CHECKING YOUR SYSTEM for the 2017 CHINA TOWN HALL

For this year’s CHINA Town Hall live webcast, we will be using LiveStream’s platform. The hardware, software, and Internet connection requirements of the CHINA Town Hall webcast are all fairly standard on today’s computers and networks. Nevertheless, we strongly suggest you conduct some testing ahead of the October 24 CHINA Town Hall to give yourself and us an opportunity to detect and eliminate any problems.

Please conduct your tests as soon as possible, and no later than Thursday, October 19.

BROAD SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Hardware
- 400 MHz or faster
- At least 128 MB RAM
- 16-bit sound card
- 256-color video card
- Screen resolution of at least 1024x768
- High-quality LCD projector or other monitor to display the video
- Speakers/audio system

Software
- Current operating system
- Recently updated Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, or Safari, as these browsers tend to get the best results
- For the optimal experience, we also recommend clearing your browser’s cache, and ensuring Flash and Java are up to date.

Internet Connection
- Fast, hard-wired connection, such as T1, DSL, or cable modem. The event will be streamed at 700kbps, so your connection should meet or exceed this speed. You can test your system’s download speed at http://www.speedtest.net/.
- A dedicated (e.g., not shared) connection works best


TEST YOUR SYSTEM: SIMULATION

To test how your system will perform on October 24, please select one of LiveStream’s live offerings available at http://livestream.com/watch.

Not all of LiveStream’s live videos are available at the highest quality – HD 720p. Make sure that your choice is, or choose a different one that is.

Check that video is live: A live video will be labeled “LIVE” in the upper left-hand corner. Archived events will perform differently on your system. (Note: LiveStream offers live events frequently, but we cannot guarantee that there will be a streaming live event available 24/7.)
Check video quality: Using your mouse, hover over the playing video. In the bottom right corner is the quality indicator (it looks like a gear, and is to the left of the “full screen” icon).

Go Full Screen: The icon in the lower right allows you to take the video full screen. View the test video at full screen, and check audio as well.

Best Practices for Testing
- When conducting your system tests, please simulate the conditions you plan to use the night of the event as closely as possible. Most importantly, please be sure to use the same computer and same Internet connection that you will utilize to stream the CHINA Town Hall webcast.
- Please ensure that your computer is hooked up to the Internet via a HARD-WIRED high-speed connection. (Despite its convenience, using a Wi-Fi connection is strongly discouraged, as it may not provide the bandwidth necessary to download the high-quality streaming media.)
- For the test and CTH event, please make sure that you’ve closed out of all unnecessary programs on the computer; otherwise, these programs may hog memory that will impede the quality of the webcast.

If your system is able to receive clear video and audio, you should be in good shape for the CHINA Town Hall.

QUESTIONS OR ISSUES?
If your tests are unsuccessful and/or you have questions or issues that you are unable to resolve, please contact Nicholas Young (nyoung@ncuscr.org, 212-645-9677 x29) right away so that we can work with you on a solution.