



## SEPTEMBER 2021

**BEC E-NEWSLETTER** 

 $\label{eq:connecting} Connecting \ \cdot \ Nurturing \ \cdot \ Creating \ for \ a \ Sustainable \ Environment$ 

# THE GREEN RACE

# BEC's Director - Policy & Research Mr Simon Ng shares his insights after speaking at the Green Way Forum and his reflection on the "Race to Zero".

BEC was a partner of the "EU and Hong Kong: The Green Way" Forum jointly organised by the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao and the European Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong ("EuroCham") on 16 September 2021. Officially opened by Chief Executive the Honourable Mrs Carrie Lam, the Forum also featured Mr Christopher Hui, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, and Mr Kam-sing Wong, Secretary for the Environment, as keynote speakers. Around 100 guests from the business and diplomatic community attended the Forum on site, joined by other audience watching online.

The 3.5-hour Forum was thought-provoking and forwardthinking, with the programme cutting across areas where the EU and Hong Kong can work closely together to tackle climate change with greater impact. There were discussions on supporting the development of green finance where crucial work is happening at multilateral level, conceptualising and delivering a green transport system, and building Hong Kong as a green city. BEC Chairman Mr Richard Lancaster and I attended the Forum as panellists and shared our thoughts on green city development and sustainable mobility, respectively.





One of the highlights of the Forum was the handing over of 12 recommendations to the Honourable Mr Bernard Charnwut Chan, the Convenor of the Non-official Members of the Executive Council, and Mr Clemente Contestabile, the Consul General of Italy in Hong Kong, as both agreed to take the recommendations forward in their respective roles. This is significant considering Italy's Presidency of the G20 and the Rome Summit end of October, and co-chairing of COP26 right after the Summit. It was also telling that Secretary Wong stayed for the entire event, which spoke volumes that climate change is high on the Government's agenda according to the Honourable Mr Bernard Chan.

Perhaps the best moment of the event was Ms Karine Hirn of EuroCham making a point that the Forum should be called "The Green Race" instead, given the urgency to combat climate change through collaboration between the public and private sectors. Ms Hirn's remark received resounding approval from the audience and the "Green Way Forum" was officially renamed the "Green Race Forum". We are indeed in a race – the "Race to Zero" – and running against the clock. The first part of the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change published on 9 August fired a warning: it is predicted that global warming would exceed 1.5 degrees above preindustrial levels under all five emissions scenarios considered. Global warming could possibly be controlled within 2 degrees in this century only if we strive to reach at least net zero carbon emissions by mid-century or sooner to limit the impact of future, cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, reduce the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, and stop irreversible damage to the climate system.

It is clear to all that the current Nationally Determined Contributions ("NDC") are insufficient to achieve net zero by 2050. All nations must set ambitious targets and strengthen their commitments with solid and enhanced NDCs before COP26, which is just around the corner. In Hong Kong, businesses have stepped up their decarbonisation effort since the Government's pledge last year to become carbon neutral by 2050. At BEC, we celebrated the number of Low Carbon Charter signatories surpassing the 100-mark in July this year and raring to grow further. As we wait in anticipation for the updated Climate Action Plan, which is due for announcement by the Government very soon, BEC and the business community will stand as one to run and win the "Race to Zero".

## Power Up Coalition: Understanding Practical Challenges and Opportunities for Construction Site Electrification



BEC was pleased to invite Ir Kin Leung, Ir K.Y. Lo, Ms Kahl Cheung and Ir Priscilla Wong to share their insights about electrifying construction sites at our exclusive webinar for Power Up Coalition members on 30 August.

Key takeaways:

- Electrifying construction is a direct and effective means to achieve significant carbon emission reduction, improve air and noise pollution, and safeguard occupational health and safety of workers at sites.
- The adoption of battery energy storage systems ("BESS") in replace of diesel gensets is economically viable with low
  maintenance cost and long service lives. The complemented IoT platform allows real-time monitoring and control in
  case of faults and accidents.
- At present, lengthy application of the excavation permit is a major hurdle which disincentivises electrification. Collaboration between stakeholders including developers, architects, consultants, contractors and power utilities is crucial to enable planning at the tendering stage for early electrification, and advocate for a more streamlined process with relevant government departments.
- Information such as estimated power demand, suggested power supply appliances and quantity provided by consultants and E&M engineers are useful information to assist application of temporary electricity supply prior to the project start.

