

OPENING REMARK

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Opening Remarks of IIA MTE 2021 Virtual Edition

- i. Assalamualaikum and a very good afternoon to all participants of MTE 2021 Virtual Edition, International Innovation Awards, and distinguished guests. This year's 5-day event, will begin from 22nd to 26th March 2021. This immersive virtual event will render more networking and collaboration opportunities to the global market. As we all know, this is the first MTE virtual event which has taken the mode of a new normal in light of the on-going scenario of the COVID-19 pandemic. As the Movement Control Order is still in effect, travel is curtailed and physical restrictions are strictly observed. Undoubtedly, the safety of our participants and attendees becomes our top priority.
- ii. Ladies & Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to the 20th International Innovation Awards briefing. This is the second year that the International Innovation

Awards or IIA is being organized under an independent award committee.

- iii. UTeM is honoured to be heading this committee for the second consecutive year, and I am humbled to be appointed as the Chair of this committee yet again.
- iv. My utmost thanks to PROTEMP and the MTE Organizing Committee for the trust and opportunity given to UTeM to be part of the IIA Awards of MTE 2021 Virtual Edition. Your continuous acknowledgement to the University is highly regarded.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- v. Innovation is not just about making new and better products. It encompasses all aspects of ideas. Besides products,

innovation can be clearly manifested in processes, systems, services, methods, and models. MTE has encapsulated this concept by successfully championing innovative and scientific progression for the past 20 years with the aim of contributing to the betterment of the society.

- vi. The Fourth Industrial Revolution, Artificial Intelligence, innovation, automation, Internet of Things and other technological advancements will affect the dynamism of the job market. In advocating creativity and development of innovation, we aspire to nurture and develop skilled, knowledgeable and innovative human capital to meet the needs of industry.
- vii. This year, a distinguished panel of judges are drawn from the state, academic and industry specialists; to be exact,

50% is from the industry and another 50% from the academic experts, to conduct the judging of entries.

- viii. To identify the best rated in a multitude of products and service categories within IIA, a comprehensive judging process will be put together to ensure greater transparency and reliability.
- ix. Today, we will cover the details of the Awards requirements. Participants should pay special attention to the information in the awards judging process from the presentation to the scoring and the judging criteria and we will finish after the Q&A.
- x. We will also do our best to provide you tips on what judges are looking for, what you should and should not do during

judging, and how to win judges' approval. We hope that you will find these useful, and secure more gold medals at this year's MTE Virtual.

- xi. Thank you to each and every one of you for being here with us today. We look forward to explore and understand your inventions and innovations at the MTE 2021 Virtual Edition and hope that together, we can challenge the status quo for the current scientific and technological landscape.
- xii. Thank you and Good Luck to all. Stay safe and take care.