

## NEWSLETTER

### HI-TECH & INNOVATION

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#### **Chinese scientists develop low-cost, eco-friendly pigment using rare earths**

Chinese scientists have developed a low-cost, eco-friendly rare-earth pigment free of toxic heavy metals, offering vivid, durable colors and high stability. Led by a Dalian-based research team, the innovation can cut prices by over 60 percent. A 500-ton pilot production line is planned, supporting applications in construction, ceramics and automotive coatings. (**Global Times**)

#### **Shanghai eyes eVTOL dominance positioning**

Shanghai aims to become a global hub for eVTOL aircraft, leveraging favorable policies, capital, and low-altitude airspace. By 2028, its low-altitude economy core is projected at 80 billion yuan (\$11.5 billion), supporting mass production of 500+ new aircraft and 10 leading aviation enterprises. Project subsidies up to 100 million yuan (\$14.4 million) will boost innovation, industrialization, and Yangtze River Delta integration. (**People's Daily**)

#### **China accelerates frontier tech deployment from lab to market**

China is accelerating commercialization of frontier technologies, from humanoid robots and autonomous vehicles to quantum and fusion applications. Startups are moving from labs to mass production, supported by policy backing, capital investment and deployment scenarios. Orders over 100 million yuan (\$14.34 million) and multibillion-yuan local funds are helping Chinese innovations scale domestically and expand globally. (**China Daily**)

#### **Blink-powered eye-tracking device offers new hope for paralyzed patients**

Chinese researchers have developed a self-powered eye-tracking system that uses energy generated by blinking to control devices such as wheelchairs. Based on a triboelectric nanogenerator (TENG), the battery-free device detects eye movements with up to 99% accuracy, even in darkness, offering promising applications in assistive technology, smart vehicles and space exploration. (**People's Daily**)

#### **Shenzhen brings cutting-edge technology to consumers with new retail scenarios**

Shenzhen is rolling out new technology-focused retail scenarios, allowing consumers to experience cutting-edge products such as embodied intelligent robots, smart glasses, exoskeletons and 3D printing. In January 2026, multiple tech stores opened across Nanshan, Futian and Longgang districts, including the world's first robot 6S store, highlighting Shenzhen's leadership in intelligent manufacturing and immersive consumption. (**Xinhua**)