#### Learn more about BEC Low Carbon Charter & Power Up Coalition

## **BEC's Views on Regulation of Disposable Plastic Tableware**

On 8 September, BEC submitted our views to the HKSAR Government, expressing our strong support on the Regulation of Disposable Plastic Tableware:

- Banning local sale of disposable EPS tableware;
- Covering plastic substitutes in the Regulation Scheme;
- Including all catering premises under the Regulation Scheme;
- Implementing the Regulation Scheme in phases.

However, we urge the Government to set a more ambitious timeline for Phase 1 implementation and a clear one for Phase 2. BEC also emphasises the importance of avoiding the generation of waste from single use items made of other materials.

#### Read our submission HERE



3 September 2021 Maste Reduction and Recycling Group, Environmental Protection Department, 27, East Wing, sland West Transfer Station, 38 Victoria Road, Kennedy Town, Hong Kong Email: <u>rdpl@epd.gov.hk</u>

#### ubmission on the Regulation of Disposable Plastic Tableware Views from Business Environment Council Limited 商界環保協會有限公司

ver the last 29 years, Business Environment Council Limited 溫明明的監督 (空词 (HEC)) has played a leading role in advocating the business case for wironmental excellence, given the importance of sustainable development to ong Kong, Our members are committed to actively engage with the HKSAR sourment (The Government) To help develop a supporting policy framework, well as impactul implementation in respect of environmental protection and stainability.

lews expressed in this submission are those of BEC, in line with BECS is ission and Vision as well as policy position on relevant issues, but may not cessarily be the same as the views of each individual member, BEC is an dependent charitable membership organisation comprising over 200 member mpanies from Hong Kong's major holding companies to small and mediumad enterprises.

. Preamble

. The Government released the Waste Blueprint for Hong Kong 2035 in February 2021', setting out a medium-term target of reducing per capita municipal solid waste ("MSW)' disposal by 40-50% and increasing the recovery rate to 55%, and a longer-term zero landfill vision by 2035.

2. Plastics made up 21% of all MSW sent to landfills in 2019, and 8.6% (200 tornes per day) of that was from plastic and polycam dining wares<sup>2</sup>. Given the scale and severity of the impacts of plastics to the marine ecosystem and Hong Kong's waste management system, and the Government's zero landfill vision, BEC supports in principle the introduction of legislaton to regulate disposable plasts tableware.

#### <sup>1</sup> https://www.enb.gov.hk/sites/delault/Res/od/waste\_blueprint\_2005\_eng.pdf <sup>2</sup> https://www.wasteroduction.gov.hk/sites/delault/Res/msx2019.pdf



## BEC + InvestHK Leadership Forum Series #2 -Reducing Waste Through Innovation and Partnership





BEC was honoured to welcome Secretary for the Environment Mr K.S. Wong for his keynote presentation in the second webinar of BEC + InvestHK Leadership Forum Series on 13 September, focusing on waste reduction and management.

Key takeaways:

- To prevent the generation of waste, innovation is needed not only for technologies, but also for public policy and changing mindsets.
- "Change is the new normal" companies can start with small scale waste reduction initiatives to prepare for larger changes. You may be surprised by how receptive and supportive employees in your organisation can be.

BEC and InvestHK will organise the final webinar of the Leadership Forum Series in late 2021 on the Government's climate action plan. Stay tuned!

# RECENT PUBLICATIONS 🗎

## **Developing Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Bunkering in Hong Kong**

In June, the Hong Kong Government announced in its Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong 2035 the intention to explore the use of liquefied natural gas ("LNG") in ocean-going vessels and formulate requirements and regulations for LNG bunkering in the coming years.

BEC's latest research report finds LNG a proven and available transition fuel to decarbonise shipping as we await other zero-carbon alternatives to become market ready. International standards and guidelines also provide a ready source of references to the Government as they develop appropriate regulations and guidelines for Hong Kong.

