Tencent’s new headquarters to be put into use next year

Tencent Building of Binhai, the new global headquarters of Shenzhen-based tech giant Tencent, has been completed and is scheduled to be put into service next year, the Shenzhen Economic Daily reported.

The building, which is located in the Shenzhen Hi-Tech Industrial Park in Nanshan District, includes two skyscrapers connected by three functional areas with shared supporting facilities. The tallest high rise with 50 floors, while the North Tower is 194 meters tall.

Inside the building, Tencent has applied cutting-edge technologies such as Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI), turning it into a “super testing ground” for exploring IoT solutions and AI. In addition, all of the facilities are embedded with QQ and WeChat software development kits.

Every employee will experience the latest achievements in the field of Internet technology upon walking in the entrance, where Tencent’s self-developed real-name identification technology provides technical support for facial recognition and the building’s security system. Visitors and friends can interact with AR (Augmented Reality) and VR (Virtual Reality) devices through their mobile phones while waiting in the lobby.

As a company that treasures its talents, every detail of the building embodies a staff-oriented mindset. The walls of the building are designed with a shading system programmed in accordance with the city’s daily sunlight. In the office, the tables can be adjusted to accommodate standing.

The move into the new building will be Tencent’s fourth relocation since its establishment. In 1998, Pony Ma started his business at SEG Technology Park in Huqiangbei in Futian District along with dozens of employees. In 2004, Tencent settled into Fiyta Hi-Tech Building and went public on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange the same year. In June 2009, Tencent’s first self-designed building — Tencent Building — was completed and became the company’s national headquarters.

Ma, chairman and CEO of Tencent, said the building is currently Tencent’s largest “product,” covering frontier technologies such as smart architecture, Internet-plus architecture and Internet-plus intelligent connection. “I hope the building is not only an office space, but also our second home,” said Martin Lau, president of Tencent.

Buoyed by its strong performance in the stock market, Tencent overtook Facebook to become the fifth-largest company in the world in terms of market value, at HK$4,086.4 billion (US$523.1 billion), Nov. 21.

Metro Line 11 train hits pile that pierced through tunnel

THOUSANDS of morning riders on Line 11 from Futian to Bitou were stranded at stations yesterday as part of the line had to suspend service due to an illegal ground piling project that pierced through the tunnel near Houhai Station, the interchange station of Line 1 and Line 2.

A Metro train running from Honghuawan South Station to Houhai Station hit the pile and was seriously damaged, but no one was injured in the incident, according to an investigation report released by Shenzhen Metro Co. yesterday.

Shenzhen police received a report at around 7 a.m. from Shenzhen Metro Co., saying the tunnel near Houhai Station had been pierced by an illegal piling project at the construction site of Shenzhen Metro Co. yesterday. Metro train drivers who spotted the abnormal situation and reported it to the commanding officers arrived on the scene immediately after the incident, and according to its release at 7:48 p.m., 12 hours after the incident.

Shenzhen police issued a report at around 7 a.m. from Shenzhen Metro Co., saying the tunnel near Houhai Station had been pierced by an illegal piling project at the construction site of Shenzhen Metro Co. in advance. The pile, which is about 20 meters in depth, went through the tunnel and a section of it was knocked off by a passing train. The pile also damaged other facilities, such as a contact wire net, resulting in a large number of commuters being stranded at stations along the line.

Only when law enforcement officers arrived on the scene did the construction workers realize they had caused a lot of trouble.

Teen wins championship

WANG XINYU, a 16-year-old student from Meilin Middle School in Futian District, defeated her Papua New Guinean rival and won the championship in the 2018 Asia-Pacific Wildcard Play yesterday. According to the app of the Nanfang Daily yesterday. The girl was born into a sports family Sept. 26, 2001. Her father, Wang Peng, is a well-known basketball player. With good sports genes, the girl is already 1.82 meters tall at the age of 16.

In 2016, Wang entered Meilin Middle School through an independent sports exam. Her exam results ranked first at the school.

Wang is now ranked world No. 5 for tennis players. She made her debut in Shenzhen Tennis Center and Shenzhen Tennis Grand Slam in 2016 and stunned the world with her outstanding performances.

The manager at the construction site refused to comment.

According to Zhou Tao, an employee with the Shenzhen Metro Management and Operation Office, there are 12 pits for the construction site. Each pile pit is 20 meters in depth and 60 centimeters in diameter.

Shenzhen Metro Co. responded immediately after the incident, and according to its release at 2:30 p.m. yesterday, the work needed about five hours.

Many riders complained about the halt in service that made them late for work and expressed anger after they learned the cause of the incident. Netizens (#lulu666x1) complained about being four hours late to the office, while another netizen wept all the way due to being made late for an important examination.

This was the second Metro accident caused by illegal piling at a construction site in 40 days.

On Oct. 28, a piling job for a housing estate at the construction site of Shenzhen Bay Super Headquarters in Nanshan District broke through the tunnel of Metro Line 9, causing a mud cave-in. Thanks to the alert from Metro train drivers who spotted the abnormal situation and reported it to the commanding and maintenance teams, the Metro avoided further damage.

An investigation showed that the contractor of the housing project had violated rules and started piling prior to applying for approval. Two people were criminally detained.

According to regulations on the city’s rail transportation management, contractors within the Metro operation areas must apply for written approval from the Metro operator before commencing piling work.