

SABER DID UMP PROUD AT ECO-CHALLENGE 2012



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Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) won first place at the Eco-Challenge competition after its car, named Saber, was announced as the champion in the design category.

The competition was organised by Perusahaan Otomobil Kedua Sdn. Bhd. (Perodua) at Malacca International Motorsports Circuit (MIMC) recently.

The objective was to expose the participants on constructing a vehicle by taking into consideration the weight reduction, engine performance and aerodynamic design adapted according to their creativity.

The SAE team was the first runner up

in the longest-distance driven for manual transmission Myvi category in 2010.

Project adviser and Faculty of Mechanical Engineering lecturer, Gan Leong Ming said they did not expect to win in the design category.

He added that in the previous competition, the team was given a Perodua car.

This time around the organiser only supplied a 660cc capacity three-cylinder engine, a transmission system and RM17,500 cash for participants to build their own vehicles, he said.

“The success is a result of teamwork, determination and creativity by the students comprising 16 of them,” he said.

Team leader Nurul Faraheen Abd Latif said there were times they worked on the vehicle up to 5am but it was worth it.

“The name Saber is chosen as it is a Malayan tiger and it represents strong spirit and courage and these are the qualities needed when facing challenges.

“The project started six months ago and the team gained a lot of experience especially

in dealing with the challenges in meeting the deadline.

“All the hard work and persistence are worth it and Saber was completed within the time frame given and after going through a lot of hardship leading to the competition.

The annual contest organised by Perodua offered prizes totaling RM77,000.

There were three categories in this year’s Perodua Eco-Challenge – design, engineering and longest-distance driven vehicle using 0.5 litre Petronas Primax Xtra 95.

The winner of the longest-distance driven vehicle was Ungku Omar Polytechnic covering 24.7km while second place was Universiti Industri Selangor with 19.1km and Universiti Sains Malaysia took home the third prize with 17.4km.

The engineering category was won by Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, second prize by Universiti Sains Malaysia and third, Universiti Kuala Lumpur.

UMP was the champion for the design category and took home a cash prize of RM5,000 while Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia won the second place with RM3,000 and Universiti Teknologi MARA, third with RM1,000.

Also present were Malacca Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam and Perodua Managing Director, Datuk Aminar Rashid Salleh.