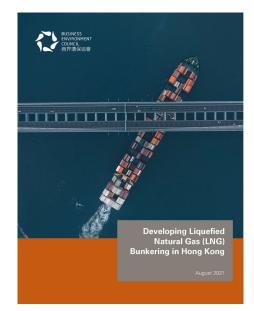
## BEC Jockey Club Intelligent Resource Management Programme - Waste Audit Methodology Guidebook

It is important to identify the composition of waste to formulate effective resource management solutions for buildings. By conducting a waste audit, you could understand the waste disposal habits of building users and identify potential improvement areas for waste reduction and recycling performance.

BEC is pleased to introduce the "Waste Audit Methodology Guidebook" under the Programme. The Guidebook includes information about categories of recyclables, methodology and procedures of waste audits, and a waste audit reporting guideline. Property management companies could take it as reference to conduct waste audits for their buildings to assist in the development of waste reduction action plans and management strategies.

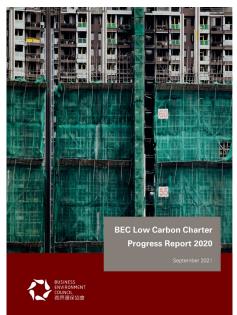
## **BEC Low Carbon Charter Progress Report 2020**

Reporting and disclosure are key elements in corporate decarbonisation and target setting. As a requirement under the BEC Low Carbon Charter, BEC values the importance of transparency and supports our signatories to "walk the talk" through an annual progress tracking exercise. In this report, BEC synthesised 67 responses from our 2020 signatories and reported their decarbonisation progress. It is found that signatories have set multiple decarbonisation targets of different timeframe to align with company strategies. A suite of decarbonisation initiatives such as company policies, operation optimisation and awareness raising are seen to be effective in achieving emission reduction goals.



## Waste Audit Methodology Guide





# UPCOMING EVENTS -M-

## Design for Recycling: Transforming Your Organisation 13 October



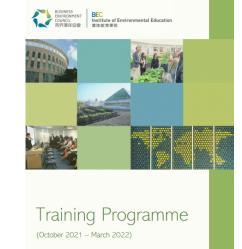
To assist businesses on their Design for Recycling ("DfR") journey, BEC will co-host "**Design for Recycling: Transforming Your Organisation**" webinar with Drink Without Waste. Our Director – Policy & Research Mr Simon Ng will join a group of local and overseas experts to share his thoughts and insights with the participants.

Registration details will be announced in due course. Stay tuned!

# **UPCOMING COURSES: BEC IEE TRAINING**

The BEC Institute of Environmental Education ("BEC IEE") offers a variety of courses for business professionals, including senior executives and managers, to advance their knowledge and skill sets.

We will soon announce details of the upcoming BEC IEE Training Programme (October 2021 – March 2022). Stay tuned!



# RETHINK HK 2021 CORNER -M-

Climate disclosures in the financial sector can sometimes feel like chasing a moving target. Regulators in APAC understand the need for increased disclosure and are implementing new regulations and mandating disclosure in line with TCFD. This session will discuss emerging requirements and expectations around the scope and quality of climate disclosures in the region.



RETHINK-EVENT.COM | #ACCELERATETHECHANGE

Join Mr Piers Touzel, Managing Partner – China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Environmental Resources Management on "Preparing for Mandated Climate Risk Disclosure (TCFD)" at the Sustainable Transformation Theatre (Keynote) on 5 October. In conversation with:

- Mr Mark Harper, Group Sustainable Development Manager, John Swire & Sons (H.K.) Ltd.
- Dr Nadira Lamrad, Director Sustainability and ESG Advisory, Business Environment Council
- Ms Zoe Lau, Vice President, BlackRock

**Click HERE for full conference programme** 

## **Council Members**

**Airport Authority Hong Kong ("AAHK")** has implemented a Weather Forecast for Air-conditioning Control System which employs big data and machine learning to forecast the cooling demand of the passenger terminal over the next 24 hours, and deliver the appropriate amount of cooling volume needed to eliminate unnecessary energy consumption. Hong Kong International Airport is the first airport in the world to adopt this predictive control model for air conditioning system. Together with the two new chillers replaced in 2021, an estimated 5.1 GWh of electricity can be saved a year, equivalent to the annual energy consumption of nearly 1,200 CLP Power residential customers.

