



Earning access to ‘Straight to Wuzhen’ final

Winners to showcase innovative ideas during high-profile internet gathering

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Ten of 34 scientific and technological innovation projects presented in the semifinal of the Global Internet Competition of “Straight to Wuzhen” on Saturday made it to the final, scheduled for Tuesday during the ongoing sixth World Internet Conference in Wuzhen, Zhejiang province.

The winners will be officially announced on Monday night, a day ahead of the final, organizers said.

The projects in the semifinal covered sectors including artificial intelligence, 5G, big data and industrial internet of things.

One of them is a management system for equipment maintenance developed by Tianjin-based United AI.

The system was created to provide equipment with predictive maintenance to avoid a sudden device crash based on the application of sensors and AI, said Liu Xiaopeng, founder of the company.

“Now, industries are powered by AI and our company is taking the opportunity to develop the technology of industrial auditing,” Liu said.

The system can help to reduce operation costs, increase production efficiency and ensure safety, he added.

Founded in February 2018, the company has spent nearly two years developing the system and has generated more than 10 million yuan (\$1.41 million) in revenue, Liu said.

Israel-based company SenseIT also presented its identically named system, which is uses AI technology to improve web accessi-

34 teams

competed at the semifinal of the Global Internet Competition during the World Internet Conference on Saturday.

bility, according to company CEO Tamar Bernstein.

SenseIT provides an integrated solution and a unique platform to establish digital content for individuals, Bernstein said.

“I hope to find local partners in the market that we can start to open offices here to work alongside with to see how we can further develop,” she added.

Jiang Yucai, vice-president of Shenzhen Capital Group, served as a judge during the semifinal, said China has a large number of potential consumers, which can lead to larger economies of scale.

The development of the internet and the IoT has brought changes in lifestyle and ideas of consumption, he said.

“The rapid development of the internet and the IoT is affecting people’s consumption and lifestyle, so every aspect of our lives can mean new investment opportunities,” Jiang said.

“Using internet technologies to change lifestyles and consumption habits is key,” he said.

Another judge, Zong Peimin, a founding partner of investment company Sinowisdom, said the number of projects related to big data, internet and intelligent technologies has increased significantly this year, which implies the internet has developed onto a higher level.

“In the past, most projects were



Judges evaluate startup projects during the semifinal of the Global Internet Competition on Saturday in Wuzhen. The competition is a new highlight of this year’s World Internet Conference. PHOTOS BY GAO ERQIANG / CHINA DAILY



A startup team member presents a project at the semifinal in Wuzhen.

related to online transactions, but now they tend to reflect fundamental research and intelligent technologies, which focus on internet services,” Zong said.

“The competition has created an effective platform to show startup business trends in the internet technology in a bid to enable more investment,” he said.



Competition brings world elites to key conference

By **CAO YINGYING**
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As part of efforts to promote global internet cooperative innovation and stimulate entrepreneurial vitality, this year’s World Internet Conference added a new facet — the Global Internet Competition of “Straight to Wuzhen”.

“Through the competition, we hope to attract global internet elites to Wuzhen and explore new technologies, models and formats of the internet, and provide an important platform to promote cooperation in internet projects, technologies and professionals,” said Wu Junqing, deputy head of the Department of Economy and Information Technology of Zhejiang.

After the preliminary round of the competition held in China and overseas, as well as online, the final will be held during the sixth World Internet Conference in Wuzhen, Zhejiang province on Oct 22.

The competition’s preliminary round started in Hong Kong on April 15, which attracted around 30 startup teams, focusing on artificial intelligence, medicine, blockchain, intelligent hardware, virtual reality and other sectors. A total of 10 teams were selected to showcase their projects and graded by five experts from well-known venture capital institutions and entrepreneurship parks.

One of the competitors, VoiceAI Technologies combined the advanced AI and voice print recognition technology to solve the insecurity of the remote identity verification. The company has participated in several nation-level projects and served more than 10 million users.

VoiceAI Technologies’ voice print recognition project, WildFaces.ai’s



Team members discuss their entry project at the Shanghai leg of the World Internet Competition in mid-August. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

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Wu Junqing, deputy head of the Department of Economy and Information Technology of Zhejiang

AI-based video analytics technologies and Orca Tech’s unmanned ship won the tickets to the semifinal.

The Beijing leg was held on July 27 and attracted more than 100 startup teams covering AI, big data and internet of things sectors, and 10 of them were selected to present their projects.

