Shanghai Minhang Economic and Technological Development Zone

Description: Shanghai Minhang Economic and Technological Development Zone (Shanghai Minhang ETDZ) rated “AA” by China Knowledge. The industrial park was set up in 1983, and was among the first fourteen state-level development zones approved by the State Council in 1986. It is located in the southwestern part of Minhang District, only 30 km from People's Square in Shanghai, and covers an area of 6.52 sq km. A port industrial park, which is close to the Yangshan Free Trade Area to the east and a 1,000-ton wharf to the west, was built in the zone.

Industrial parks rated AA are highly attractive and are highly recommended. However, in comparison with industrial parks given the AAA rating, these industrial parks still lag behind in some areas. The most typical disadvantage is the smaller economic size as reflected in the GDP or FDI, high investment costs and limited land resources. Together with AAA-rated industrial parks, these industrial parks are considered first-tier. There are 24 with “AA” rating among 254 national or municipal level industrial parks rated by China Knowledge since 2003.

The Shanghai Minhang ETDZ is easily accessible. It is only 10 minutes from Shanghai Hongqiao Airport and 30 minutes from Shanghai Pudong International Airport, which was the busiest airport in China in terms of cargo throughput in 2009. The cargo wharf of the zone is located on the Huangpu River, while the 10,000-ton Longwugang International Sea Terminal is 15 km away and the 10,000-ton Zhangxinbang International Container Terminal is 43 km away.

The export value of the park decreased 23.54% to US$1.13 billion. Major investors include GE, ABB, Michelin, Siemens, Fuji Xerox, Yili, Pepsi, Coca-Cola, Johnson & Johnson, and Schneider. Huntsman, the world’s leading special-chemical manufacturer in the world, entered the zone in 1996. It invested US$10 million to build the largest mixing plant in Asia within the zone in the same year. Later, in 2006, Huntsman invested US$1 billion with BASF, Bayer and Lianheng to construct an MDI plant. In 2008, it set up its third global research and development center in Minhang ETDZ to provide state-of-the-art technologies and services to customers in the Asia Pacific region. France-based St. Gobain, the top global construction-materials maker, established a presence in the zone in 1994 with the inauguration of St. Gobain Abrasives (Shanghai) Co Ltd. The firm has five units in Minhang ETDZ. It launched a R&D center in the zone in September 2007 to strengthen its position in China’s construction materials market.

The latest figures show that in the first half of 2010, value-added industrial output amounted to RMB 10.2 billion, up 19.06% year on year. The utilized FDI rose 30.12% to US$49.1 million, while the export value rose 4.01% to US$941.4 million.


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