

Nantong report

Nantong foreign trade performance continues to improve

“In terms of foreign trade, the imports and exports of Nantong to traditional markets and new emerging partners have a similar growth.

By Wu Xiaoyun

According to the latest statistics from Nantong Customs, from January to November 2024, the foreign trade import and export of Nantong reached 349.5 billion yuan, ranking 4th in Jiangsu continuously, and there is a year-on-year increase of 10.4% , which accounts for 6.9% of the total import and export value of Jiangsu. Among them, the export value is 227.88 billion yuan, and there is an increase of 9.8% ; the import value is 121.62 billion yuan, and there is an increase of 11.6%. The increase rates of import and export, export and import are all above the average numbers of China and Jiangsu.

In November 2024, the import and export value of Nantong reached 31.12 billion yuan, and remained above 30 billion yuan for 5 consecutive months. There is a year-on-year increase of 6.9% and it increased for 5 consecutive months.

In terms of foreign trade, the imports and exports of Nantong to traditional markets and new emerging partners have a similar growth. From January to November, the total import and export value with traditional markets

such as the United States, Europe and Japan was 135.89 billion yuan, and there is an increase of 4.9% , which accounts for 38.9% of the total foreign trade of Nantong. New emerging market development has been promoted continuously. Among them, the import and export value to Brazil is 23.6 billion yuan, there is a significant increase of 66.3% ; the import and export value to Russia is 17.73 billion yuan, and there is an increase of 12.4%.

Exports of advantageous products continue to have a buoyant cycle. From January to November 2024, the export value of textile and clothing increased 5.6%, the export value of containers and integrated circuits increased 16.9% and 62.9% respectively. The export value of ships increased 8.7% . The export values of organic chemicals and sports goods increased 15.1% and 13.7% respectively.

Imports of bulk commodities, some industrial materials and equipment have shown strong performance. From January to November 2024, the import values of natural gas, mechanical and electrical products, integrated circuits, semi-conductor equipment, measurement and testing instruments, paper pulp, and cotton increased 11.2%, 21.6% , 41.8% , 83.1% , 11% , 60.2% and 43.6% respectively.

The pile driving frame is as high as 150m The largest pile driving vessel in the world completed in Nantong

By Wu Xiaoyun

Recently, at Zhenhua Qidong Marine Engineering, the largest pile driving vessel in the world ‘Er Hang Chang Qing’ was completed.

Ship ‘Er Hang Chang Qing’ was built by Shanghai Zhenhua Heavy Industries for CCCC Second Harbor Engineering Company Ltd. It has become the leader among pile driving vessels in the world with a pile driving frame whose height is 150m. The ship

is 130.5m long. The moulded breadth is 40.8m and the moulded depth is 8.4m. The thrust force of the master cylinder of the pile frame is 5000 tons, making it the largest cylinder in the world. Ship ‘Er Hang Chang Qing’ can drive piles with a maximum weight of 700 tons and maximum diameter of 7 meters. It is equipped with a piling positioning system with offshore satellite station differential function, and can do piling with centimeter-level precision in deep and distant seas.

A music feast



Recently, 2025 Nantong New Year Concert was performed at Gengsu Theatre by Polish Philharmonic Orchestra. Adam Kloczek, 2014 Grammy Award Winner and famous conductor, acted as the on-site conductor. In the beautiful melody of more than ten famous musical compositions including *the Blue Danube*, *Crazy Dance of Golden Snake*, and *Hungarian Dances*, the audience welcomed the arrival of the New Year. Photo by Xu Peiqin

Nantong Rail Transit ‘Haotongxing’ App launched Alipay’s ‘travel’ code launched simultaneously

By Jiang Jiaojiao

Recently, Nantong Rail Transit ‘Haotongxing’ App was launched. The App supports Alipay and WeChat password-free payment. Passengers do not need to top up in advance, they can easily display the code to travel. In the future, third-party payment options such as bank cards will also be introduced.

Alipay’s ‘travel’ code was launched simultaneously. A convenient ride code function was added to ‘Haotongxing’ App. Once opening the App, the code can be displayed. Press the icon of the App for a bit longer time, the travel QR code can be displayed in one click. Offline code display function was added, so that people can travel smoothly when there is

no internet. After the internet is resumed, the cost will be settled automatically.

