



27 November 2024

HKHS and Cyberport Continue to Nurture Start-ups for Advancing PropTech Development

The Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) and Cyberport celebrated the achievements of 13 start-ups, who are the inaugural cohort joining the Hong Kong's first PropTech co-working space "Smart-Space PropTech" established jointly by HKHS and Cyberport, after 18 months of operations of the co-working space. Various innovative PropTech products and solutions have been developed successfully. At the celebration ceremony, HKHS and Cyberport also welcomed a new cohort of another 14 start-ups to commence the second phase of the Proof-of-Concept (PoC) Programme at the co-working space. The officiating guests of the ceremony were HKHS Chairman Prof Ling Kar-kan and Cyberport Chairman Simon Chan. Other guests included HKHS Chief Executive Officer James Chan, Cyberport Chief Executive Officer Dr Rocky Cheng, Cyberport Chief Public Mission Officer Ir Eric Chan, and representatives of the start-ups.

HKHS Chairman Ling Kar-kan said, "As a 'housing laboratory', the Housing Society has always been bold in pioneering new initiatives. The fruitful accomplishment of the 13 start-ups of the PropTech PoC Programme marks a solid and good beginning for the PropTech co-working space and contributed to the Northern Metropolis's development as a new engine for driving the innovation and technology industry. By funding and incubating promising local start-ups, HKHS facilitates the development of innovative PropTech solutions leveraging advanced technologies such as the Internet of Things, Big Data, and Artificial Intelligence, fostering a win-win collaboration among HKHS, industry stakeholders and the community. Some of these innovative solutions, such as tools for enhancing construction safety and detecting building facade deterioration, have been adopted by HKHS to address operational challenges. I look forward to seeing the achievements of the second cohort in 18 months, driving further momentum in making Hong Kong a smart city."

Mr Simon Chan, Chairman of Cyberport, said, "Cyberport is delighted to see the fruitful results of the PropTech PoC Programme jointly organised with HKHS. Through the 18-month programme, the first cohort of 13 start-ups have secured funding to complete their PoC efforts, using opportunities to demonstrate and apply their solutions to HKHS properties on-site, as well as exchange views with industry leaders through various activities organised by Cyberport, thereby leading the industry in adopting technological advances. With the arrival of a new cohort of 14 start-ups, they will focus on developing solutions related to property management issues such as

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combating tenancy abuse, enhancing security guards' work efficiency, enhancing smart carpark operations and management, as well as improving waste recycling, which will help drive the innovation and technology (I&T) ecosystem in the Northern Metropolis and help develop Hong Kong into a smart city."

At the ceremony, representatives of the start-ups participating in the first cohort shared their experiences and achievements acquired from more than 10 field trials conducted in HKHS's rental housing estates over the past year and a half. They also shared insights gained through Cyberport's entrepreneurial guidance under the programme. By participating in various activities including workshops, business matching, and industry exchanges, the start-ups are empowered to accelerate business growth, expand market reach, and unlock new opportunities for collaboration.

Following the successful completion of the first phase, the second phase gets off the ground thereupon. The new cohort of 14 PropTech start-ups will focus on PropTech products and innovations related to property management, that cover combating tenancy abuse, enhancing efficiency of security work, facilitating smart carpark management, improving waste recycling, and more, over the next 18 months.

The collaboration between HKHS and Cyberport was launched in October 2022 and set for five years, aiming to drive PropTech development. HKHS provides funding support to the start-ups and offers mentorship by professional staff on knowledge and experience relevant to housing development and management. The start-ups are given opportunities to conduct field trials at HKHS rental estates, construction sites and some properties managed by HKHS for PoC validation. Cyberport provides entrepreneurial guidance and organises activities to inspire start-ups to develop and implement PropTech-related products and solutions in an effort to drive digital transformation in the industry and attract young people to the I&T sector for building a smart city. The Smart-Space PropTech occupies two floors with a total usable area of 8,000 square feet, located inside the new regional office of HKHS in Fanling. It has adopted innovative technological products developed by Cyberport start-ups including office robots and smartphone booths, showcasing the application and integration of smart technology.

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Media enquiries:

Hong Kong Housing Society

Catherine Chui Assistant General Manager (Public Affairs)

Tel: 2839 7892

Natalie Shiu Manager (Public Affairs)

Tel: 2839 7893

Cyberport

Sana Fong

Manager - PR and Communications

Tel: 3460 2703

For high-resolution photos, please download via this <u>link</u>.





Photo:



HKHS Chairman Ling Kar-Kan said the Smart-Space PropTech created a win-win situation for HKHS, the start-ups and the industry. He also revealed that one of the technologies, an AI receptionist, would be applied at Sierra Life, the commercial complex of the Dedicated Rehousing Estate on Pak Wo Road in Fanling, for giving the visitors an innovative and quality experience.



Mr Simon Chan, Chairman of Cyberport, said, "The PropTech-related Proof-of-Concept programme co-organised by HKHS and Cyberport allows selected start-ups to interact with industry leaders through various activities organised by Cyberport, leading to a wider adoption of technology in the industry."



The 13 start-ups participating in the first phase of the PropTech Proof-of-Concept Programme celebrated their achievements with the management of HKHS and Cyberport.

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The second cohort of 14 start-ups will focus on developing PropTech products and innovative solutions related to property management in the coming 18 months.



The participating start-ups of the first and second cohort of the PropTech Proof-of-Concept Programme took a group picture with the management of HKHS and Cyberport at the ceremony.



At the ceremony, representatives of the start-ups participating in the first cohort shared their experiences and achievements acquired over the past year and a half.

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Appendix 1:

Start-ups participating in the first phase of the PropTech PoC Programme

	Company Name	Focus Area
1	AESIR Limited	Elderly Services
2	Alpha AI Technology Limited	External Wall Maintenance and Repair
3	Ambit Geospatial Solution Limited	External Wall Maintenance and Repair
4	Blue Sky Energy Technology Ltd	Intelligent and Green Building Management
5	Defypay Limited	Building Materials Transportation and Monitoring
6	Filix Medtech Limited	Building Materials Transportation and Monitoring
7	Innocorn Technology Limited	Intelligent and Green Building Management
8	Papabo Limited	External Wall Maintenance
9	R2C2 Limited	Construction Site Safety
10	SmartAge Intelligence Limited	Elderly Services
11	Softhard.IO Limited	Construction Site Safety
12	Starnet AI Limited	Construction Site Safety
13	Team Concepts Limited	Construction Site Safety

Appendix 2:

Start-ups participating in the second phase of the PropTech PoC Programme

	Company Name	Focus Area
1	Arrogate Maker Limited	Improving Waste Recycling
2	Bitlliant Limited	Combat Tenancy Abuse
3	Dayta AI	Others (Video Analysis of Artificial Intelligence in
		Offline Space)
4	Ergatian Limited	Others (Elevator Current Recovery System)
5	Fase Technology Group Limited	Smart Carpark Operation
6	Graphite Venture Limited	Smart Carpark Operation
7	GrinBean Hong Kong Limited	Improving Waste Recycling
8	Mayfair Enterprises Limited	Enhance security guards' work efficiency
9	oneCHARGE Solutions Limited	Smart Carpark Operation
10	R2C2 Limited	Enhance security guards' work efficiency
11	RightPick Technology Limited	Combat Tenancy Abuse
12	Skybotics Technology Limited	Enhance External Wall Cleaning Services
13	UrbanChain Group Limited	Smart Carpark Operation
14	Wonderbricks Limited	Enhance security guards' work efficiency