

## COMMUNITISING TECHNOLOGY

# UMP award shows R&D focus success

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**U**NIVERSITI Malaysia Pahang's (UMP) success in securing the National Innovation Award for Product Category at the 2017 National Innovation and Creative Economy Expo (Nice) on Friday is testament to the university's impact in research and development (R&D).

This is courtesy of its product, *Pisoptera*, the first-ever environmentally-friendly technology that combats termite infestations.

*Pisoptera* is commercialised by UMP Ecopest Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary

of UMP, which also commercialised the insecticide product, *PestKilla*.

UMP Vice-Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Daing Nasir Ibrahim said the university was committed to realising its role and social responsibility in a manner consistent with its "Communitising Technology" agenda.

He said this was based on implementation of the 2016-2020 UMP Strategic Plan to develop UMP's potential and competitiveness by taking knowledge and technology to society.

"The success will encourage UMP denizens to continue to support and strengthen technology commercialisation at the university

by creating products and technology with the potential to benefit communities.

For example, through *Pisoptera*, people can tackle the problem of unmanaged residual waste, and at the same time, reap financial returns.

"The problem of discarded empty oil palm fruit bunches has been turned into an 'advantage' via *Pisoptera*, which transforms the discarded material into a high-value anti-termite product."

To boost the R&D ecosystem that communitises technology, UMP has introduced the UMP-Community Technology Solution Platform Grant, which uses a technological



Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh (third from right) and Universiti Malaysia Pahang Vice-Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Daing Nasir Ibrahim (right) visiting a booth promoting the *Pisoptera* insecticide product at the International Conference and Exposition on Inventions by Institutions of Higher Learning in Kuala Nerus, Terengganu, recently. PIC BY NAUFAL SAMSUDIN

approach to provide solutions to communal and industrial needs.

The success of UMP Ecopest and UMP Keraglow Sdn Bhd, another UMP subsidiary, had led to these companies being picked to receive the University Start-Up Recognition Award through the QB3 Train-the-Trainer programme, courtesy of the Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation.

The university was awarded six gold, two silver, and seven bronze

medals in the International Conference and Exposition on Inventions by Institutions of Higher Learning 2017 (Pecipta 2017), a Higher Education Ministry event held in Kuala Nerus, Terengganu, recently.

*Pisoptera*, which was invented by Abdul Syukor Abd Razak, a researcher with UMP's Faculty of Civil Engineering and Earth Resources, had secured a gold medal in Pecipta 2017.