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Observer

More International Sci-tech Organizations Choose China

By Staff Reporters

China's first Cluster for Headquarters of International Science and Technology Organizations recently launched the construction of a functional expansion zone at the Donghu International Center in Chaoyang district, Beijing.

In the three years since its establishment in 2023, the cluster has attracted 16 international sci-tech organizations. Beijing is now home to 55 international sci-tech organizations, the most in China.

In April, Shanghai introduced a global science and technology partnership plan, advancing the introduction and cultivation of international sci-tech organizations.

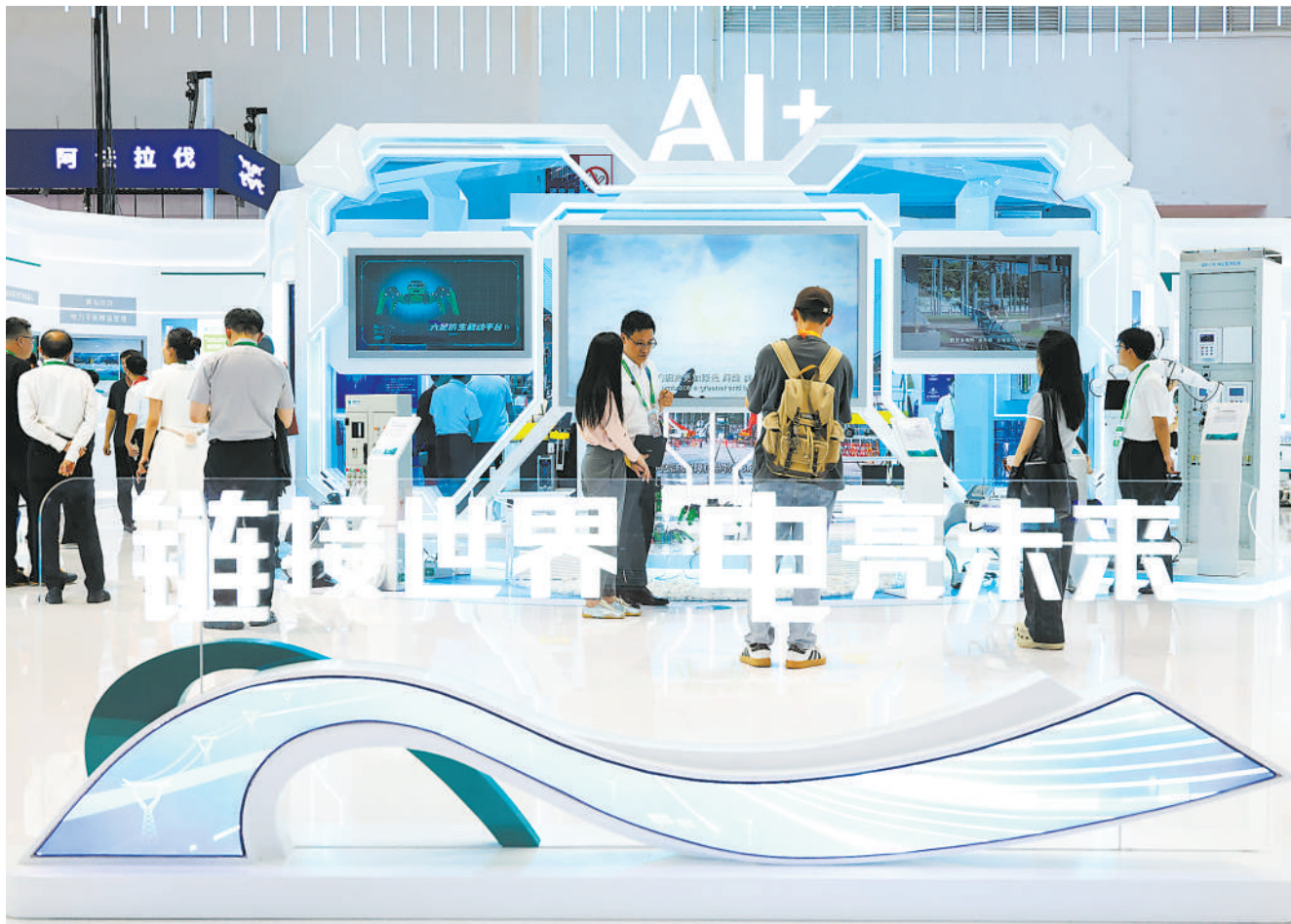
In May, the International Society of Sensing Technology (ISST) was inaugurated in Chengdu in southwest Sichuan province.

