

Speech of Mr. Evan Tse, President
Hong Kong Optical Manufacturers Association (HKOMA)
The 22nd Executive Committee (2021-2023) Inauguration Ceremony
Gala Evening
(On 8 November 2021, Marco Polo Hongkong Hotel - Centenary Room)



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It is our honor that Mr. Willy, Lin Sun Mo, GBS, JP, Chairman of the Hong Kong Productivity Council spared time to join the Gala Dinner, and to officiate the inauguration of the HKOMA 22nd Executive Committee. At the same time, I would like to thank all the distinguished guests of our cooperative organizations and the members of HKOMA for attending the party and witnessing our new committee's inauguration ceremony.

The video just broadcast in the Gala reviewed the highlights of HKOMA activities in the past 40 years, with an aim to pay tribute to the founders and former presidents of the Association since its establishment in August 1982.

Under the leadership of our predecessors, the quality of Hong Kong glasses production has been well-known internationally as early as the 1990s. Hong Kong has always been the one of the world's important export destinations for eyewear products. The export volume once experienced more than 10 years and ranked second in the world after Italy.

In the past 10 years, some of the manufacturers of the industry have already produced products from OEM or ODM to OBMs, actively working hard to develop their own brand production and marketing, and have established a position in the market and gained reputation from customers.

Following the rapid development in Mainland and the needs of changes in the international situation, Hong Kong eyewear manufacturers' production bases concentrated in Guangdong Province, especially Shenzhen and Dongguan in the past, have changes in these recent years. Some manufacturers have moved their production lines, expanded beyond the province, including: Jiangxi, Xiamen, Chongqing, etc. Some companies also set up production lines in Southeast Asia at the same time, such as: Vietnam, Bangladesh, Cambodia and so on.

With the scale of the Hong Kong eyewear manufacturing industry moving towards internationalization, in the face of the sudden global new crown epidemic at the beginning of last year, the Hong Kong optical industry can be able to respond quickly. The current business has shown a double-digit increase compared to the performance of the previous year, which is encouraging.

The outbreak of the new crown epidemic has accelerated changes in the global business environment and consumption patterns. Over the past year or so, manufacturers have to keep up with the market needs of the information age. In addition to the efforts of internal teams, they also need to cooperate and complement each other with partners in various aspects, to achieve the benefits of mutual benefit. In order to meet the needs of the industry, HKOMA has been working hard to provide all kinds of information and activities to enhance the development of the industry.

In this Gala, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the representatives from our close cooperation organizations, for their continued support to HKOMA and the optical industry. Please continue to give us guidance and assistance for our cooperation ahead. For example, in terms of production, we are currently discussing a number of projects with the Hong Kong Productivity Council, including: the popularization for the application of environmentally materials and 3D printing technology, artificial intelligence production systems, and Hong Kong's re-industrialization in the eyewear industry.

In the current post-epidemic stage, exhibitions in various regions have not yet returned to their normal condition. We have to discuss arrangements for the market development with representatives of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council. The issue of striving for the development rights and interests of our industry depends on the assistance of the Federation of Hong Kong Industries and the Professional Validation Council of Hong Kong Industries.

Regarding the cultivation of future successors in the optical industry, we sincerely invite the Hong Kong Vocational Training Council and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University to encourage young people to enter the industry. In the future, HKOMA and eyewear manufacturers should strengthen close communication with the Hong Kong Optometric

Association and the Hong Kong Association of Private Practice Optometrists, so that will certainly help the manufacturers to better understand the trends of the local market and consumers' preferences.



Next year, 2022 is the 40th anniversary of HKOMA. At this important moment that marks the beginning of a new milestone, I am much honored to be elected as the new president. At the same time, what makes me happier is that the members of the new executive committee are younger and more diversified, including glasses and lens manufacturers, material and parts suppliers, quality inspection equipment suppliers, brand chain store operators, etc.; I hope that in the next two years of the new executive committee, HKOMA will be able to establish a more progressive development for the Hong Kong optical industry, just as the new executive committee set out a vision slogan for the Association's 40th anniversary celebration:

"Gathering elites for future".

Finally, thank you all for sharing the joy of the inauguration gala dinner with me, and wish you all health and happiness.