Hang Lung Properties held a nationwide volunteer day under the theme of sustainability in Hong Kong and nine other Chinese cities on 11 September. As a key project to celebrate the founding anniversary of Hang Lung Group, the campaign involved around 800 corporate volunteers who dedicated their time to promote low-carbon living and deliver care to over 5,000 people in need. Volunteer team in Hong Kong arranged a visit to an organic farm for 100 primary students and distributed 1,000 eco gift packs to students from underprivileged families or with long-term illnesses.

In July, **Jardine Engineering Corporation** received the Energywi\$e Certificate from Hong Kong Green Organisation Certification for its green project management at the Shek Wu Hui Effluent Polishing Plant (Main Works Stage 1) project. Adhering to 5Rs concept (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair and Rethink), the project team implemented several upcycling initiatives such as turning coffee capsule into accessories, making fallen trees into table and phone stand, and reusing expired safety helmet as flowerpots to give waste materials a second life.

**Click HERE to learn more** 

People start to rethink corporate operation styles as climate change raises more attention these days. KONE has pledged to achieve carbon neutral by 2030 with two focus areas, namely use of circular materials and energy efficiency. Recently, **KONE Hong Kong** has taken a step towards a greener transportation by introducing two electric motorcycles, which achieve higher energy efficiency than the conventional ones and reduce direct emissions. As the motorcycles consist of portable battery, they can be charged at the depots easily, which is a good example of sustainable business - to maintain good quality of services without compromising the environment.









**Modern Terminals Limited** is determined to take bold actions to address climate change issue. In early September, the company announced its sustainability strategy, highlighted by decarbonisation goals in its own operations to eliminate direct greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions by 2030, and become carbon neutral by 2050. The strategy provides a clear roadmap for the ongoing sustainability journey of the container terminal operator with facilities in Hong Kong and Western Shenzhen.

#### **Click HERE to learn more**

**Shell Hong Kong Limited** is partnering with a private hospital to decarbonise through efficient energy solutions, such as powering the hospital's boilers with Shell's biodiesel. Nature-Based Solutions ("NBS") is also being deployed to compensate for the hospital's remaining CO<sub>2</sub> emissions with Shell's nature-based carbon credits generated from Shell's global portfolio of NBS projects. The collaboration enables the hospital to reduce carbon footprints on their sustainability journey.

#### **Click HERE to learn more**

**Siemens Limited** held Siemens Smart City Forum 2021 on 15 September to envision the future of smart cities and sustainable urban living. Themed "Technology to transform the everyday", the forum highlighted the latest smart city innovations and technological trends that can navigate today's challenges and meet tomorrow's needs. Leaders across the infrastructure and industry sectors shared their invaluable insights and engaged in conversations that will combine the digital and physical worlds and propel Hong Kong's sustainable development, enabling the city to achieve more with less.

#### Click HERE to learn more

**Sino Land Company Limited** has launched the first Green Mortgage Plan in Hong Kong with a local bank to support sustainable development and smart living. The Plan provides prospective purchasers with paperless and digital mortgage services for designated Sino Land residential projects that have received BEAM Plus Platinum or Gold rating, adopted sustainable building standards and featured energy-efficient designs. The entire mortgage process from mortgage application to bill management can be conducted online to reduce carbon footprint.

In August, **The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited ("Towngas")** received Gold Award in Manufacturing Sector and Sustainable Business Award under the BOCHK Corporate Environmental Leadership Awards 2020. Towngas received the Gold Award for the fourth time in six years and emerged from over 800 participating corporations as the highest rated company for sustainable development. This achievement fully affirmed Towngas' efforts in driving sustainable development and leading innovative way towards the zero-carbon era.

**Click HERE to learn more** 













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**SEPTEMBER 2021** 

# MEMBERS CORNER ~~~~

To realise the coal-to-gas transition for its power generation, **HK Electric** is currently building two new 380-MW gas-fired combined-cycle units, L11 and L12, in Lamma Power Station ("LPS"). Major site erection works for L11 were substantially completed while civil works for L12 are in full steam. Upon the commissioning of L11 in 2022 and L12 in 2023, HK Electric's gas-fired generation ratio will reach around 70%. Also under construction, the new control building for all gas-fired units in LPS has recently achieved a Provisional Platinum Rating under Beam Plus NB v2.0.

