The multiple medal winnings at the Malaysia Technology Expo (MTE) 2010, which took place on February 4-6 at the Putra World Trade Centre, went on to prove that Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) researchers' capabilities are on par with their counterparts at the other national universities, as well as that of the private sector's.

This year, UMP sent in eight research products to compete. With participants coming from six faculties and one centre, the university coveted two gold, two silver and three bronze medals. These medals were a showcase of UMP's success, with seven of its eight projects getting professional jury's recognition, beating hands down other long-established public institutions of higher learnings.

UMP took home the first gold through Dr Hayder A Abdul Bari - a lecturer from the Faculty of Chemical Engineering & Natural Resources (FKKSA) - with his research product entitled "Formulation of a New Multipurpose Grease Using Bleaching Earth and Cooking Oil Wastes (From Waste to Wealth)".

Dr Hayder's research resulted in the production of a multipurpose grease - applicable for use in many industrial machinery, such as those in automotive, aviation and shipping - which is, by far, more cost-effective than the ones currently found in the market.

Adding to his gold, Dr Hayder also won a silver medal for his project called "Paddy Husk Wastes as a New Natural Solid Flow Improver for Turbulent Liquid Flow in Pipelines". In this project, Dr Hayder conducted an experiment using paddy husk as a friction-reducing agent when transporting crude oil and other minerals through the pipelines.

The university's other gold medalist was Youventhran Duraisamy from the Faculty of Civil Engineering & Earth Resources. The lecturer's research product, entitled "Tropical Peat Sampler with Built-in Extruder (TROPITOR)", is a construction industry's must-have - the equipment samples soil strength to determine whether a building can be erected on it.

UMP's Dean of Faculty of Manufacturing Engineering & Technology Management, Professor Dr Ahmad Othman, took home the second silver medal with his project called "Method for Assessing an Organization, or an Individual, using Technology Absorptive Matrix Software (TAMS) for Technology Transfer Purposes".

Professor Dr Ahmad invented such innovative software to benefit individuals and organizations who are seeking an effective method of technology transfer. The software allows individuals and organizations alike to access information from multiple locations.

Meanwhile, UMP's bronze medals came from lecturers Kumaran Kadigama from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering; Dr Iqbal Ahmed from FKKSA; and Dr Noraziah Ahmad from the Faculty of Computer Systems & Software Engineering.