

Foxconn factory in China recognized for Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies

16 March 2021 | News

Taiwan's Foxconn Technology Group's Chengdu Campus accoladed by World Economic Forum's GlobalLighthouse Network as a Lighthouse Factory



Taiwan's Foxconn Technology Group announced that a second of the company's factories, a factory based in Chengdu, China, has been recognized by the World Economic Forum (WEF)'s Global Lighthouse Network (GLN) as a Lighthouse factory. The accolade is awarded to manufacturing leaders who have been successful in applying Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies to achieve profitable growth without increasing their environmental footprint. Confronted with fast-growing demand and labour skill scarcity, Foxconn Chengdu adopted mixed reality, artificial intelligence (AI) and internet of things (IoT) technologies to increase labour efficiency by 200% and improve overall equipment effectiveness by 17%.

The GLN is a community of production sites and other facilities that are world leaders in the adoption and integration of the cutting-edge technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). Lighthouse factories apply 4IR technologies such as artificial intelligence, 3D-printing and big data analytics to maximize efficiency and competitiveness at scale, transform business models and drive economic growth, while augmenting the workforce, protecting the environment and contributing to a learning journey for all-sized manufacturers across all geographies and industries.

Foxconn Chengdu achieved its status through digitization

As the world's leading electronic manufacturing group, digitization is a key strategy for Foxconn to continuously improve manufacturing and management capabilities to address the needs of customers who include many of the world's leading technology companies. Innovative technologies continue to be a key driver of the company's digital transformation, bringing about improved connectivity in human-human interaction, human-machine interaction and machine-machine connectivity.

The independent panel that evaluated the Chengdu site attributed five factors^[1] towards its recognition as a Light

- Increased labour efficiency by 200% and improved overall equipment effectiveness by 17%
- Artificial-intelligence-powered optical inspection -- decreased manual inspection by 92%

- IoT-enabled manufacturing quality management -- decreased quality alert time by 99%
- Production planning optimized by advanced analytics -- decreased inventory by 25%