



MIGHT



KEMENTERIAN
PENDIDIKAN
MALAYSIA



PRESS STATEMENT

For further Information, contact:

Dassault Aviation:

Nathalie Bakhos, Export Communication

Email: nathalie.bakhos@dassault-aviation.fr

MALAYSIAN STUDENTS' HEXACOPTERS TAKE FLIGHT IN UAV SISWA CHALLENGE 2013-2014

- *Challenge spanned a year where eight finalist teams built, did system integration and tested their hexacopters for the Challenge*
- *Launched in February 2013, UAV Siswa Challenge is organised by Dassault Aviation and CTRM, in partnership with Ministry of Education and MIGHT*
- *UAV Siswa Challenge aims to support human capital development in aerospace industry by providing opportunity to apply practical knowledge and nurture the passion for advanced technology*

Kuala Lumpur, 22 March 2014 – After one year of preparation, building, doing system integration and testing, eight finalist teams of UAV Siswa Challenge 2013-2014 flew their own-made hexacopters in the final competition in Universiti Putra Malaysia, today.

In the final leg of the Challenge, the hexacopters built by the Malaysians students, have to fly autonomously following planned trajectories, dropping 'sand balloon bombs' at pre-planned target and unknown targets, and landing in the dedicated areas. All eight hexacopters are expected to take flight together, on Sunday, 23 March 2014.

The UAV Siswa Challenge was initiated with the aim of supporting human capital development of future engineering workforce in Malaysia in the field of aeronautic and aerospace. It was organised by leading aerospace companies Dassault Aviation and CTRM, in partnership with the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT). Dassault Aviation is one of the companies in the consortium that produced the Rafale fighter jet.

The eight finalist teams were El Nino Alpha 4 and Wired Up from International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), Hex-ell from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Icarus and Langit Biru UPM from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Namtor from Universiti Teknologi

MARA (UiTM), UMP Phoenix from Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) and USM AeroCopter P1 from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM).

Dassault Aviation's representative and Rafale Program Director for Malaysia, Daniel Fremont said, "We are very pleased with the aptitude and attitude shown by the eight teams of students in mastering advance aerospace technologies. They have used their aerospace and technical knowledge, and proactively seek solutions to the various technical challenges they faced, to successfully build and make fly in full autonomy their unique hexacopters. They can be proud of their achievement."

UAV, which stands for Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, is an aerial system embedding dedicated software, equipment and systems, allowing autonomous flying without a pilot on board. It is an example of high technology, low risk equipment that are being used in a growing number of applications, ranging from civil to military, such as reconnaissance and surveillance over wide areas.

Dr. Mohd Yusoff Sulaiman, President and Chief Executive Officer of MIGHT shared his thought, "The UAV Siswa Challenge provided an excellent platform for Malaysian students to explore and nurture their technical skills to build a UAV, and also learn from experts from leaders in the aerospace commercial sectors, namely Dassault Aviation and CTRM. It is a hands on, practical-based challenge that gives them a preview of the future and I believe it has fuelled their passion to pursue deeper in this field."

"We are happy to be part of this new grand experience of learning and designing, while competing with other teams. Apart from the technical skills gained, we also learnt soft skills such as presentation skill, team building and time management. We highlight our appreciation for the experience and hope that the competition will be organized again in the future," said Hex-ell from UTM, one of the finalist teams.

The UAV Siswa Challenge 2013-2014 which was opened to all tertiary institutions in Malaysia, registered overwhelming interest from 162 students, forming 42 teams from 13 universities. Of these, 35 teams submitted written proposals of their UAV projects. Based on their project papers, 19 teams were pre-selected to present to a panel comprising representatives from Dassault Aviation, CTRM, MIGHT and Unmanned Systems Technology Sdn Bhd (UST), who then selected 10 finalist teams. However, of these 10, only

8 teams completed the challenge to fly the hexacopters they built, in the 2 days of the final competition.

The winning team will be announced in April 2014. The prize that awaits the winner is a one-week study tour to France to see firsthand the latest aerospace and aeronautics technologies. For any aspiring aerospace or aeronautic engineer, this opportunity to learn from among the best in the industry will enrich their future career.

For more information on the UAV Siswa Challenge 2013-2014, please visit www.uavsiswachallenge.com.

#

About Dassault Aviation

Dassault Aviation has delivered, in the past sixty years, more than 8000 civil and military aircraft to 83 countries logging some 28 million flight hours to date. This unique worldwide experience has allowed Dassault Aviation to build up considerable expertise in the design, development, production, sale and support of all types of aircraft. Within the frame of a step-by-step approach initiated several years ago, its know-how in the field of systems technologies and airborne vectors allow the company to propose innovative operational schemes as well as the best cost-efficient solutions to the users. Thanks to a pragmatic approach in its partnerships, Dassault Aviation has been able to establish a wide cooperation network with other companies, which is not only optimized for the success of today's programmes, but also contributing to the synergy of tomorrow's defence industries.