"BorneoRobot (BRT)" goes worldwide at PRIDE 2013-2014

The BorneoRobot (BRT) concept put forward by UTAR Team stole the lime light in The 2nd International Robot Pride Competition and Exhibition (Pride 2013-2014) held at Dewan Sri Budiman, UiTM Shah Alam on 21-22 June 2014. The annual international event themed “Technology for Domestic Use and Disabled Community” was aimed to explore and exhibit innovative ideas and designs within the scope of Robotics, Sensors, Automation, Computation and Intelligent Systems.

In relation to the theme this year, four UTAR Centre of Immersive Technology and Creativity (CITC) members namely lecturers Aloysius Yapp, Mohd Fairuz bin Ali, Ng Perng Jeu (PJ), and specialist Goh Kiang Kuan introduced RBT, a concept used to promote potential roles of robots in increasing human’s daily productivity and their limitations.

The idea that came from Aloysius was developed further by the team and illustrated in a digital storyline production about a local Iban boy’s encounter with a robot.

“BRT carries messages about the relationship between four elements which are human, nature, technology, and culture. The story of how the Iban boy encounters a robot in his life is an interesting illustration of BRT in a simplest way,” said Aloysius representing his teammates.

Aloysius and the team who also showcased their artworks for the innovative design in robotech at the exhibition were elated as the event paved ways for more possible collaborations in making BRT a successful production.

Adding on what brought more joy to the team is the international recognition gained for BRT as they were invited to produce a publication with Procedia Computer Science, an open access online journal series indexed in SCOPUS. The worldwide freely-available journal series is hosted on www.Elsevier.com and Elsevier content platform, ScienceDirect (www.sciencedirect.com). All the papers published in Procedia will also be indexed by Thomson Reuter’s Conference Proceeding Citation, another significant source of reference for researchers recognised globally.

PRIDE 2013-2014 was organised by the Center of Excellence for Humanoid Robots and Bio-Sensing (HuRoBs), Faculty of Mechanical Engineering UiTM, and IEEE-RAS Malaysia Chapter. Stands for “Performance, Reliability, Innovation, Design, Exploratory”, PRIDE focuses on fundamental and application using creative engineering and computer technologies towards potential exploration as commercial products. It is also a platform where inventors meet the investors and endorsed by Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) and Ministry of Education (MOE) Malaysia.

From left: Ng, Aloysius, Goh, and Mohd Fairuz with their certificates of participation at the programme venue

From left: Aloysius, Goh and Ng together with their concept artwork during the exhibition

Aloysius representing his team to explain their robotic concept to the judges