

ABU ROBOCON NEWS

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ROBOCON MONGOLIA 2009

The Robocon Mongolia 2009 was held at the Wrestling Palace in the capital city of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar on 17 & 18 April.

21 teams from 15 universities and colleges including four from the countryside participated in the contest. Over 2400 audiences filled the venue to cheer their favorite team and witness the unique showdown of ideas. According to our survey, about 320 students were involved in the robot production among 21 teams meaning each team consists of 15-16 students. Some private institutions of information technology, School of Civil Engineering and School of Mining Engineering registered as new entrants which indicate that Robocon really put down roots in Mongolia.



The opening ceremony was attended by Ambassador Extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Japan Mongolia, Mr Kidokoro and Director of Mongolian National Broadcaster, Ms Oyundari who delivered congratulatory speech.

The venue heated up as the game proceeded from preliminaries to final rounds. As a result of exciting match, the Soyombo team from School of Information Technology of National University of Mongolia won the champion title. It was their 3rd victory in a row!



The Soyombo team did not only won every match from preliminaries to the final round but also made it to the Victory Drum in the shorter time than previous match and impressed audiences. On the other hand, there were some robots that didn't function as planned or went to wrong direction which made me realize that this year's contest theme was rather challenging.

At the end of the contest, all participants had tears in their eyes – some wept in joy, others in sorrow. However, a hard work of 6 months finally came to a close for this year.

Some students have already set their minds to the future saying that they would participate continuously and improve their robot to do better in the coming years. Many asked when Mongolia would host ABU ROBOCON and expressed their hope to see it happening before they graduate.



Photos and Report by Mr Ganzorig Dashzeveg, Producer, Mongolian National Broadcaster

Vietnam Robot Contest 12-17 May 2009

Vietnam Television, the organiser of one of the biggest domestic contests in the South East Asia received 286 applications for this year's preliminaries. Three regional contests were held in North, Midland and South from early to mid April.



The Midland Contest started on 3 April at the Da Nang University followed by the South Contest at the Rach Mieu Sport Complex in Ho Chi Minh City on 6 April then the North Contest at the Tay Ho Sport Complex Hanoi took off on 10 April. The teams unfolded fierce battle in order to be in the top 32 teams who can proceed to the finals that will be held from 12-17 May.

Having won the 1st ABU ROBOCON held in Tokyo in 2002, Vietnam has set the record of winning the champion title every other year since. However in 2008, China blocked their way and achieved the 2nd victory. Will Vietnam rise again to set the record straight? Their revival attracts nationwide and worldwide attention.

Vietnam Television plans to broadcast 1hr programme featuring three regional preliminaries at 20:00 from 17 April to 10 May. On the eve of the Finals 11 May, an-hour live programme 'Robocon & Rock' will go on the air. The Finals will broadcast live from 20:00-21:00 daily from 12-17 May on VTV's channel.

More news on the finals held from 12-17 May will follow in the Robocon News 135.

Photos and Report by Ms Ngo Thi Hong Lien, Vietnam Television

Robocon News is published by ABU ROBOCON Secretariat Tokyo. If you have any request or queries, please contact us at st.iizuka-me@nhk-ep.co.jp.