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**HUNGARIAN TEAM WINS EMERSON’S XII AVENTICS™ PNEUMOBILE COMPETITION**

*Budapest University of Technology and Economics’ BME Műszakik AiR-115 team took the top prize at the annual competition of compressed-air-powered vehicles designed and created by engineering students*

**Eger, Hungary (May 11, 2019)** – The BME Műszakik AiR-115 Team from Budapest University of Technology and Economicswon the Best Pneumobile Award in the 12th Annual Emerson International AVENTICS Pneumobile Competition. 38 teams of university engineering students designed and raced compressed-air powered vehicles in the annual event in Eger. The competition runs under the patronage of Dr. László György, State Secretary for Economic Strategy and Regulation, Ministry of Innovation and Technology and featured teams from seven countries (Czech Republic, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia).

The teams showed their presentations on the project to a jury of technical experts on Friday, May 10th and the tournament started the same evening with the first qualifier. The decisive battle, however, wasn’t until Saturday, May 11th, when, after the second qualifying round, the long-distance race kicked off.

In this category, the Riga Fresh Team from Riga Technical University secured first place. The young team covered 10.585 meters using up only a single container of fuel, maintaining a mandatory minimum speed of 15 km/h, and observing the two compulsory pilot changes. The HeptaCube Team from Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania were runners-up with 10.298 metres under their belt, while Löködönc Team from Budapest University of Technology and Economicscame in third, having covered a 9.940-metre distance.

Participants next lined up to compete in the skills competition where they pitted their wits against each other in three rounds on a slalom track. BME Műszakik AiR-115 Team from Budapest University of Technology and Economics overtook the RIGA Airmobile Team from Riga Technical University and SintAIR Team from Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania at the finish line in this exciting race.

Now only one race remained to be completed by the engineering students on the race tracks: the much-awaited acceleration race. The nimble pneumobiles whizzed past each other at dizzying speeds, and the BME Műszakik AiR-115 Team won by a hair, overtaking the Riga Fresh and RIGA Airmobile teams at the finish.

“In the competition, we don't just look at the final results and positions attained in the races, we also consider the innovations and the great diversity in technological solutions,” said István Gödri, managing director of Emerson’s AVENTICS Hungary “And it is even sweeter to see the great interest from such a high number of participants and viewers.”

The winners of both the regular and the technical category walked away with a 500,000 HUF cash prize each, while the most successful university over the last three years netted a one million HUF special prize, which went to Budapest University of Technology. The AVENTICS Best Pneumobile 2019 prize was awarded by the judges based on main results achieved over the last three years. The BME Műszakik AiR-115 Team from Budapest University of Technology has won this year. The event also featured prizes for the most original design, the highest speed, the best undercarriage and the best bodywork.

"Nowadays, only innovation-driven economies and societies thrive in the world, and to be able to bring this about in Hungary, it is necessary to pique students' interest in the natural and technical sciences," said the chief patron of the competition, Dr. László György, State Secretary for Economic Strategy and Regulation at the Ministry of Innovation and Technology. “In 2010, twenty-two percent of those in tertiary education began studying in this area, which has risen to thirty percent this year, but our goal is to increase this rate to forty percent as soon as possible. That's why we are spending eight billion forints in the next three years to connect universities more closely with the business world, and professional events are well suited to this, a case in point being the Pneumobile Competition, which has been providing real hands-on experience to technical students for twelve years now. If I'd had this opportunity when I was high school age, I might have decided to go on to study engineering instead of economics. It is good to hear that students who only turned up at university at eleven in the morning in the past are now in the workshop at half past six a.m., working hard and innovating away.”

**RESULTS**

**The all-round winner of Emerson’s 12th International AVENTICS Pneumobile Competition, the “AVENTICS best pneumobile” is:**

BME Műszakik AiR-115 Team (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary)

**Design originality**

1. BME Műszakik AiR-115 Team (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary)
2. Lithuanian Spirit (Klaipeda University, Lithuania)
3. Falcon Brno (Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic)

**Long-distance race**

1. Riga Fresh (Riga Technical University, Latvia)
2. HeptaCube (Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania, Romania)
3. BME Löködönc (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary)

**Skills competition**

1. BME Műszakik AiR-115 Team (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary)
2. RIGA Airmobile (Riga Technical University, Latvia)
3. SintAIR (Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania, Romania)

**Acceleration race**

1. BME Műszakik AiR-115 Team (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary)
2. Riga Fresh (Riga Technical University, Latvia)
3. RIGA Airmobile (Riga Technical University, Latvia)

**Project management:** BME Műszakik AiR-115 Team (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary)

**Junior:** NYE-PowAir (University of Nyíregyháza, Hungary)

**Senior:** BME Műszakik Kanóc Team (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary)

**Most innovative design:** BME Műszakik AiR-115 Team (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary)

**Fastest vehicle:** Falcon Brno (Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic)

**Best undercarriage:** Javelin Brno (Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic)

**Best bodywork:** Mechatronix (Bialystok University of Technology, Poland)

**Teacher of the Year – Home Teams:** Dr. Zsolt Farkas (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary)

**Teacher of the Year – Guest Teams:** Mr. Ziemelis Martins (Latvia University of Agriculture, Latvia)

**Grand prize of National Instruments:** Riga Fresh (Riga Technical University, Latvia)

**University points winner:** Budapest University of Technology and Economics

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