

Press Release

For Immediate Release

**HKSTP and HSBC Launch New Cohort of SPRINTER 2
to Foster Innovation Among Logistics and Buildings Sectors**

Connect SMEs to a window of new opportunities in smart city drive

(Hong Kong, 17 August 2021) – Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) and HSBC continued their strategic partnership in the [SPRINTER 2](#) programme, launching a new cohort that focuses on accelerating innovation among small businesses and mid-cap corporates in Hong Kong’s logistics, buildings and related services.

This comes at a time when Hong Kong’s logistics and buildings sectors face new opportunities in transition to more sustainable business practices, supporting the smart city drive in Hong Kong and rapid developments in the Greater Bay Area (GBA). Companies invited to apply include those in freight, transportation, construction, real estate and property management.

The three-stage programme, which lasts for a year, comprises a process of discovery where corporates will have the opportunities to receive training and upskilling, match with tech ventures, and co-create tailored business solutions with tech ventures. At the end of the programme, corporates will be better placed to leverage innovation and technology (I&T) to enhance competitiveness and capture new growth opportunities.

Aldous Mak, Chief Financial Officer of HKSTP, said: “As the Hong Kong economy gears up for growth, new opportunities are emerging particularly in the GBA. The urban development sector is in a prime position to harness technology to capitalise on the region’s potentials and drive smart city development. We have been collaborating closely with HSBC to give thriving corporates a head start to revitalise their businesses. SPRINTER 2 will provide them with the skills, connections and tools they need to succeed.”

Christina Ong, Head of Business Banking, Commercial Banking, Hong Kong of HSBC, said: “Sustainability and innovation have become a key agenda for businesses of all sizes in Hong Kong. SPRINTER 2 is a comprehensive programme that empowers more companies, in particular SMEs, with the necessary knowledge and skills in transforming their operation in a sustainable manner. As a connector for the business community, we are pleased to deepen our collaboration with our long-term partner, HKSTP, in helping more sectors in Hong Kong work towards a more resilient future through the new cohort.”

The announcement builds upon the success of SPRINTER 2’s first cohort, which brought more than 50 manufacturing SMEs in Hong Kong together with tech start-ups to accelerate innovation in a traditional sector. The first cohort, launched in September 2020, has completed the discovery, matching, and co-creation stages.

SPRINTER 2 Cohort 2 is now open and welcomes small businesses and mid-cap corporates operating in either logistics or buildings sectors. The deadline for application is 30 September 2021. Companies can apply here: <http://www.sprinter.hk/>.



Photo 1: Mr Aldous Mak, Chief Financial Officer, HKSTP (left) and Ms Christina Ong, Head of Business Banking, Commercial Banking, Hong Kong, HSBC (right) announced the launch of a new cohort of SPRINTER 2, which focuses on accelerating innovation among small businesses and mid-cap corporates in Hong Kong’s logistics, buildings and related services.



Photo 2: Mr Antony Au, Director, MIS, Hayco Manufacturing Limited (first from the left) and Mr Edmond Yau, Founder & CEO, Koln 3D Technology (Medical) Limited (first from the right) shared their co-creation journeys in the first cohort of SPRINTER 2.

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About Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation

Comprising Science Park, InnoCentre and Industrial Estates, Hong Kong Science & Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) is a statutory body dedicated to building a vibrant innovation and technology ecosystem to connect stakeholders, nurture technology talents, facilitate collaboration, and catalyse innovations to deliver social and economic benefits to Hong Kong and the region.

Established in May 2001, HKSTP has been driving the development of Hong Kong into a regional hub for innovation and growth in several focused clusters including Electronics, Information & Communications Technology, Green Technology, Biomedical Technology, Materials and Precision Engineering. We enable science and technology companies to nurture ideas, innovate and grow, supported by our R&D facilities, infrastructure, and market-led laboratories and technical centres with professional support services. We also offer value added services and comprehensive incubation programmes for technology start-ups to accelerate their growth.

Technology businesses benefit from our specialised services and infrastructure at Science Park for applied research and product development; enterprises can find creative design support at InnoCentre; while skill-intensive businesses are served by our three industrial estates at Tai Po, Tseung Kwan O and Yuen Long. More information about HKSTP is available at www.hkstp.org.

About The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited is the founding member of the HSBC Group. HSBC serves customers worldwide from offices in 64 countries and territories in its geographical regions: Europe, Asia, North America, Latin America, and Middle East and North Africa. With assets of \$2,976bn at 30 June 2021, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.