

(Press Release – Appendix)

HK Tech 300 International Start-up Competition

--From Hong Kong to the Globe--

City University of Hong Kong (CityUHK) has launched the innovation and entrepreneurship programme – HK Tech 300 since 2021, for aspiring young talent and the general public who will leverage CityUHK patented technology to develop tech products or services to launch start-ups. HK Tech 300 aims to provide growth opportunities for younger generation, and translating CityUHK research achievements and intellectual property into practical applications.

Since 2022, CityUHK has organised the "HK Tech 300 National Start-up Competition" and expanded to Southeast Asia with the launch of "HK Tech 300 Southeast Asia Start-up Competition" in Kuala Lumpur in 2023. 10 start-ups from 5 countries across the SEA region: Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, together with Hong Kong, topped over 100 teams in the competition.

This year, CityUHK further expanding the programme globally and hosting the "HK Tech 300 International Start-up Competition" (HK Tech 300 International Competition), aiming to attract global innovation resources, enhance international exchanges and cooperation, promote technological innovation and industrial development, and accelerate the knowledge transformation.

This competition aims to empower global start-ups by leveraging Hong Kong's unique advantages and abundant resources, facilitating their expansion into both Hong Kong and Mainland markets. It promotes international technology transfer and commercialisation, building bridges to foster closer ties between the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems in Hong Kong and worldwide. This initiative will not only unleash global innovation potential but also infuse new vitality into Hong Kong's I&T development.

HK Tech 300 International Competition will collaborate with universities, industry partners and incubators. Each of the top 10 winning start-ups will receive up to HK\$1 million in Angel Fund investment.

Support from HK Tech 300

- **Business Matching:** Business matching services in Hong Kong and mainland China, especially in the Greater Bay Area
- **Co-investment:** Further investment opportunities from HK Tech 300 co-investors
- Local Support: Local support from the HK Tech 300 Professional Services Partners
- **Coaching:** Opportunity to further enhance the start-up's technology with the help of CityUHK faculty members
- Facilities: Use of co-working space on the CityUHK campus and in Mainland Research Institutes

Partners

- Universities
 - Brunei: Universiti Brunei Darussalam
 - Hungary: Budapest University of Technology and Economics
 - o Indonesia: Universitas Gadjah Mada; Petra Christian University



- o Kazakhstan: Satbayev University
- o Malaysia: Universiti Malaya; Universiti Putra Malaysia
- Thailand: Chulalongkorn School of Integrated Innovation
- Turkey: Istanbul Bilgi University
- Vietnam: Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City; VinUniversity
- Strategic Partner, Chambers, and incubators
 - Federation of Hong Kong Industries (Hong Kong)
 - Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (Malaysia)
 - o Malaysia Guangdong Chamber of Investment Promotion
 - Selangor Information Technology and Digital Economy Corporation (Malaysia)
 - Sunwah Innovation Centre (Vietnam)

Eligibility

- Selection/nomination by the Partners
- Tech ventures less than five years old in the following categories:
 - Biotech & Health
 - Fintech
 - Advanced Tech & ESG
 - ICT & AI
- Utilising CityUHK patented technology to develop their tech products or services

Judging Criteria

- Innovation and technology: Innovative and technology-driven businesses that have commercial viability and a sustainable competitive advantage
- Market Potential: Market size and growth, particularly the target market segment
- Team Background: Experience and/or capability of the company and its team to lead the company to long-term success
- Impact: Social and community impact of the company's business and innovation

Results Announcement – Q4 of 2025

For details about HK Tech 300 and the competition, please visit: <u>https://www.cityu.edu.hk/hktech300/</u>