

Traffic monitoring system takes top prize

AN Integrated Grid System (IGS) designed to collect and analyse traffic data as a way to monitor the traffic movement within every intersections of the city won the "Go Green In The City" University Challenge organised by Schneider Electric, a specialist in energy management and automation.

The winning duo, Ng Jia Sheng and Lim Shu Men of team Vidor representing Taylor's University received RM5,000 bursary, a winning trophy as well as a Certificate of Honour.

"IGS is built up of many single grids throughout the city, each grid is defined by the conditions of each intersections identified in the city, usually placed on denser part of the city with high traffic intersections.

"The system — powered by piezoelectric plates that are planted under the roads and walkways — is also designed to be sustainable. The technology is powered by the pressure of moving vehicles or footsteps, producing electricity that will be used to power any electrical components inside the grid and collecting data at the same time," said Ng.

The students are now hoping to promote their ideas among city developers in Malaysia and thus contribute to the development of greener cities in the country.

The annual competition, into its seventh edition, challenges students to come up with workable ideas for efficient and sustainable energy management.

Under the theme "Think Big. Think Green. Think Schneider Electric.", students are required to illustrate their ideas for innovative energy management solutions in cities for one of the four basic Schneider Electric business challenge topics: Strategy & Technology, Cooling Solution,

Energy Efficiency, Energy Storage & Efficiency, Integrated urban energy systems or focus on any unique idea for going green.

Ng and Lim will compete via conference call against 12 other teams from Indonesia, Cambodia, Korea, Japan, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, Australia and New Zealand at the Asia Pacific Region Finals on July 11.

If they win, they will get a place in the international finals at Schneider Electric headquarters in Rueil-Malmaison, France which will be held from Oct 9 to Oct 13. "We will do our best and make Malaysia proud," said Lim.

Both of them agreed that they would need to improve their presentation skills using a proper technique to deliver the right message to the audience, as well as using visual aids to help the audience understand the system better.

"The crucial part is to strengthen our idea with more realistic figures and facts. We will receive training from Schneider Electric Malaysia as well, who will be prepping us for the East Asia Competition.

"We hope that we could at least excel to the final round in Paris, and possibly in the future that our concept would at least be adapted into reality in major cities around the world," said Ng, adding the team planned to create a prototype to showcase the concept.

Team Double H represented by Muhammad Hafidz Khairudin and Htet Htet Moe Oo, from UCSI bagged the 1st runner-up title with their idea on Smart Self-Sustain Green Gym while team Greenade represented by Lim Sing Yee and Chin Yu Hong, from UCSI and UTAR, was awarded the 2nd runner-up title with their idea on Smart Air-conditioning.

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NG JIA SHENG



Schneider Electric Malaysia country manager Soo Pow Leong (third from left) with the winners (from left) Muhammad Hafidz Khairudin, Htet Htet Moe Oo, Ng Jia Sheng, Lim Shu Wen, Lim Sing Yee and Chin Yu Hong at the Schneider Electric Go Green in the City's University Challenge held recently.