#### **Click HERE to learn more**

## **Corporate Members**

**China Harbour Engineering Company Limited** is using B5 biodiesel to power various types of mechanical equipment ranging from generators, backhoes to pavers at a project site in Sha Tin, replacing as many as 103,722 litres of traditional diesel since the project commenced last December. Thanks to better fuel combustion, less dark smoke is emitted when the equipment starts up.

**CLPe Solutions** has just completed the building, installation and commissioning of Hong Kong's largest battery energy storage system ("BESS") at Hong Kong International Airport ("HKIA") in collaboration with fellow BEC members Airport Authority Hong Kong and CLP Power Hong Kong. With a maximum power output of 4 megawatts, BESS serves as additional backup electricity supply of HKIA. Operating without fuel, it is more environmentally friendly than existing backup generators. BESS can also store electricity produced by the existing generators during routine testing. Using innovative technology, the three companies joined hands to enhance HKIA's energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions.

#### **Click HERE to learn more**

As a strong advocate of sustainability in logistics business practices, **CN Logistics** ("**CNL**") hosted green webinars to facilitate collaborations with its recycling partners and fashion clients to drive sustainable business practices through the cocreation of green solutions. The group's collaboration with an NGO commencing in April saw its textile recycling collections increase by 375% as of September.

#### **Click HERE to learn more**

To ascertain the local food security issue alongside with food wastage crisis, **Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Limited ("Hactl")** gathered a group of employees to participate in a volunteering event in September. Volunteers collected the surplus bread from chain bakeries all over Kowloon and brought them to a local NGO, who then delivered them to those in need. Despite the enormous amount of food waste generated in society, this event showed that feasible actions are actually available to address both environmental and social needs.











Launched last year, iLight is an iPad system that connects with the operating procedures and data of service centres. In September, **Inchcape Hong Kong** kicked off the second phase of the iLight app, which would focus on integrating iLight into our internal operations to raise efficiency and productivity and tap new aftersales business through a deeper data-driven approach. The app is also tipped to save close to two million sheets of paper annually, equivalent of saving 180 trees.

#### **Click HERE to learn more**

**Arup** is the UK government's sustainability consultant for COP26 in Glasgow this November, helping to deliver a carbon-neutral conference with sustainability at its core. Long committed to sustainable development with climate resilience at its core, Arup will host the "Race to Zero webinar series" across Asia in October. The event will bring together local governments, city authorities, professional organisations and experts from various fields to share insights on best practices, policies and trends on decarbonisation, as well as how we can understand challenges ahead and shape better solutions for the built environment to achieve net zero.

**Click HERE to learn more** 

In July, **SGS HK** arranged a knowledge sharing webinar on "Demonstrating Climate Leadership with Science Based Target (SBT)", offering a step-by-step guidance on target development, submission and validation. Through the sharing, companies would be able to set a clear path to achieve emissions reduction in line with climate science and learn how SBT enables them to stay competitive in the transition towards a zero-carbon economy.

#### Click HERE to learn more

**Vegware HK** is honoured to be selected as UK Pavilion's Sustainable Partner at HOFEX this September to supply plant-based, certified compostable packaging to the business partners and guests. Used Vegware disposables were collected on site and transferred to a designated composting facility for processing. The company believed compostable disposable is the only way to reduce packaging altogether with food waste; a true close-the-loop concept thus sustainable circular economy in the community.

Click HERE to learn more

As a supporting organisation of the annual Hong Kong Green Building Week, **WSP** walked the talk by participating in the Biz-Green Dress Day, an initiative to encourage office workers to dress lighter and turn the thermostat up for energy saving. The company was excited to welcome the campaign's mascots, Green Building Buddy and Hanson to its office. Let's be Biz-Green every day!

