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## FIRST VLDB IN MAINLAND CHINA

As the Local Organization Chair of this year's VLDB, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce to you the wonderful city of Hangzhou, which is to host the upcoming VLDB 2014. Located at the southern tip of the Yangtze River Delta, Hangzhou is the capital of the highly developed Zhejiang province in eastern China. Having a culture-rich history dating back to two centuries B.C., Hangzhou boasts of its influential position in ancient poetry, textile design, calligraphy, and other numerous forms of traditional Chinese arts. Besides all these man-made wonders, the city is most famous for the natural scenes around the mythical West Lake, a major tourist area surrounded by tens of attractions. While boating on the lake is a must-go tour for most, you may be more excited about a detour into the serenity of the HuPao Ancient Temple, a light hiking at dawn towards the Baochu Pagoda, or cycling at dusk on the Bai Causeway.

While maintaining its historic, romantic name of "earthly paradise", Hangzhou is striving to earn the title of "IT paradise" of China today. The city is home to several major players in the Chinese ICT industry. It has also aggregated tens of thousands of young technological entrepreneurs venturing out of its High-Tech District and University Incubators.

This year's VLDB is not only a fiesta for the world's database academics and industry, but also a landmark event for the Chinese database community. On behalf of the local organizing team at Zhejiang University, I would like to deliver my heartfelt thanks to all those who have helped and sponsored this event. Please join us in the picturesque city of Hangzhou!

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Lidan Shou, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China
Local Organization Chair, VLDB 2014