Apart from that, using Alipay, people can directly scan the code to travel. Enable location permission for ‘Alipay’, or switch the location to ‘Nantong’ in Alipay, select ‘travel’ to enter the activation page, and just follow the steps to activate the Nantong Rail Transit electronic card.

International friends experienced traditional Chinese medicine culture

By Lu Chenghui

Recently, Chinese and Foreign Cultural Exchanges and Health and Wellness Intangible Cultural Heritage Exhibition Activity was held at Nantong University.

About 30 foreign friends from countries including the United States, Italy and Spain went to Nantong Museum of Traditional Chinese Medicine Culture, to learn about the history and culture of traditional Chinese medicine. They also went to the Chinese medicine exhibition area of Nantong Hanyao Chinese Medicine Hospital, to watch Chinese medicine techniques such as massage and cupping, learn how to make Chinese medicine sachets, taste Chinese



medicine teas, and receive health consultation services from professional Chinese medicine practitioners. Additionally, they went to the production base of ‘Wangshi Baochiwan’ in Jinghua Pharmaceutical Group, to learn about the story and craftsmanship behind Wangshi Baochiwan.

Briefly

Australian table tennis players came to Nantong for competition



By He Jiayu

Recently, at the China Table Tennis Tongzhou Training Base in Kaisha Island, a special competition was held with great enthusiasm. 5 table tennis players from Australia competed in table tennis skills with the young athletes at the base.

‘Table tennis is a relatively niche sport in Australia. We thought about connecting the two parties to utilize each other’s advantageous resources.’ Gu Bing, the president of Nantong Chamber of Commerce in Melbourne, contacted a table tennis school run by a local Chinese, and took them back to Nantong for research and exchanges.

‘We are the first institution in Australia to carry out systematic table tennis training. We have provided many talents for local state teams and even the national team. 4 people who came this time are the members who entered the national team of Australia.’ Dong Jiawen, the founder of the school, said that she hoped that the children of the school could train at the Nantong base in the future, and she would also provide assistance for the base members to study and train in Australia.

While in Nantong, the athletes from Australia also visited Nantong Museum.

Shipping



Recently, a high speed ship was loading wind turbine blades at the general terminal of Lvsi Port, ready to sail to Germany. Since 2024, the general terminal of Lvsi Port has been busy with the export of general cargo such as wind turbine blades. Photo by Xu Congjun

Little finless porpoise ‘Lan Ruo Ruo’ was popular overseas



By Lu Wei

Recently, *Analysis Report on the Overseas Influence of Chinese Cities (2024)* was released. The international communication and publicity case of Nantong little finless porpoise ‘Lan Ruo Ruo’ won the title of ‘City (District) International Communication Demonstration Case’.

Nantong was born and prospered by the Yangtze River. ‘The Yangtze River’ is a representative cultural symbol of Nantong. ‘Smiling angel’ finless porpoises appear frequently in the Nantong section of the Yangtze River. ‘The smile of

finless porpoise’ is becoming the most powerful proof of ecological environment restoration of the Nantong section of the Yangtze River.

In 2023, Suxitong Industrial Park launched the original IP of the little finless porpoise ‘Lan Ruo Ruo’. Nantong has promoted the IP to go overseas, and tell the Nantong story of how cultural IP empowers urban development. At present, the urban IP ‘Lan Ruo Ruo’ has become Nantong’s ‘Window to the World’ for actively promoting global biodiversity treatment.

By means including city collaboration, global interaction, and brand co-branding, Nantong has promoted the IP image of ‘Lan Ruo Ruo’ and the

idea of Yangtze River protection on international stages. The English short video of cartoon introduction of ‘Lan Ruo Ruo’ was launched. Theme MV ‘Meet Your Smile’ and other high-quality cultural and artistic works were released. ‘Lan Ruo Ruo’ sunshine and heart-warming online emoji pack was created and launched.

During the period of ‘World Rivers Day’, Suxitong Industrial Park started ‘Protect Blue’ river protection relay through overseas social media, to share the scenery of rivers from places all over the state and the image of ‘Lan Ruo Ruo’ with global netizens. The total exposure of the event exceeded 1.3 million.