Click HERE to learn more



# ARUP

SGS





## **General Members**

To support Hong Kong's 2050 carbon neutrality target, Building Energy Analytics **Company Limited** is developing a patent-pending Software-as-a-Service ("SaaS") SMART 610 to transform energy audits into smart energy audits. The cost-cutting and cloud-based SaaS aims at speeding up building energy audits, energy and carbon management in Hong Kong. With more than 200 energy audit cases, the SaaS alpha-testing was largely successful. Entering the beta-testing stage, the company is now inviting interested parties to participate in the trial.

**Click HERE to sign up** 

Along with EV charging deployment, Cornerstone Technologies believe getting the sustainability message across to the public is equally essential. On 5 & 6 October. the company founder Mr Lawson Lau will share his insights on decarbonisation and food waste at ReThink HK 2021 co-organised by BEC.

**Click HERE to learn more** 

Crown Gas Stoves is offering a door-to-door recycling service under the iRecycle programme of fellow BEC member Baguio since 2020. In the past 6 months, as many as 30,363 glass and 76,624 plastic containers were collected. Even while staying in during the COVID-19 pandemic, registered users may still recycle glass and plastic containers by making an appointment by phone or WhatsApp for collection. After recycling, users can earn iDollars and redeem gifts at select green merchants.

Click HERE to learn more

In August, GreenCo ESG Advisory Limited ("GreenCo") started to offer free CPD training courses online to the public, focusing on the exploration and sharing of global best ESG practices through well-prepared case studies. Participants can learn from the training materials on different sustainability topics in various industries, complete a quiz, and obtain a training certificate with CPD hours as they deepen their understanding of sustainability.

**Click HERE to learn more** 

Committed to building a better and more sustainable world, Intertek organised a series of sustainability webinars this summer to share knowledge and expertise with industry players, so as to help corporations achieve their sustainable development goals. Elaborating on biodegradability, microfibre shedding assessment, recycled polyester testing and Textile Exchange standards, the webinars engaged the community to enable positive environmental changes.

**Click HERE to learn more** 











# **WELCOME NEW BEC MEMBERS**

## **Corporate Members**

• Hilti Asia Limited



• Vegware Hong Kong Limited



## **General Members**

- Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited
- Krystal Institute Limited

# Not a BEC Member yet?

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL 商界環保協會 MEMBERSHIP

Join us now to enjoy member exclusive rights and benefits! Please visit **HERE** or contact **Membership Team (T. 2784 3960 | E. membership@bec.org.hk)** to explore more.

Want to share your company's latest green news with over 6,000 BEC newsletter subscribers from various industries? BEC Council, Corporate and General Members are welcomed to submit their exciting news/ technology/ activities related to sustainability and environmental excellence to us. Please contact **Ms Jaz Chan (T. 2784 3912 | E. jazchan@bec.org.hk)** for submissions and enquiries.

# BEC SUPPORTED EVENTS 👰

- Global AI Challenge for Building E&M Facilities Technical Conference | The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department & Guangdong Provincial Association for Science and Technology | 12 October
- Race to Zero webinar series Uniting Asia to combat climate change | Arup, Civic Exchange, FCDO, ICE, WGBC and WWF | 18-22 October
- Symposium on Innovation & Technology 2021: Revive & Thrive | Hong Kong Electronics & Technologies Association | 27 October
- Eco Expo Asia 2021 | Hong Kong Trade Development Council & Messe Frankurt (HK) Ltd | 27-30 October
- Eco Expo Asia 2021 Hong Kong Pavilion | Environmental Protection Department & Federation of Hong Kong Industries | 27-30 October
- Global AI Challenge for Building E&M Facilities | Electrical and Mechanical Services Department | October -December
- ESG Forum 2021 | Hong Kong Economic Journal | 2 November
- Social Enterprise Summit 2021 | SES | 4-6 November
- CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme Launching Ceremony | Construction Industry Council | 5 November
- International Conference on Advancing Net Zero | Hong Kong Green Building Council | 23-26 November
- "Advancing Net Zero" Ideas Competition | Hong Kong Green Building Council | ongoing until 31 December
- Science in the Public Service (SIPS) | Hong Kong Observatory | 2021
- Enterprises Cherish Water Campaign (ECH20) | Water Supplies Department | 2021
- BOCHK Corporate Environmental Leadership Awards 2021 | Federation of Hong Kong Industries | 2021

#### **Click HERE to see more**

