



# ABU ROBOCON NEWS

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## National College of Technology Robocon 2010



The 23rd National College of Technology Robocon 2010, a showdown of unique ideas using handmade robot was held in Japan on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> November. A total of 124 teams from 62 campuses of 57 colleges took part in the preliminaries that was held in the 8 regions in October. The best 25 teams gathered in Tokyo for the final contest.



This year's theme was 'Run, Robo-Rickshaw!' a time race using biped robots (2-legged robots). It's been three years since students started challenging the theme of 'walking robot'. In 2008, the students made robots to transform from multiple legs to two legs. In 2009, under the concept of 'walking', students challenged dance performance. This year, a biped robot would try carrying students in a unique carriage.



First of all, a biped robot walks towards the 'Connection Zone' where a student in a carriage awaits. Once the robot gets to the Zone, it will be connected to the carriage either automatically or with some help of team members. The carriage has no engine. The biped robot pulls or pushes the carriage towards the 'Key Ring'. The Key Ring is suspended at the height of 2.5m. The student in the carriage must insert a 'Key' in the 'Key Ring' and if it goes successful, they can proceed to the goal. Two teams in a separate lane will compete to get to the goal faster, within three minutes.



Each one was unique and different - powerful robots that carried three students, cute robots like a locomotive, chicken, chair and etc., and fast robots that could get to the goal within 30 seconds. The venue was filled with nearly 4,000 audiences.

As a result of the heated competition, Kagoshima National College of Technology won the Grand-Prix. The most prestigious of all awards, the Robocon Award was presented to Sendai National College of Technology. The contest will broadcast on NHK's general TV channel at 11:00pm on Saturday, 4 December 2010.

