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Korea showcased Australia's MedTech advancements

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Singapore: With a view to showcase Australia's advanced medical technologies and create business links between Korea and Australia, the "Australian Innovation Showcase 2015 - Medical Technologies" was held recently at Seoul Plaza Hotel, Korea.

Organized by the Australian Trade Commission Korea, the event brought together Australia's medical technology researchers, manufacturing company representatives and Korean medical officials.

Speaking at the event, Mr Bill Paterson, Australian Ambassador, said, ""Australia is a technologically advanced country with a strong entrepreneurial spirit. We have 11 Nobel Prizes in the sciences and medicine. Today's showcase provides an opportunity to identify long-term partnerships that can contribute to Korea's creative economy."

Mr Na Heung-bok, a representative of the Korea Medical Devices Industry Association, said, "Korean medical associations look forward to cooperating in the medical device industry with Australia. The country's medical technology industry is a world leader in many fields, including diagnostics, imaging equipment and digital health applications, according to the ATC."

The achievements of past Australian medical breakthroughs was presented at the conference with special mentions for Cochlear's bionic ear, Resmed's continuous positive airway pressure for sleep apnea, the world's first 3-D-printed titanium heel implant and adaptive diagnostic technology platforms.

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Dr Paul Savage of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization presented on the medical biomaterials, regenerative medicine, and drug delivery processes that CSIRO is studying in Australia. "The focus of future biomedical materials research is in the development of combined materials, especially the use of polymer and stem cell combinations for tissue regeneration. The commercialization is expected to be realized in the near future," he said.

Many multinational health care corporations such as GE Health, Cook Medical, Medtronic and Baxter International operate manufacturing, research and development projects in Australia.