

**The HKIE Electronics Division**  
**Hong Kong Electronics Symposium 2023**  
***“Embracing the Innovation and Technology Ecosystem”***  
**Opening Address by President Ir Aaron BOK Kwok Ming**  
Monday, 24 April 2023

Ms Lillian Cheong, Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry,  
Ir C K LEE, Chairman of Electronics Division,  
Ir Dr Y H SHUM, Chairman of the Organising Committee,  
Distinguish Guests, Fellow Members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning. It gives me great pleasure to join you today and give the Opening Address at the Hong Kong Electronics Symposium 2023. First, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to all participants, especially distinguished speakers from the industry and government for taking part in this annual flagship event organised by the Electronics Division of the HKIE.

During the past 3 years under the COVID-19, the whole world has been experiencing significant challenges in industries and economies, for example significant slowdown in global trade as a result of the impacted supply chains and manpower shortages, immense strain on health systems all over the world, etc. Hong Kong has no exception, we faced similar challenges in our economy and society. During that pandemic period, all of us witnessed the innovation and technology (I&T) can help in some social and business activities, for example:

- (a) Online viewing of the property, online sales / rent agreement with the support of VR/AR
- (b) Use of serving robots in hospital / hotel / fast food delivery and disinfection
- (c) Use of Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) to build Mobile cabin hospitals in a very short period of time
- (d) Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and big data in various areas like medical diagnosis, video analytics, facility management
- (e) Online teaching and learning, virtual exchange, Metaverse event etc.

All of these applications witnessed the potential and usefulness of I&T in keeping sustainable development under crises. Without a doubt, I&T has proven a great potential to lead people in the World moving forward to realise future life in a smart city.

The Chief Executive of the HKSAR sets out his plans on how to reinforce traditional advantages and develop emerging industries in his first Policy Address on 19 October 2022. I trust that our Secretary Sundong may shed more light on this front by telling more his Innovation & Technology Blueprint unveiled last year. Among these, I am particularly impressed by the initiatives on attracting high-potential I&T enterprises to set up operations in Hong Kong; setting up "Research, Academic and Industry Sectors One-plus Scheme" to support the commercialisation of R&D outcomes by university research teams; enhancing existing technology talent schemes and build more accommodation facilities for I&T talents; and pressing ahead with the construction of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Lok Ma Chau Loop and the development of San Tin Technopole. All these would provide huge opportunities to our I&T engineers and today's engineering students.

Apart from pushing forward the mega-projects and fast-tracking the delivery of infrastructures, land, and housing, the Government shows determination to invest heavily in the city's development as a Technology and Innovations Hub as unveiled in the above Blueprint. As Hong Kong enters this new growth era, it will need capable and dedicated engineers more than ever. To realise the benefits brought about by I&T, human resource plays a key and important role. Nurturing our future engineers on this front thus become more imminent and essential. This is the reason why I have chosen "***WE ARE PROUD TO BE ENGINEERS***" as my Presidential Theme for this Session. By showcasing our pride in our profession, we will remind the public, especially the non-engineering community including our parents, teachers and students, of our contribution to Hong Kong. But this important mission requires everybody's effort in contributing to the "Spirit Bomb" on help nurturing our successors. Please help showcase the good work of Engineers throughout your network of friends and relatives, especially teachers and

those having children about your career; also reconnect with your secondary school and see if we can support their STEAM programmes. We need each of you to help. Your life experience is our greatest selling point and your pride in the profession is worth more than a thousand words when it comes to telling a young person what it means to be an engineer.

In today's Symposium, we should learn how electronic engineering enables our city to head toward the theme of this Symposium - "***Embracing the Innovation & Technology Ecosystem***". We have presentations and panel discussions to share the views of speakers on the drive required to accomplish this theme. With the wider adoption of AI technology and mobile IoT, we can now enjoy great flexibility and convenience in our new city lifestyle. Wireless connectivity is critical to the cost-effective deployment of thousands of IoT nodes. It is also an appropriate time to look at Cybersecurity in Cloud-based applications to explore its important role in the I&T Ecosystem. Innovation and Technology will be indispensable in building a new and smarter city during and after the pandemic. With ability comes responsibility, as an engineer we are confident that we can contribute to the benefit of society with what we have learned and gained.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to the Electronics Division for hosting today's Symposium. It provides an excellent platform for the Government, Academics, Industry experts, and professionals in their views to exchange and discuss the ecosystem on Innovation & Technology development. I wish the Symposium another year of great success and all participants a most inspiring and fruitful experience.

Thank you!

Ir Aaron BOK Kwok-ming  
President  
The HKIE