decade of technological innovation, leads the brand's display.

Visitors at the show can check out the three-minute battery swap procedure at its stand.

German motion technology company Schaeffler Group, meanwhile, is grabbing the attention with its

first appearance at Auto Shanghai since merging with Vitesco Technologies.

At its 500-square-meter booth, the company is showcasing a broad portfolio of electrification solutions ranging from core components to integrated systems, as well as smart steer-by-wire chassis and other intelligent driving technologies.

"Local products make up 80 percent of our display, including offerings tailored to the Chinese market and original technologies developed by local teams," said Zhang Yilin, CEO of Schaeffler Greater China.

Schaeffler plans to increase its investment in innovation to better serve China's market as it celebrates its 30th anniversary.

ZF's laboratory project in Anting begins reconstruction

Hu Xindong and Ye Fengting

ZF LIFETEC has begun the second phase of reconstruction at its headquarters in Anting Town, with operations set to resume by the end of the year.

The first part of the new headquarters was finished and became operational in October. It has a total floor area of approximately 19,000 square meters and houses major departments such as R&D and sales, which support ZF's business in Asia Pacific and around the world.

The second phase entails reconstructing a laboratory at the headquarters. The new facility, which covers 3,500 square meters, will include 12 testing zones to suit the testing requirements in core development for ZF's car occupant safety system products.

Among them is a crash simulation facility, which will be outfitted with a world-class servo-hydraulic sled to aid in product development.

ZF Group, a global leader in automotive parts supply and technology, established a presence in Anting in 1997. In March 2024, its Passive Safety Division was renamed ZF LIFETEC, and its Asia-Pacific headquarters was established in Jiading.

Recently, ZF has expanded its business in Anting, boosting the company's growth and enhancing Jiading's automotive industry.



The ZF LIFETEC building in Jiading's Anting Town — Hu Xindong

Work begins on Phase II of chip design park

Huang Xiangyu and Ye Fengting

THE second phase of the Automotive Chip Design Industrial Park, one of Jiading District's 22 key industrial development projects, has commenced construction.

The 18.3 *mu* (1.22 hectares) project in Jiabao Smart Bay Future City Practice Zone will have an eight-storey R&D office building and a 15-storey rental residential building.

The buildings will meet ultra-low

energy consumption norms for green development.

Currently in the foundation piling preparation stage, the second phase is scheduled to be completed in September of next year.

The exterior facade and electromechanical installations of the park's first phase are nearing completion, with operations set to begin by the end of this year.

The park's concentration will be on

automotive chip design, with the goal of becoming a comprehensive hub for automotive semiconductor research and development.

The "new four modernizations" of the auto sector — electrification, the Internet of Things, intellectualization, and sharing — are the strategic focus in Jiading's significant industrial development initiative.

SimChip Technology and Kolmostar Technology, leaders in automotive-

grade chips and autonomous driving systems, have signed deals to move in here.

Jiabao Smart Bay, one of Jiading New City's seven main growth zones, is also undergoing construction of Linrun Road, the zone's first main road.

The 1.4-kilometer, four-lane road will link three major industrial parks for chip design, intelligent connected vehicles, and the digital economy.