This is only a glimpse of a trend: An increasing number of international sci-tech organizations are choosing to set up their global headquarters or core secretariats in China, where they deeply interact with the local R&D chains, large-scale scientific facilities and regional innovation systems.

The reason behind this phenomenon is that China has a huge number of application scenarios, complete industrial chain support and real-world proving ground for sci-tech innovation, according to Li Fei, associate researcher at the Institute of China's Science, Technology and Education Policy, Zhejiang University.

This was echoed by Yu Xiaozhou, chair of the Space University Administrative Committee of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) and a professor at Dalian University of Technology.

China has diversified geological scenarios, large volumes of industry operation data and long-term observation data. "This real-world support serves as an indispensable practical platform for achieving theoretical breakthroughs and technological advancements in cutting-edge basic research worldwide. It is also the fundamental reason why the IAF places such high value on China and is willing to engage in global co-operation with us," Yu said. *See page 3*



People visit the "Clean Energy" exhibition area during the Fourth China International Supply Chain Expo in Beijing, June 22, 2026. Themed "Connecting the World for a Shared Future," the expo opened that day. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

STI Frontier

Sci-tech Empowers Intelligent Supply Chains

Edited by WANG Xiaoxia

The Fourth China International Supply Chain Expo (CISCE), held in Beijing from June 22 to 26, was themed "Connecting the World for a Shared Future."

In keeping with the theme, the expo called on all countries to uphold true multilateralism and advance integrated development so that scientific and technological innovation could deliver benefits to more people worldwide.

Intelligent upgrading

Technological tools such as AI models are accelerating the upgrading of global supply chains. This year's Digital Technology Chain exhibition area highlighted an upgrade from digital construction to in-depth AI empowerment for the entire industrial chain.

A dedicated AI Zone was set up for

the first time, where leading companies and partners showcased breakthroughs in intelligent chips, large language models and smart devices. It was systematically built along the industrial evolution path of "data and perception — computing power and algorithms — applications and solutions," presenting the entire ecological chain of AI from data collection and intelligent computing to application scenarios.

The exhibitors included leading AI enterprises from both China and abroad, such as NVIDIA, Intel, Qualcomm, Alibaba, Apple and Medtronic. NVIDIA presented its "five-layer" ecosystem of the AI industry, while Apple, in collaboration with three Chinese supply chain enterprises, showcased the latest achievements in intelligent and green manufacturing.

Medtronic brings industry practices and innovative achievements in empowering the medical chain with AI. The AI assistant for interventional heart valve replacement surgery developed by the enterprise in collaboration with its Chinese partner aims to simulate complex surgical procedures in advance, predict intraoperative risks, and customize individualized treatment plans. This helps to improve the efficiency of high-difficulty interventional surgeries.

Turning new quality productive forces into tangible results

More than 160 new products, technologies, services and scenarios were launched and exhibited for the first time, promoting the transformation of new quality productive forces into tangible industrial results.

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Agri-tech Innovation Secures Grain Supplies

By Staff Reporters

Technological innovation is transforming China's entire food production chain. Smart irrigation districts in the Sanjiang Plain, intelligent wheat fields in the North China Plain, and breakthroughs in superior seeds in the Central Plains are just some examples of a sweeping farming revolution.

By developing new quality productive forces, the ongoing tech innovation ensures the sustainability of China's granary along with a more stable and higher-quality food supply.

