

Press release

10 May 2010

Six months of work compressed into a day and a bottle

3rd International Rexroth Pneumobile Competition ends with huge success



Best Rexroth Pneumobile

15 higher education institutions, some 150 talented engineer students, 33 pneumobiles powered with compressed air, great atmosphere, hundreds of glasses of charity cocktails, a vast array of programs all through the day – it might as well be the story, told in a single sentence, of the long-awaited pneumobile competition that was organized for the third time last weekend in Eger. This time the ‘Debreceni Széllovagok’ team of the Debrecen University managed to translate theory into practice in the most professional way, so from now on the ‘Best Rexroth Pneumobile’ title goes to their vehicle.

“Today the most important issue is that in the preparatory phase and now during the competition you obtain a great deal of experiences in this project, which is about methods to solve practical problems with engineering skills and to overcome development obstacles through systematic planning and work,” said Thomas E. Beyer, Head of the Bosch Group in Hungary, in his welcome speech to the competitors. He added that *“the background needed for such scientific development and technological improvement can only be ensured by a*

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company with an innovative power based on improved skills and over 120 years of industrial experiences”.

The object of the 3rd International Rexroth Pneumobile Competition is to design and build a compressed-air powered vehicle which gives the best performance under the given technical conditions. Rexroth provide entrants with the pneumatic drive elements, the PLCs making part of the control mechanism and certain body components. Within certain limits, the students themselves choose from a catalogue the parts they need. The competition answered the question of who did it better: those going for the highest speed or others concentrating on the longest haul.

The long-haul category – where the vehicles must cover the longest possible distance with a fully filled air bottle – was won by the pneumobile of the ‘Debreceni Széllövagok’ team. The speed of the contestants is also measured during the competition: the winner is the vehicle that covers the obligatory round within the shortest time with a fully filled air bottle. In this category the fastest pneumobile was that of the ‘Kecskeméti Fűtülős’ team of GAMF. In the acceleration category the vehicles must cover a track section of 220 meters within the shortest possible time with a fully filled air bottle. The final run was won by the pneumobile of the ‘Tűzgép’ team of the Kecskemét College. The fourth category is about construction designs. Here the winner was again the ‘Debreceni Széllövagok’ team. This year’s programs presented an excellent opportunity for the official launch of the EcoShape product range offered by Rexroth to build the vehicle bodies. The most innovative use of the product was acknowledged with a separate EcoShape Design Award, which went to the ‘Aether’ team from Nagyvárad. The title of Best Rexroth Pneumobile is awarded by the jury and the management of Rexroth companies to one of the category winners. In 2010 the title was given to the ‘Debreceni Széllövagok’ team made up of the students of the Debrecen University.

Following the announcement of the results, István Ács, Managing Director of Bosch Rexroth Kft., pointed out that the purpose of the competition was to strengthen the professional relationship between the innovative business enterprises and the technical universities/colleges and to help the engineer students test theoretical knowledge in practice. Scientific developments, competition funding and professional background can be ensured through open-minded, innovative and highly qualified professionals. However, they can only be provided by a company that is able to combine traditional industry know-how with state-of-the-art technologies.

“We are pleased to see the uninterrupted success of this competition because positive feedback is our mutual interest. It is not a secret that in the course of our innovative and creative programs organized to motivate the new generation

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of engineers we want to make personal contact with the most talented young people,” emphasized István Gödri, Managing Director of Bosch Rexroth Pneumatics Ltd. of Eger after the announcement of the results.

Last Saturday the social responsibility of Rexroth companies operating in Hungary was not limited to providing support for talented young engineers. As it was the World Red Cross Day, the companies and the Heves county Red Cross Unit joined their forces and set up a Charity Cocktail Bar, where anyone visiting the Bishop's Park (Érsekkert) could taste special, innovative, creative and healthy cocktails.

Bosch Rexroth AG is one of the world's leading specialists in the field of drive and control technologies. Under the brand name of Rexroth the company supplies more than 500,000 customers with tailored solutions for driving, controlling and moving machinery used in industrial and factory automation as well as in mobile applications. As The Drive & Control Company, Bosch Rexroth develops, produces and sells components and systems in more than 80 countries. In 2008 Bosch Rexroth AG, part of the Bosch Group, achieved sales of some EUR 5.9 billion with its 35,300 employees.

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