

## **The TRIZ Situations in China**

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TRIZ was introduced into China in about 1998, when a few scholars attended some international conferences on TRIZ and technological innovation. From 1998 to 2006, only some universities, such as Tianjin University (天津大学), Hebei University of Technology (河北工业大学), University of Science and Technology of China (中国科学技术大学), Northeastern University (东北大学), Tsinghua University (清华大学), Southwest Jiaotong University (西南交通大学) (which school I am affiliated to), Sichuan University (四川大学) and so on researched this theory, and published some papers/books on TRIZ. In those years, a few universities, for example, TRIZ Research Center of Hebei University of Technology (<http://www.triz.com.cn/triz.htm>), led by Prof. Runhua Tan (檀润华教授), provided some training and consulting service about TRIZ and technological innovation to some enterprises, and developed some CAI software based on TRIZ. At the same time, a CAI software supplier--Iwint, Inc.-- also provided TRIZ training, TRIZ consulting service. Though from 2005 on, there was an annual symposium on TRIZ held by Hebei University of Technology, few people and organizations knew TRIZ in China at that time.

The situation changed significantly in 2007, when The Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China paid much attention to innovation methods, especially TRIZ. Heilongjiang (黑龙江省) and Sichuan (四川省) were established as two "Pilot Provinces" of innovation method in 2007, and many enterprises were chosen as the "Pilot Enterprises" or "Demonstration Enterprises" by these two provinces. Jiangsu (江苏省), Tianjin (天津市), Guangdong (广东省) and some other provinces also became "Pilot Provinces" of innovation method a few years later. And the Innovation Method Society (IMS: <http://www.chinaims.org>), administrated by The Ministry of Science and Technology, was founded in Nov. 2008. The speed of TRIZ promotion in China increased so much after the IMS was founded.

During these recent years, many research programs on innovation method (TRIZ) were granted by The Ministry. The topics of these research programs ranged from the theoretical development of TRIZ, the integration of TRIZ with other innovation methodologies such as QFD, AD, the integration of TRIZ with the process of technological innovation, to the promotion of TRIZ to enterprises and other organizations. At present, much more people from universities, companies and other organizations in China research, use or know TRIZ, and there are at least three platforms for them to communicate with each other:

1. The Innovation Method High Level Forum, held by Innovation Method Society in Nov. or Dec. every year;

2. The Advanced Seminar of TRIZ in China, held by Hebei University of Technology in July or August every year;
3. The Cross-Strait Symposium on the Innovation Method (TRIZ), held by Southwest Jiaotong University and Taiwan TRIZ Association in Nov. or Dec. every year.

These conferences or symposiums on TRIZ, however, are not as international as that of Japan TRIZ Symposium, ETRIA TRIZ Future Conference, and TRIZCON at present, so they are unfamiliar to you. The 4<sup>th</sup> Cross-Strait Symposium on the Innovation Method (TRIZ) will be held on 26, Dec. this year, in Northeast Forestry University (东北林业大学), Harbin(哈尔滨市), Heilongjiang Province(黑龙江省). Would you please attend it and give a speech about USIT/TRIZ or other topics on TRIZ and innovation methods?

As a matter of fact, we often communicated with the researchers of TRIZ in Japan. For example, Prof. Guang Chen ( <http://blog.sina.com.cn/guangchen> ) (陈光教授), my tutor, Dean of School of Public Administration, Southwest Jiaotong University, a member of a council of IMS, visited Japan and investigated the situations of innovation method (TRIZ) in Japan in April, 2009. He met Mr. Shinsuke Kurosawa, a TRIZ specialist from SANNO Institute of Management, and Mr. Kurosawa introduced in detail the development and promotion of TRIZ in Japan to Prof. Chen. Two months before that time, Prof. Chen had published an article titled “The Research and Popularization of TRIZ in Mainland China: the Situation and Problems” (in Chinese), in which Dr. Chen introduced the TRIZ situation in Mainland China in more detail. Please see the article in the attachment if you are interested in it.

Hoping to meet you on the 4<sup>th</sup> Cross-Strait Symposium on the Innovation Method (TRIZ) in Harbin! Thanks again for your new information about the 7<sup>th</sup> Japan TRIZ Symposium!