Smart irrigation

Rice in the Sanjiang Plain is currently entering its critical tillering stage, dramatically increasing the demand on field irrigation.

The Qinglongshan Irrigation District there now uses a digital twin system with real-time data on water levels, soil moisture and weather. Adopting intelligent algorithms, it precisely simulates the entire water conveyance process, and facilitates smart irrigation across thousands of kilometers.

"Previously, manual patrols across the entire district were inefficient, had many blind spots, and struggled with emergencies. Now, with drones and smart devices, we can complete a full-area inspection in one day. Data triggers real-time alerts, we identify and handle problems immediately, and management efficiency has doubled," said Liu Xiaoliang, an employee of Beidahuang Heilongjiang Jiansanjiang Water Investment Co., Ltd.

The practical application of smart

water management has not only improved district management but also brought tangible "tech-driven farming" benefits to farmers.

For farmer Sun Zhenlei, a smartphone app has transformed irrigation. "Before, I ran back and forth to open gates. Now I control them remotely. It saves time and keeps water levels consistent," he said. Smart irrigation has moved farming from "relying on experience" to "relying on data."

Reducing harvest losses

Recently, in the wheat fields of Xizheng village, Zhao county, Hebei province, five new wheat combine harvesters equipped with intelligent grain loss detection and calibration systems worked through the farmland.

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International Cooperation

Summer Davos Discusses Innovation at Scale in China

By Staff Reporters

The 2026 Summer Davos forum, officially known as the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting of the New Champions, was held in Dalian, Liaoning province in north-east China, with the theme "Innovating at Scale."

Against a backdrop of geopolitical tensions, economic uncertainty and rapid technological transformation, it brought together more than 1,700 representatives from business, government, academia and civil society, along with leaders of fast-growing enterprises, to explore practical solutions for sustaining growth and fostering global cooperation.

Commitment to openness

The Chinese officials attending the forum underscored the country's commitment to contributing to global economic growth through innovation, green development and opening up. They also reiterated support for an inclusive form of economic globalization that delivers benefits more broadly.

Elizabeth Thurbon, professor of international political economy at the University of New South Wales, Australia, said China's rise has been inseparable from decades of engagement with the global economy.

China's swift economic development was not achieved through isolation or zero-sum thinking. It was built on opening up, attracting investment, participating in global markets and creating opportunities for hundreds of millions of people, Thurbon added.

A uniquely critical market

As the global economy faces increasing fragmentation, many participants emphasized the importance of maintaining open markets and deepening international collaboration.

Pontus Erntell, who oversees IKEA's operations in China, described the country as a strategic market where the Swedish home-furnishing giant has built a strong presence over many years.

"China is one of very few countries outside of Sweden where we have all parts of the value chain. It is a market where we truly want to develop, learn and collaborate with local partners," he said.

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WEEKLY REVIEW

China Reclaims Supercomputing Crown

China's domestically developed "LineShine" supercomputer ranked first on the global TOP500 list with a sustained double-precision performance of 2.198EFlops, according to the ISC 2026 conference held in Hamburg, Germany, on June 23.

China's 1st English-language Data Journal Unveiled

The inaugural issue of China's first English-language data journal, *Data Express*, was launched on June 23. The move aims to establish a "China hub" for global scientific data exchange and tackle the growing challenge of making high-value research data findable, shareable and reusable, according to the Chinese Academy of Sciences, which oversees the journal.

SpaceX Launches Starfall Demo Mission to Test New Re-entry Vehicle

U.S. space company SpaceX launched its Starfall Demo mission on June 23, marking the debut of a new uncrewed reentry vehicle aimed at enabling future commercial in-space manufacturing and rapid cargo delivery through space. The mission lifted off aboard a Falcon 9 rocket in Florida.

AI-powered Method Developed to Improve Cancer MRI Scans

Researchers have developed an innovative AI-powered method to make cancer Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scans faster and more accurate, the Israel Institute of Technology said in a statement on June 22. The new technology combines AI with advanced mathematical models to improve dynamic MRI scans.

New Graphic



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