

Shanghai GM Wuhan Branch 2nd Phase put into production

By Shao Lan & Feng Xinnan



Chevrolet Equinox SUV rolling off the mass production line at Shanghai GM Wuhan Branch Photo by Guo Liangshuo

The second phase of Shanghai GM Wuhan Branch was completed on April 7 and its Chevrolet Equinox SUVs have begun rolling off the mass production line.

With a total investment of RMB 7.5 billion, the Shanghai GM Wuhan Branch second phase uses globally recognized cutting-edge processing equipment and environmental protection facilities that meet the

highest international standards. Its newly-built press, body, paint, and general assembly shops, as well as support facilities, can accommodate four platforms for the manufacture of six car models, all on the same production line.

As the first product from the new factory, the Chevrolet Equinox made its debut in Wuhan. Produced on GM's latest generation

midsize SUV platform, this model has integrated GM's leading global resources and technology, which will bring the authentic driving experience of the North American SUV to customers.

Since its operation in January, 2015, the Shanghai GM Wuhan Branch first phase has manufactured 774,200 cars, recording an output value of RMB 60.01 billion as of March, 2017.

Two emerging industry projects settle in AEDZ

By Huang Jin

On April 12, two emerging industry projects signed agreements to settle in Wuhan Airport Economic & Technological Development Zone (AEDZ). They are the data valley project of Centrin Data Systems Co., Ltd. and the hydrogen storage project of Jiangsu Qingyang Energy Co., Ltd., a project based on a technology that stores organic liquid hydrogen at normal temperature and pressure.

With a total investment of RMB 10.5 billion, the Centrin Data Systems' data valley project is expected to have 200,000 units of server capacity and annual revenue of RMB eight billion by 2020.

In February of 2017, Jiangsu Qingyang Energy first moved into the AEDZ and its pilot production workshop was put into operation in April. The company's headquarters building and research institute will be put into use in October of 2018.

News in numbers

RMB 202.09 billion

Wuhan recorded RMB 202.09 billion total actualized investments in attracting businesses and investments in Q1, 2017, a year-on-year rise of 29.9%. Among the investments, the actualized foreign capital was USD 2.34 billion, 13.7% higher than in the same period last year. The newly introduced enterprises include one industrial project with an investment of more than RMB 10 billion, two industrial projects with an investment exceeding RMB five billion each, and six service projects of more than RMB three billion each.

In the first quarter of 2017, three Fortune Global 500 enterprises were introduced to Wuhan, with the total number of such enterprises in the city now standing at 246. In the same period, the Fortune Global 500s in Wuhan have established 15 new investment projects, newly introduced state-owned enterprises have invested in 11 projects, and China's top 500 private companies have funded another nine projects.

Wuhan Animal Kingdom to open in December

Located at Wumei Mountain, Zhangwan Street, Caidian District, the first phase of Wuhan Animal Kingdom will open for trial operation at the end of this year, according to news released by the district management, on April 11.

Construction of the project will be divided into two phases, covering a land area of 1.5 square kilometers and a water area of five square kilometers. The total investment will

amount to RMB 1.5 billion.

It is planned that the zoo will be home to more than 35,000 animals, which cover about 380 rare species. Visitors will be able to see wildlife under first-or-second-level state protection, such as pandas, red pandas, Siberian tigers, and golden monkeys, and imported African wild animals like giraffes, zebras, rhinoceroses, cheetahs, and lions.

Inside the Animal Kingdom, a giant net house for birds will be built, covering an area of 60,000 square meters. Hanging 60 meters high above the ground, it will be the largest net house for birds nationwide.

The Animal Kingdom will also build an aquarium for Yangtze River fish and a greenhouse botanical garden. A scenic forest theater will be built as well and used for large-scale performances.