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BRUNEI TO PARTICIPATE IN 2013 SHELL ECO-MARATHON ASIA

For the third year running, Brunei will be sending its team to the Shell Eco-marathon Asia held in June 2013 at the Sepang International Circuit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Shell Eco-marathon is a competition which challenges students to design, build and drive a vehicle that can travel the furthest distance on the least amount of fuel and lowest possible CO₂ emissions.

It encourages students to design, build and test their energy-efficient vehicles and these will be judged by Industry experts as well as Shell engineers.

First line finish or speed will not be an important aspect of the competition but instead the fuel efficiency of the vehicles and those who can stretch the limits of using a litre of fuel.

The competition is part of Shell's 'Mobility' campaign in finding more innovative ways and developing more energy-efficient fuels and lubricants; and helping to reduce CO₂ emissions.

As preparation of the 2013 competition, Brunei Shell Petroleum yesterday handed over the seed money for the participating team.

This was handed over to the participating team by the Acting Minister of Education, Yang Mulia Dato Seri Setia Hj Yusoff Hj Ismail who received it from BSP's Managing Director, Ken Marnoch.

So far Pusat Latihan Mekanik (PLM), Sekolah Vokasional Sultan Bolkiah (SVSB) and Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) have confirmed their participation for next year competition.

Brunei first participated in the Shell Eco-marathon Asia in 2011 by pitting eco-cars built by students from the PLM and SVSB against 103 other teams representing 12 countries from Japan, India, China and the ASEAN countries on the Sepang International Circuit.

Three vehicles were sent during Brunei's first participation in the event. In 2012, this increased to 5 vehicles with the participation of UBD.

The vehicles built by the students are extremely fuel efficient and competed in the various categories of petrol, electricity or solar power. The designs represent what can be achieved with current technology and offer a glimpse into the future of car design based on minimal environmental impact in a world with reduced oil reserves.

The competition itself is a good platform for the students to expose their engineering skills and knowledge at the global stage.

Our participation capably demonstrated that students from Brunei also have the capability to build fuel efficient vehicles.

The Bruneian record was built by the PLM students that ran for 142kms, which is equivalent to driving all the way from Muara to Seria, on just one litre of unleaded fuel or about 50 cents worth of fuel. Another PLM team, with their 'PLM Alpha3' car, did the country proud by winning the 'Perseverance in the Face of Adversity Award' in this year's competition for their sheer will and determination.

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Notes to Editors: Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sdn Bhd (BSP) should be referred as BSP or Brunei Shell Petroleum for abbreviation or headline purposes. Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sdn Bhd's activity is primarily for the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas from onshore and offshore fields. The Government of Brunei Darussalam and a company in the Royal Dutch Shell Group of Companies each owns a 50% stake in BSP.