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TAJUK ARTIKEL	BAOTOU TURNS INTO WIND POWER EQUIPMENT HUB		
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Baotou turns into wind power equipment hub

BAOTOU: Once a heavy industrial base built on steel and rare earths, Baotou in the Inner Mongolia autonomous region is reinventing itself as a key player in China's green energy transition, with onshore wind power equipment becoming its latest industrial cluster.

At the Ming Yang New Energy Equipment Manufacturing Industrial Park, the shift is visible.

Assembly lines are working in full swing, with robotic arms moving with steady precision, fastening bolt after bolt. At first glance, the pace does not seem extraordinary, but the difference is striking.

"Forty-two bolts on a single unit would take three workers nearly 16 hours with heavy hydraulic wrenches.

"The robots finish the job in just four," said He Changguo, general manager of Ming Yang Group's northern manufacturing centre.

"Our production lines are running flat out for more than 10 projects, piecing together turbines bound for projects across Inner Mongolia and neighbouring provinces," said He.

Baotou hosts 44 onshore wind power equipment makers, spanning turbines, blades, generators, gearboxes and towers.

Guangdong-headquartered Ming Yang Group, a major renewable power equipment and solutions maker, which entered the city in 2021, has since expanded from a single plant into the anchor of the local supply chain.

The parts localisation rate for turbine units is expected to reach 85% this year, allowing most core components, from gearboxes and generators to bolts, to be produced within the city.

The city's ambition is tangible at one of the country's largest blade testing centres, which started operations in 2024. — China Daily/ANN

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