

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HKRITA Officially Opens Shanghai Representative Office
Promoting Shanghai-Hong Kong Collaboration in Textile Innovation and
Supporting Sustainable Industry Development

Shanghai, 28 August 2026 – Coinciding with the 20th anniversary of the Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA), the institute today hosted the HKRITA Shanghai Representative Office Opening Ceremony. The new office marks HKRITA's official presence in Shanghai, strengthening ties with the Yangtze River Delta's innovation ecosystem and advancing Shanghai-Hong Kong collaboration in textile innovation.

The opening ceremony brought together representatives from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai of the HKSAR Government (SHETO), officials from Pudong New Area, industry leaders from the Yangtze River Delta Region, research experts and business partners. The office will collaborate across industry, research and innovation in Shanghai and Hong Kong, supporting the nation's dual-carbon goals and the high-quality development of the textile industry.

Funded by the Innovation and Technology Commission of the HKSAR Government and hosted by The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, HKRITA has spent the past 20 years advancing research and development, technology transfer and the commercialisation of research outcomes in the textiles and apparel industry. Through the connection with the Government-Industry-Academia-Research-Investment Network in Chinese Mainland and internationally, HKRITA promotes innovation in green and low-carbon technologies, smart manufacturing and the circular economy. To further strengthen Shanghai-Hong Kong innovation collaboration, HKRITA established the Green Innotextile Base, while the Shanghai Representative Office will serve as a bridge between Hong Kong's research strengths and the industrial and innovation resources of the Yangtze River Delta, fostering collaboration and accelerating technology adoption.

Hong Kong and the Yangtze River Delta Region offer complementary strengths in innovation and technology development. With a global outlook, world-class applied research and development capabilities, and a robust intellectual property protection regime, Hong Kong complements the Yangtze River Delta's comprehensive textile and apparel supply chain, advanced manufacturing capabilities and vast market opportunities. The Shanghai Representative Office will strengthen links between Hong Kong's research capabilities and Chinese Mainland's industrial advantages, focusing on sustainability, circular economy

initiatives and smart manufacturing to accelerate the commercialisation and adoption of innovative technologies.

Hong Kong and Shanghai offer complementary strengths in technology innovation. With a global outlook, world-class applied research and development capabilities, and a strong intellectual property protection regime, Hong Kong complements the Yangtze River Delta's well-established textile and apparel industry, advanced manufacturing capabilities and vast market opportunities. The Shanghai Representative Office will serve as a bridge between Hong Kong's research strengths and Chinese Mainland's industrial resources, focusing on green and low-carbon development, the circular economy and smart manufacturing, while accelerating the commercialisation and wider adoption of innovation and research outcomes.

Mr Ivan Lee, Commissioner for Innovation and Technology, extended his warmest congratulations on the establishment of the Shanghai Representative Office of the Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA). He said, "The representative office marks a milestone for the institute in deepening innovation and technology (I&T) collaboration in the Yangtze River Delta. It will further connect Hong Kong's scientific research with the industrial resources in the Chinese Mainland, showcasing the unique advantages of Hong Kong's I&T ecosystem. Through commercialisation of R&D outcomes, the office is set to facilitate HKRITA and the Hong Kong industry players to expand into the Chinese Mainland and other markets, promoting textile innovation and sustainable development."

Speaking at the ceremony, Ms Teresa Yang, Chairman of HKRITA, said, "As HKRITA celebrates the 20th anniversary, the inauguration of the Shanghai Representative Office marks a significant milestone in the Centre's development. The office strengthens ties with the Yangtze River Delta's industrial ecosystem and advances Shanghai-Hong Kong innovation collaboration. As a platform for industry-research cooperation, we hope to drive sustainable development and enhance the competitiveness of the textile industry."

Mr Jake Koh, Chief Executive Officer of HKRITA, added, "Over the past two decades, we have learned that successful innovation must extend beyond the laboratory and into industrial settings to address the sector's most pressing challenges. The Shanghai Representative Office will strengthen collaboration between Shanghai and Hong Kong, facilitate the translation of research into practical applications, and support the commercialisation and industrial adoption of innovative technologies."

Looking ahead, the HKRITA Shanghai Representative Office will continue to serve as a bridge for technology innovation and collaboration in the textile industry between Shanghai and Hong Kong, connecting research, industry and market resources to promote technology transfer, commercialisation and industry collaboration. In alignment with the nation's 15th

Five-Year Plan, it will support industry upgrading and sustainable development, while fostering closer innovation and industrial cooperation between Shanghai and Hong Kong.

Photos



Guests officiate at the ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the official opening of HKRITA Shanghai Representative Office.

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Line-up (From left to right): Mr Geng Zhongwei, Chairman of Pudong New Force Incubator; Mr LYU Jun, Director General of Industry Development and Promotion Center of Shanghai Pudong New Area; Mr Ma Ming Leong, Head, Commercial Relations Division of SHETO; Ms Teresa Yang, Chairman of HKRITA; Mr Jake Koh, Chief Executive Officer of HKRITA; Mr Chu Feng, General Manager and Deputy Party Committee Secretary of Shanghai Pudong Development (Group) Co., Ltd; Mr Zhu Junchao, Deputy Director of the Investment Promotion Service Center of Shanghai Pudong New Area; Mr Chan Yi Ngok, Executive Director of Pudong-Hong Kong Institute for Technology Transfer and Innovation.



Ms Lillian Cheong, Under Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, delivered a pre-recorded congratulatory video for the opening ceremony of the HKRITA Shanghai Representative Office. Highlighted the complementary strengths of Hong Kong and the Yangtze River Delta, and expressed her hope that HKRITA will continue to strengthen Shanghai-Hong Kong collaboration, and fostering the flourishing development of textile technology innovation and exploring new opportunities for high-quality industrial development.

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About The Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA)

Established in 2006, HKRITA is funded by the Innovation and Technology Commission of the HKSAR Government and is hosted by The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. HKRITA contributes to the competitiveness of the textile and apparel industry by providing one-stop services in applied research, technology transfer and commercialisation. HKRITA also plays a vital and expanding role in driving sustainable improvements in the industry and thus bringing benefits to society as a whole.

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