

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SST students to pitch smart urban solutions to industry experts at the 2016 SST-3M InnoScience Challenge

Concepts include electricity-generating water turbines and adjustable road dividers for easing road congestion

Singapore, May 18, 2016 – In line with Singapore’s vision to be a Smart Nation, more than 200 secondary one students from the School of Science and Technology, Singapore (SST) were placed at the forefront of global megatrends at the 2016 SST-3M InnoScience Challenge. Themed ‘Liveable Cities’, students from the Art, Design, Media & Technology (ADMT) discipline are tasked to come up with concepts to address future challenges such as Urbanisation, Smart Mobility, and Energy Sustainability.

The most fascinating and innovative projects will be showcased today at the ADMT Lab in SST. These include electricity-generating water turbines; adjustable road dividers for easing road congestion; magnets that enables effortless lightbulb-changing; and an enhanced user-friendly thermometer.

The finalist teams – shortlisted from 50 groups each comprising 3-5 students from SST’s 2016 secondary one cohort – will present their projects via a 10-minute story-telling and/or elevator pitch session to a panel of judges. The winning project will be evaluated based on their creativity, scientific knowledge, persuasiveness and delivery and content of the presentation.

The judges, bringing along their design, engineering and technological expertise that support Singapore’s smart nation transformation, include:

- Guest-of-Honour Professor Kristin Wood, Head of Pillar, Engineering Product Development and Co-Director, SUTD-MIT International Design Centre, from Singapore University of Technology and Design;
- Vivien Chow, Director, Applied Innovation and Partnership, Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore;
- Dr Tan Ah Kat, Deputy Director from the School of Design and Environment, Ngee Ann Poly; and
- Pang Hoke Woei, Senior Business Manager, Advanced Solutions Commercialisation, 3M Singapore

Members of the winning team will receive 3M LED Polarizing Light B1500 lamps worth up to \$995 while the three runners-up will each receive 3M prize packs. There is also a Best Speaker award. All finalists will also be awarded a tour of 3M Singapore’s Customer Technical Centre which showcases 3M science and technologies.

Now in its second year, the InnoScience Challenge is co-organised by SST and 3M Singapore. It is designed to inspire and nurture the innovative spirit of the participants, encouraging them to take science beyond textbooks and apply it in the right way to improve lives.

The student groups were given two months to develop their projects, where they got to work alongside and consult 3M Singapore staff members acting as mentors during the research and prototyping phase. The mentors were handpicked based on their involvement in relevant technologies and outreach activities that have benefitted the community greatly.

Teams were also provided with 3M Innovator's Toolkits – specially designed for rapid prototyping - to create, test and develop the working prototypes. Teams could leverage on specialized 3M materials provided, while utilizing techniques such as cardboard modelling techniques, papercut techniques as well as 3D printing (for special parts).

Mrs Linda Chan, Principal of SST, said: "SST's aim has always been to nurture the next generation of passionate innovators who improve society through hands-on applications of science and technology. To do so, we consistently provide our students with opportunities to apply what they learn in school to real-world problems. Our collaboration with 3M has enabled students to gain deeper insights through their mentorship under skilled practitioners in the industry."

Mr Arthur Fong, Managing Director of 3M Singapore, concurred: "Collaboration is always part of the 3M DNA, and students are among the key communities we engage. We constantly look at how we can be closer to our communities to develop solutions that address the challenges in the local markets."

"As a science company, 3M understands the importance of developing next generation's innovators. This year, 3M is celebrating its 50th anniversary of improving lives in Singapore, and we are committed to grow with the student community together through our resources and capabilities. These include our 3M staff volunteering as mentors, to the 3M Innovator's Toolkit which was specially designed to inspire students to harness their Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) skills."

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About 3M and 3M Singapore

At 3M, we apply science in collaborative ways to improve lives daily. With \$30 billion in sales, our 90,000 employees connect with customers all around the world. Learn more about 3M's creative solutions to the world's problems at www.3M.com or on Twitter @3M or @3MNewsroom.

3M has been improving lives in Singapore for 50 years. Since its founding in 1966, 3M Singapore has grown from its humble beginnings with only 8 employees, to a company with more than 1,600 employees and established local capabilities to serve the needs of local, regional and global customers. 3M's presence in Singapore includes two manufacturing plants at Woodlands and Tuas, an R&D Center at Woodlands, and a Customer Technical Center, laboratory and other supply chain and business operations based at Yishun. For more information on 3M, please visit www.3M.com.sg.

About School of Science and Technology, Singapore

The School of Science and Technology, Singapore (SST) is a Specialised Independent School that offers a distinctive 4-year GCE O-Level programme with an integrated approach to applied learning. Learning in SST is multi-faceted as students gain a strong foundation of key academic concepts in core subjects like Mathematics and Science. Receiving institutions of the first two cohorts of graduated students have reported that the SST students demonstrate a distinct difference in the way they approach their learning, indicating that the school is well on its way to becoming a global leader in transforming learning and nurturing passionate innovators through real-world applications of science and technology. For more information, visit www.sst.edu.sg.

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