



新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

TO BUSINESS EDITOR
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO SHOWCASE NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR INDUSTRIES

The latest and hottest in robotics, computer-aided design (CAD), computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) and artificial intelligence will be showcased next week at an international conference at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Titled "Technology for the 21st Century", the *Fourth International Conference on Data and Knowledge Systems for Manufacturing and Engineering* is expected to gather 200 leading researchers and practising engineers from nearly 20 countries.

Previously held in the United States and Europe, the biennial Conference will take place in Asia for the first time.

The 120 presentations at the three-day Conference -- starting May 2 (Monday) -- will focus on a wide range of topics including robotics; expert systems (computer programmes designed to emulate human expertise) for decision-making; technologies to improve product design, quality control and reduce industrial waste; and advanced applications in ship-building, furniture production, opticals manufacturing, injection moulding and food production.

Keynote speakers include the President of the influential **Industrial Technology Research Institute** in Taiwan, **Dr. Chintay Shih**; eminent industrialist and Legislative Councillor, **Mr. James P.C. Tien**; and Vice-President, Manufacturing & Development/Industries, of **IBM Asia Pacific Service Corporation** in Japan, **Mr. Mike Monachino**.

Dr. Shih will speak on the status of automation technology in Taiwan and its future development, while Mr. Tien will discuss the development of technology-intensive industries in Hong Kong. Mr. Monachino will highlight the future direction of engineering design.

"Technology is the lifeblood of industries and the key to continued economic prosperity. The race to produce quality goods at lower prices through technological innovations will only intensify as competition in the world market heats up," said Prof Vincent Y S Lum, General Chairman of the Conference and Head of Department of Systems Engineering of the Chinese University.

"By bring this Conference to the region and Hong Kong, it is hoped that the exchange of ideas and information will help to inspire more applications of real benefits to our manufacturers," he said.

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Open to the public -- in particular engineers, manufacturers and related professionals -
- the Conference will be held at the Ho Sin Hang Engineering Building of the Chinese University.

The Opening Ceremony on May 2 (Monday) at 10:30 a.m. will be officiated by Deputy Director of the Industry Department of the Hong Kong Government, Mr Dominic Law; Deputy Head of the Department of Education, Science and Technology of Xinhua News Agency (Hong Kong Branch), Mr. Tsoi Pui-Yuen; and Vice-Chancellor of the Chinese University, Prof. Charles K Kao.

Hosted by the Chinese University, the Conference is sponsored by the University of Hong Kong, the University of Science and Technology, the Hong Kong Computer Society and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Hong Kong Section.

Parties interested in joining the conference should pre-register with the Chinese University's Department of Systems Engineering (tel 609 8313 or fax 603 5505).

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Note to Editor:

You are cordially invited to send a representative to cover the conference. For further information, please refer to the attached schedule or contact Kathy Hui (609 8894) or Shirley Kwok (609 8897) of the University's Information and Public Relations Office.