

Bridge 2 Inventor Challenge 2018 - The Innovation of “Smart Sport for Disabled”

Thai Bridgestone conducted the eleventh edition of the “Bridge 2 Inventor Challenge 2018” during 7-9 November 2018 at Uttaradit Daruni School, Uttaradit Province, aiming to motivate nationwide young generations to fully utilize their skills and knowledge in science and technology education as well as to drive the innovation competitiveness in support of Thailand 4.0 transformation model. The theme for this year’s challenge is “Smart Sport for Disabled”.



Bridge 2 Inventor Challenge 2018

Mr. Hideyuki Takeda, Managing Director of Thai Bridgestone Co., Ltd., shared “Bridgestone is the No.1 Brand in tire industry in Thailand. We strive to accelerate sustainable mobility for our customers and society through advanced technologies and solutions in accordance with Bridgestone’s mission “Serving Society with Superior Quality”. Recognizing the importance of science education and technology innovation, Bridgestone has been actively supporting Bridge 2 Inventor for eleven years. We hope this activity can strengthen Thai youths’ interests and skills and

become key professional contributors of Thailand's development in the long term and another step into international level, in order to support of Thailand 4.0 sustainable development model."



Mr. Hideyuki Takeda with the first prize winner for this year's challenge

Mr. Pracha Khampakdi, Professor of Engineering Faculty, Ubon Ratchathani University, Project Manager of Bridge 2 Inventor 2018 said " 'Smart Sport for Disabled', which is the most challenging theme ever. For the past, the challenge was specific to only one part such as "Smart Sport" or "Innovation for Disabled". However, we combine two themes into one challenge for this year.

In the final round, 40 teams from all over the country propose their ideas through their inventions such as Wheelchair racing, Archery, Running, Basketball, Handball, etc. to help and support the disabled people.



Mr. Pracha Khampakdi, (No.1 from the left) with the young inventors

The first prize winner for this year's challenge was the "Good Goalball" from Satee Chaiyaphum School whose invention is a goalball training device for supporting blind people. The device was developed for monitoring the goalball position by applying Micro-Controller linked with motor, was able to send the vibration signal to the blind players to prevent their goal from the competitor team. The winner team consists of three members, Ms. Kochaporn Kangkan, Ms. Premruedee Mangmee, and Ms. Laksika Buayam, that coached by their teacher, Mr. Kraingkrai Chamnongchob.

One of the first prize winner team said "This goalball training device for blind people is initiated based on the innovative thinking. When we think of the sports for the disabled, we are generally familiar with Wheelchair racing, Basketball, and Handball. Our team intends to create the unique training device especially for blind people, which can help them to practice their sport skills and workout like other people. Most importantly, we would like to express our sincere appreciation towards Thai Bridgestone for giving us this great opportunity to explore our own potentials in technology and innovation through Bridge 2 Inventor Challenge. We made determination to do well academically and being good contributors for Thailand's development in the future.

About Bridgestone:

Bridgestone Corporation, headquartered in Tokyo, is the world's largest tire and rubber company. In addition to tires for use in a wide variety of applications, it also manufactures a broad range of diversified products, which include industrial rubber and chemical products and sporting goods. Its products are sold in over 150 nations and territories around the world.

In Thailand, Bridgestone has managed to achieve sustainable growth and success through a great confidence from end-users, dealers, and automotive manufacturers since its production 49 years ago. Through our history, the company has shown a great determination to research, invent, and create excellent products that are suitable for domestic use. Additionally, together with well selected raw materials, state-of-the-art production facilities and machines, and highest standard of quality control, these enable Bridgestone to journey on the same path with corporate mission – “Serving Society with Superior Quality.”

For more information, please contact:

Ms. Pattarawall Khanthong

Corporate Communication and Social Contribution Section Manager

Bridgestone Sales (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

Tel: 0-2636-1505 Ext. 2381 Email: pattarawall.khanthong@bridgestone.com