

China New and High-Tech Industries



Astronautics

On October 15, 2003, China successfully launched its first manned "Shenzhou-5" Spacecraft from the Jiuquan Satellite Launching Center. The "Shenzhou-5" Spacecraft sent China's first astronaut into the space and returned successfully, making China the third country in the world to independently develop and deploy the technology of a manned spaceship. China now is preparing to launch a "Shenzhou-6" Spacecraft with several astronauts aboard.

China leads in many important technological fields in astronautics with capabilities of recovery of satellites, the carrying of several satellites by one rocket, rocket technology, and the launching, test and control of static-orbit satellites, remote-sensing satellites, and communications satellites.

Before the success of "Shenzhou-5," China launched four unmanned spacecraft: first in November 1999, second in January 2001, third in March 2002, and fourth in December 2002. From the launching of its first satellite "Dongfanghong No. 1" in April 1970 to the end of 2000, China successfully launched 75 satellites, including 48 developed by China itself and 27 commercial

satellites for foreign customers. China also has developed 12 models of the "Long March" series of carrier rockets capable of low-earth orbit, geostationary orbit, sun-synchronous orbit for satellites and spacecraft. In the next step, China will develop a new carrier rocket series. By the end of 2003, the "Long March" series carrier rockets had made 75 launchings, with a successful launch rate of more than 90 percent. The Jiuquan, Xichang and Taiyuan satellite launching centers are among China's internationally recognized launching sites.

High Technology



While the Chinese government has implemented a series of policies to promote the high-tech industry, most scientific research institutes specializing in developing technology now are geared to market economy operations. In recent years, the business volume of the nation's technology market has increased at an annual rate of over 50 percent. State-level high-tech development zones now number 53, and well over 600 research findings above the provincial/ministerial level have been put to use in production in these zones. In 2002, high-tech enterprises in these zones totaled 25,000, of which 1,539 had registered an annual production value of over 100 million yuan, 185 over 1 billion yuan, and ten over 10 billion yuan, with over 1 million employees. The annual output value per capita of most of these enterprises exceeded 100,000 yuan. The average annual growth rates of major economic targets of China's high-

technology development zones has maintained at 60 percent for 11 years in succession.

Some non-governmental science and technology enterprises have become group corporations with an annual output value to the tune of from several hundred million or up to several billion yuan. High-tech products now account for more than 50 percent of the domestic market for such products.



Establishing export bases for high-tech products in selected state high-tech industrial development zones is an important part of the plan for developing trade by means of science and technology worked out and implemented by the Chinese government. The Beijing Zhongguancun Science and Technology Park and a number of state new- and high-tech industrial development zones in Tianjin, Shanghai, Heilongjiang, Jiangsu, Anhui, Shandong, Hubei, Guangdong, Shaanxi, Dalian, Xiamen, Qingdao and Shenzhen have been designated as the first group of export bases, thanks to their rapid overall development and rapid increase of the export volume of new- and high-tech products. As the Pearl River Delta, Yangtze River Delta and Beijing-Tianjin region have a large number of export bases of new- and high-tech products, their exports make up over 80 percent of the nation's total new- and high-tech exports.

Thanks to China.org.cn