

Nantong report

Ian Spaulding, CEO of LRQA: Work together with Nantong to create a new highland for inspection and certification



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By Wang Weili

‘The government’s strong support for enterprises, the diverse, open and inclusive environment and policy innovation, gave us confidence in LRQA’s operation in Nantong!’ On 24th July, Ian Spaulding, CEO of LRQA, spoke highly of Nantong’s business environment in an exclusive interview with a reporter from Nantong Daily.

Ian Spaulding said that Nantong’s industrial clusters in fields such as high-end manufacturing, green energy and chemical industries provide a broad range of application scenarios for the inspection, testing and certification industries. ‘In particular, the establishment of the Inspection, Testing and Certification Industrial Park in Nantong Economic & Technological Development Area, demonstrated the local government’s predictive layout of quality infrastructure. It is highly consistent with the concept of “risk management and sustainable development” promoted by LRQA globally.’

LRQA is one of the world’s leading security service partners. In the past few decades, it has accumulated extremely rich professional knowledge in auditing, inspection, consulting and cybersecurity services. In the view of Ian Spaulding, LRQA’s core competitive advantages lie in its technical authority, global network and localized services, as well as industry customization. These can effectively match Nantong’s strategic positioning and industrial upgrading needs.

‘As a participant in the formulation of international standards such as ISO, LRQA can provide the most cutting-edge certification services for Nantong’s advantageous industries, help enterprises seize the right to speak on technical standards, support enterprises to go abroad and upgrade to more international enterprises.’ Ian Spaulding said.

Nantong Economic & Technological Development Area signed an agreement to cooperate with LRQA (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. This marks the beginning of in-depth cooperation between Nantong and LRQA. It is estimated that by 2030, the demand for local inspection, testing and certification in Nantong will exceed 10 billion yuan, and the market scale radiating the Yangtze River Delta can reach hundreds of billions of yuan, which lays a solid foundation and broad space for Nantong and LRQA’s joint development.

Looking to the future, Ian Spaulding expressed his hope that LRQA will not only delve deeper into local advantageous industries such as intelligent manufacturing and shipbuilding and offshore engineering, but also radiate to a broader market through Nantong’s positioning as the ‘north hub of the Yangtze River Delta.’



Richard Clayderman piano concert performed in Nantong

By Yang Zhenxiao

On the evening of 20th July, *Forever Love* Richard Clayderman piano concert was performed at Nantong Grand Theatre, which brought high-quality musical enjoyment to the Nantong

audience.

Richard Clayderman is a globally renowned ‘evergreen’ in the piano world. He integrates classical music with modern music, creating a music world which is both classically elegant and modernly vibrant. It is worth mentioning that he is one of the foreign artists who has adapted and performed the most Chinese music works in the world. The works cover Chinese classical music, folk songs, film and television theme songs and pop songs, including *Grand River*, *Folk Songs like Spring River*, *Butterfly Lovers*, and *the Moon Represents My Heart*.

At the concert, Richard Clayderman presented classical pieces such as *Whispers of Autumn*, *Ballade pour Adeline*, and *Mariage d’amour*, with his excellent piano skills. He also performed a series of musical works that incorporate Chinese elements, such as *Butterfly Lovers* and *Red Rose & White Jasmine*.

Start an ‘African adventure at doorstep’

East China's first African-themed wild luxury hotel opened in Nantong

By Lu Chenghui

Recently, Sendi Hotel located in Chongchuan District opened to the public. The hotel integrates 100 mu of African grassland landscape with ‘animal symbiosis’ as the core concept, opening ‘African adventure at doorstep’ for tourists.

As the first African-themed wild luxury hotel in East China, the exterior of Sendi Hotel’s building draws on the shapes and colours of African tribes, to create a primitive natural atmosphere. The interior displays handicrafts such as African wood carvings, animal bone masks, etc., and the murals depict the scenery of African grasslands and tribal life scenes.

Sun Fukuo, the general manager of Sendi Hotel, introduced, ‘we made a large area of grassland into an African grassland. Guests can see a variety of African animals including giraffes, zebras and ostriches right from



their windows. This kind of experience offers a distinctive competitive edge in the domestic hotel industry.’

There are more than 500 rooms in the hotel, covering 12 styles including mushroom house, tree house and ocean theme. There are both family rooms and standard rooms. Apart from that, panoramic floor-to-ceiling windows let tourists and African wildlife become ‘neighbours’.

Briefly

Shi Yuqi won the men’s singles championship of Japan Open

By Wang Quanli

On the afternoon of 20th July, Nantong badminton star Shi Yuqi defeated French player Lannier 2:0 in the men’s singles final of the 2025 Japan Open, which helped the China national badminton team regain the championship in this event after 10 years. He also became the second Nantong player who won the men’s singles championship at the Japan Open after Zhao Jianhua. He is also the 10th China national badminton team men’s singles player to win the gold medal in this event.

Lee Jang-Soo appointed as the chief consultant of Qidong Campus Football

By Huang Hai

On 22nd July, Qidong held a seminar on football development planning. At the seminar, coach Lee Jang-Soo was appointed as the chief consultant of Qidong Campus Football.

Lee Jang-Soo was born in South Korea in 1956. He is a famous football coach in South Korea, known for strict teaching. He has coached four ‘Chinese Super League’ teams, which are Chongqing Lifan, Qingdao Bright, Beijing Guoan, and Guangzhou Evergrande, for a total of ten years.

Qidong launched the ‘Football in Campus’ project in 2024, and will complete full coverage of campus football in Qidong’s basic education within three years.

Won one gold medal, one silver medal and one bronze medal

Nantong dragon boat athletes achieved great results at the World Dragon Boat Racing Championships



By Li Bo

On 20th July Beijing time, at the 17th World Dragon Boat Racing Championships in Brandenburg, Germany, Jiangsu Dragon Boat Team representing China won one gold, one silver and one bronze medals.

World Dragon Boat Racing Championships is the highest level international dragon boat race hosted by the International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF). It is held every two years. The Championships in Germany attracted more than 4,000 ath-

letes from 32 countries and regions to participate.

The Jiangsu team which went to Germany this time was divided into senior team A (over 40 years old) and senior team B (over 50 years old). Two thirds of the team members are from Nantong. Some members are from Kunshan. The team members’ occupations cover universities, media, government sectors, enterprises, etc.

On 18th July, in the 200-meter senior team A mixed small dragon boat straight route race, the China

team won the gold medal with a result of 52.63 seconds, which created a new record for the China team in this event. On 19th July, in the 500-meter senior team B mixed small dragon boat straight route race, the China team won a bronze medal with a result of 2 minutes 23.87 seconds. On 20th July, in the 500-meter senior team A mixed small dragon boat straight route race, the China team won a silver medal with a result of 2 minutes 19.85 seconds, only 0.02 seconds slower than the champion, the Canada team.