Mao Song, investment director of Qualcomm Ventures, Yu Xiaoyi, head of investment of JD AI, Yu Yue, vice-president of investment of iFlytek Startups and other investment experts served as judges.

LuxCreo Technology, United AI and Tranzvision Consulting gained the highest scores.

Zhu Weiqiang, a standing member of the Tongxiang committee of

the Communist Party of China, said that as the host city of the World Internet Conference, Tongxiang, with an entrepreneurial and innovation-friendly environment and preferential policies, hopes to attract quality high-tech teams to start their businesses in the city.

In addition, the Chengdu and Shanghai legs were held on Aug 8 and 15, respectively. The last stop in China was held in Shenzhen on Aug 23.

Shenzhen Intellifusion Technology, an AI research and development startup company, won the first place among more than 100 competitors.

According to Mo Lei, director of strategic planning of the company, Intellifusion has a leading foundation team and built an international and industrialized team to create an AI city service system through the algorithm, chip and big data technology.

The company, founded in 2014, has applied its AI products and solutions in 100 cities and regions, including Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu in Sichuan province and Qingdao in Shandong province, as well as some cities in Southeast Asia.

The online competition kicked off in August and attracted around 400 teams from across the world. Many of the candidate projects have each drawn investment worth more than 100 million yuan (\$14.16 million). They are from various fields and of high quality, according to officials at the Department of Economy and Information Technology of Zhejiang.

Yearlong event a new highlight of WIC

By **ZHANG DANDAN**
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Cutting-edge internet technologies from the world’s major innovation hubs are injecting momentum into the ongoing World Internet Conference — the top internet conference in the entire industry.

As an important part of the World Internet Conference, also known as the Wuzhen Summit, which opens on Sunday, the Global Internet Competition of “Straight to Wuzhen” is a yearlong event to advance the digital economy. It aims to select high-quality innovative internet projects from home and abroad.

The overseas qualification round of this year’s global internet competition saw its curtains lifted in Tel Aviv, Israel; Frankfurt, Germany; and San Francisco, the United States.

Winners were qualified to get through to the semifinal on Saturday, during the sixth World Internet Conference in Wuzhen, East China’s Zhejiang province.

The first leg of the overseas qualification round took place in Tel Aviv, Israel, on Sept 4.

With an array of world-leading universities and research institutes and a strong atmosphere of entrepreneurship and innovation in the

field of information technology, Israel is one of the technological innovation hubs in the world.

The preliminary competition held in Israel attracted a raft of outstanding internet startup projects and teams to participate, involving the fields of intelligent hardware, the internet of things, Internet Plus and artificial intelligence.

After the professional evaluation by the judges, consisting of top investment institutions executives, industry scholars and project specialists, three innovation projects — Rephraser, SenseIT and Youtelligent — reached the semifinal.

On Sept 7, the overseas qualification competition came to Germany, where both basic science and applied research are well-developed.

As the initiator and advocate of the “Industry 4.0”, Germany is rich in scientific and technological achievements including patents. The country is among the firsts in scientific and technological innovation.

The qualification competition held in Frankfurt caused a sensation among the internet-related industrial insiders not only in Germany, but also in some other regions of Europe.

Nearly 100 projects and teams from the fields of big data, cloud

computing, IoT, mobile internet, AI, 5G technology, intelligent manufacturing, chip and Internet Plus took part in the event.

After a fierce competition, the top three projects were qualified for the semifinal. They were the real-time multi-GPU rendering engine and digital-content making platform, the VIAI video intelligence and the Audar smart fall detection and healthcare information system.

The final leg of the overseas qualification round was held in San Francisco, the US on Sept 11.

“It is expected that through the qualification round, some leading technological projects and professionals from the US can show their strengths at the World Internet Conference and participate in the wave of global internet development,” said Fu Zheng, executive secretary-general of the Wuzhen Summit Internet Industry Cooperation Alliance.

A raft of internet startup projects and teams from the fields of intelligent manufacturing, big data, AI, virtual reality and IoT in North America competed during the event.

The top three companies that earned the qualification to the semifinal were RedRock Biometrics, Pix Moving and People Strong.

Exploring new technologies, new models and new industrial forms of the internet, the Global Internet Competition is committed to forging a communication and cooperation channel for domestic and overseas internet companies in terms of technology, professional and investment.

By promoting global internet cooperation and innovation, stimulating internet startups and pooling together young professionals across the world, the competition contributes to the entire internet industry worldwide and rapid development of the digital economy, organizers said.



The competition provides an ideal platform for industrial insiders to share insights and seek business partners. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY