



**Press release**

*For Immediate release*

**Establishment of MGI's  $\alpha$ Lab at Hong Kong Science Park to expand its global R&D footprint**

*MGI – deep-rooted in the Greater Bay Area, growing in Hong Kong and going global*

- On 15 September, the MGI “ $\alpha$ Lab” laboratory officially opened at Hong Kong Science Park, providing support ranging from AI R&D, application transformation to startup incubation.
- Smart Lab, a key component of  $\alpha$ Lab, provides comprehensive and digital quality management from sample extraction to data analysis.
- $\alpha$ Lab's opening at Hong Kong Science Park will further expand MGI's global R&D footprint and expedite biotech development in the Greater Bay Area.

**(Hong Kong, 21 September 2023)** – Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) partner company MGI Tech Co. Ltd. (or its subsidiaries, together referred to “MGI”) officially announced the opening of its  $\alpha$ Lab laboratory at Hong Kong Science Park. Integrating artificial intelligence (AI) research and development (R&D), application transformation and an incubation platform,  $\alpha$ Lab will further expand MGI's global R&D footprint and expedite biotech development in the Greater Bay Area by leveraging Hong Kong's unique advantages in innovation and technology (I&T) and internationalisation.

Ms Lillian Cheong, Under Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry of the HKSAR, visited  $\alpha$ Lab on its opening day. Guests including Dr Grace Lau, Head of Institute for Translational Research of HKSTP, Mr Duncan Yu, President of MGI, Ms Hui Jiang, Chief Operating Officer of MGI, Dr Ming Ni, Senior Vice President of MGI, and Dr Meng Yang, Assistant to the General Manager of MGI attended and witnessed the opening ceremony.

Ms Lillian Cheong, Under Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry of the HKSAR, said in her speech: “I am very pleased that MGI has chosen to locate its  $\alpha$ Lab at Hong Kong Science Park. The National 14th Five-Year Plan clearly supports Hong Kong's development into an international I&T centre, and the Hong Kong I&T Development Blueprint announced by the HKSAR Government last year also recommends focusing on the development of industries including life and health technology, AI and data science. The fact that MGI is now expanding its business in Hong Kong demonstrates that Hong Kong's focused and vigorous industrial policy over the past year has succeeded in promoting the development of the I&T industry. I hope that MGI will capitalise on Hong Kong's unique advantages of strong R&D capabilities, international scientific research systems, and global connectivity to accelerate the pace of global collaboration and further shine in the field of life and health technology.”

Dr Grace Lau, Head of Institute for Translational Research of HKSTP, said: “We are excited to have MGI joining HKSTP's I&T ecosystem. As the largest I&T ecosystem in Hong Kong, HKSTP is committed to



promoting the translation of R&D outcomes into market-ready applications. The opening of  $\alpha$ Lab at Hong Kong Science Park will provide support in data analysis, machine learning and artificial intelligence for frontier research in gene sequencing and will further expand the application of precision medicine. We believe that MGI's new joining will attract more top-notch research talents to Hong Kong and reinforce Hong Kong's status as the world's leading biotech hub."

Mr Duncan Yu, President of MGI, said: "The opening of  $\alpha$ Lab at Hong Kong Science Park is a key step in MGI's globalisation strategy, and we look forward to creating a polymerisation effect in Hong Kong. In the future, our second phase lab DCS Lab will empower and advance three fields in frontier science, namely population genomics, single-cell omics and spatiotemporal omics with MGI's state-of-the-art tools and technology, unleashing infinite possibilities for the life science industry."

Smart Lab, as an important constituent of  $\alpha$ Lab, is a life information system providing digital management and environmental monitoring from sample extraction to data analysis. Equipped with individual systems for information management, environmental monitoring and robot transfer, as well as MGI's ZTRON Pro data platform, Smart Lab delivers ultimate lab compliance, modularisation, automation, standardisation, informatisation, and intelligentisation to achieve total quality management. The opening of  $\alpha$ Lab also marks the first application of Smart Lab in Hong Kong, which sets to address pain points such as inefficiency and overcomplexity due to manual operation. More and more lab technicians would be freed from repetitive and tedious labour and can instead devote more time and energy to higher-value work.

In addition to the Smart Lab,  $\alpha$ Lab also houses MGI's first AI laboratory, which will serve as a R&D centre for MGI's cutting-edge AI technologies and industry applications, and will promote the application of AI in MGI's products and services, including data processing and analysis, machine learning, natural language processing, and computer vision, with a view to breaking traditional business models, improving overall efficiency, and solving long-term problems in the industry. Early this year, the "EvoPlay" algorithm model invented by the R&D team of MGI was published in the prestigious scientific journal "Nature Machine Intelligence", which recognised MGI's R&D work in AI.

In the future, MGI will open its second phase lab DCS Lab, which will empower and advance three fields in frontier science, namely population genomics, single-cell omics and spatiotemporal. DCS Lab will introduce MGI's DNBelab C-TaiM 4 single-cell platform for droplet generation, DNBelab C4 pocket single-cell lab, and DNSEQ-T20x2 ultra-high-throughput sequencer and other high-tech equipment.

Currently, MGI has business presence in more than 90 countries and regions across six continents, serving a cumulative total of more than 2,400 users globally. In addition, MGI has set up scientific research and production bases, training and after-sales service centres in various countries and regions around the world. The establishment of  $\alpha$ Lab at Hong Kong Science Park will further enhance MGI's strengths in the R&D and manufacturing of high-end tools for life sciences, expand its global R&D footprint, and expedite



biotech development in the Greater Bay Area, realising MGI's mission of "being deep-rooted in the Greater Bay Area, growing in Hong Kong and going global".



**Photo 1:** Ms Lillian Cheong, Under Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry of the HKSAR, visited  $\alpha$ Lab and exchanged insights with Mr Duncan Yu, President of MGI.



**Photo 2:** Dr Grace Lau, Head of Institute for Translational Research of HKSTPC (fourth from left), Mr Duncan Yu, President of MGI (fourth from right), Ms Hui Jiang, Chief Operating Officer (first from left), Dr Ming Ni, Senior Vice President (second from right), and Dr Meng Yang, Assistant to the General Manager of MGI (third from right) attended and witnessed the opening ceremony.



**Photo 3:** MGI's  $\alpha$ Lab officially opened at Hong Kong Science Park.

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### **About Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation**

Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) has for over 20 years committed to building up Hong Kong as an international innovation and technology hub to propel success for local and global pioneers today and tomorrow. HKSTP has established a thriving I&T ecosystem that supported over 10 unicorns and Hong Kong's leading R&D hub with over 13,000 research professionals and over 1,400 technology companies focused on healthtech, AI and robotics, fintech and smart city technologies.

Established in 2001, we attract and nurture talent, accelerate and commercialise innovation and technology for entrepreneurs on their journey of growth. Our growing innovation ecosystem is built around our key locations of Hong Kong Science Park in Shatin, InnoCentre in Kowloon Tong and three modern InnoParks in Tai Po, Tseung Kwan O and Yuen Long. The three InnoParks are realising a vision of new industrialisation for Hong Kong. The goal is sectors like advanced manufacturing, electronics and biotechnology are being reimaged for a new generation of industry.

Through our infrastructure, services, expertise, and network of partnerships, HKSTP will help establish innovation and technology as a pillar of growth for Hong Kong, while reinforcing Hong Kong's international I&T hub status as a launchpad for growth at the heart of the GBA innovation powerhouse.

More information about HKSTP is available at [www.hkstp.org](http://www.hkstp.org).



### **About MGI Tech Co. Ltd.**

MGI Tech Co. Ltd. (or its subsidiaries, together referred to MGI), headquartered in Shenzhen, is committed to building core tools and technology to lead life science through intelligent innovation. Based on its proprietary technology, MGI focuses on research & development, production and sales of sequencing instruments, reagents, and related products to support life science research, agriculture, precision medicine and healthcare. MGI is a leading producer of clinical high-throughput gene sequencers\*\*, and its multi-omics platforms include genetic sequencing\*\*, medical imaging, and laboratory automation. MGI's mission is to develop and promote advanced life science tools for future healthcare. For more information, please visit the MGI [website](#) or connect with us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) or [YouTube](#).

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