

Nantong report

There are 375 unicorn enterprises in China in 2023

Two Nantong enterprises shortlisted

By Wang Weili

Recently, Great Wall Strategy Consultants published *China Unicorn Enterprise Research Report 2024*. There are 375 unicorn enterprises in China in 2023. Thousand Oaks Biologics(Nantong) Co., Ltd. and ARS Electronics Co., Ltd. in Nantong were shortlisted.

Unicorn enterprises are led by technological innovation, and driven by high-level talents and high-tier capital. They pioneer new fields and new race tracks, and are typical representatives of new forms of

productive forces.

Thousand Oak Biologics(Nantong) Co., Ltd. focuses on CDMO in the field of macromolecular proteins. It provides one-stop CMC work from candidate molecules to clinical application and commercial production. ARS Electronics Co., Ltd. works on research, development and sale of power management integrated circuits. It has research and development centers in Zhangjiang, Shanghai, Silicon Valley, the United States and Hanoi, Vietnam, with nearly one hundred circuit research and development designers.

Another project of SFS Group from Switzerland settled in Nantong

By Li Tong

On 14th June, the Unisteel automobile braking system core components project invested by SFS Group from Switzerland settled in Suxitong Science and Technology Industrial Park.

The total investment of the project is 100 million U.S. dollars. It is a new production line in Nantong that the Swiss SFS Group has further invested after the completion of the first and second phases of the project. The major product is ball screw, the core component of automobile braking system.

SFS Group from Switzerland is

a globally famous precision parts manufacturer. Since it invested and planned in Nantong in 2017, it has repeatedly increased investment and expanded production for several times. The scale of the Nantong company has been expanding. It has become the largest manufacturing base of the group in the world.

Jens Breu, CEO of SFS Group, said that the group was very optimistic about the development prospects of Nantong, would continue to work in Nantong, expand investment and optimize its industrial layout, to promote more companies in the upstream and downstream of the industrial chain to settle and invest.

Syngenta Nantong new plant protection preparation production base project laid foundation stone

By Li Tong

On 20th June, the foundation stone laying ceremony of Syngenta Nantong new plant protection preparation production base project was held in Nantong Economic & Technological Development Area. The project was signed in February this year.

The ‘new plant protection preparation production base project’ was invested and built by Syngenta (China) Investment Co., Ltd. The total investment is 112 million U.S. dollars. It mainly produces plant protection products such as plant growth regulator and natural biological activator.

As a multinational enterprise

which focuses on agricultural science and technology, Syngenta Group has the world's top seed biotechnology and breeding technology. In 1999, Syngenta Group invested in Nantong, and increased investment several times after that. Up to now, it has been rooted in Nantong for 25 years. At present the pharmaceutical preparation business of the group ranks the first in China, occupying 17.5% of the market. The Nantong plant has become the most important production base of pharmaceutical preparation business of Syngenta Group. It has developed a series of global leading, green and efficient plant protection products successfully, and contributed more than 60% of the product delivery.



Boom lifting test

On 9th June, the Huaxia Financial Leasing 5000 ton self-propelled fully revolving crane vessel ‘Hua Xia Kun Peng 01’ built by Nantong Zhenhua Heavy Equipment Manufacturing Co., Ltd. was conducting the boom lifting test which lasted 15 days.Photo by Xu Congjun

Weghorst, the Dutch substitute center forward of UEFA European Football Championship, defeated Poland

His wife used to study in Nantong

By Shen Liang

On 16th June, in the first round of group D of the European Championship, Weghorst, who came as a substitute in the second half for Netherlands national football team, helped the Netherlands team reverse the situation and defeat Poland with a score of 2:1, and got a good start. What is little known is that Weghorst’s wife Nikki van Esch used to study in a Nantong school.

In 2012, Nikki van Esch and 3 Dutch girls went to Nantong Textile Vocational Technical College (the current Jiangsu College of Engineering and Technology) for exchange. According to the introduction of Hong Ying, who is responsible for international students work of the school, Nikki van Esch studied at Saxion University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands, and her major was textile engineering and management. However, in the Netherlands, they can only



Nikki van Esch (second from right in the back row)

learn the theories of textile, cannot learn and practice in modern textile companies. In 2010, Jiangsu College of Engineering and Technology signed an exchange study agreement for textile major students with Saxion University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands. Under the background, Nikki van Esch came to China, which is thousands of kilometers away

from her hometown, to learn textile knowledge.

‘Later we knew that Nikki van Esch and Weghorst are high school classmates and got to know each other very early,’ Hong Ying said. ‘I hope that Nikki van Esch and Weghorst could have the opportunity to come to Jiangsu College of Engineering and Technology. We also miss that smart and beautiful Dutch girl.’

Briefly

From January to May 2024 The foreign trade import and export of Nantong increased by 5.6%

By Wu Xiaoyun

According to statistics from Nantong Customs, in the first 5 months of the year, the foreign trade import and export of Nantong is 145.68 billion yuan, ranking the 4th in Jiangsu. There is an increase of 5.6%, which accounts for 6.6% of the total import and export of Jiangsu. Among them, the import and export in May is 30.36 billion yuan, with an increase of 13.5%; the export is 20.37 billion yuan, with an increase of 28.1%. The growth rate is 16.9 percentage points higher than the national growth rate, and it is the highest since August 2022.

Direct flight from Nantong to Phnom Penh available now

By Li Hui

At 12 o’ clock on 15th June, Flight KR951 from Phnom Penh to Nantong landed at Nantong Xingdong International Airport smoothly. The airport welcomed the arrival of the A320 plane of Cambodia Airways with a water salute. It marked the official opening of Nantong — Phnom Penh flight.

Operated by Cambodia Airways, the flight will run from 15th June to 26th October with one flight every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. The departure and arrival times of the flight are both during the daytime. Nantong — Phnom Penh flight is the fourth passenger direct flight of Cambodia Airways in East China. It is also the first direct flight of Cambodia Airways in Jiangsu.

Ghanaian woman gave birth at Qidong smoothly

Sent a silk banner to thank the medical workers

By Chen Jun and Li Bo

Recently, Abena, a mother from the Republic of Ghana, delivered her baby smoothly at Qidong Women’s and Children’s Health Hospital. Before leaving the hospital, she sent a silk banner with English words, to thank the medical workers affectionately —“Thank you for your care and dedication. You made our journey into parenthood

special. Your kindness and skill make all the difference.”

Abena, a pregnant mother of three children, is a foreign teacher in an institute in Qidong. Due to racial differences, Abena, who is 167cm tall, weighed more than 250 jin in her late pregnancy. The anaesthesia, operation and postoperative recovery faced many challenges and difficulties. The VIP medical team of obstetrics department of Qi-

dong Women’s and Children’s Health Hospital made personalized surgery and nursing plans for Abena. After the operation, the VIP medical team of the obstetrics department provided meticulous care for Abena.

Before being discharged from the hospital, Abena sent a silk banner with English words with a grateful heart, to thank the medical team affectionately.

