

SmarTone concludes first-ever “Smart Properties” Hackathon unleashing the creativity and potential of next-gen innovators

(Hong Kong, 26 October 2017) The industry’s first SmarTone Hackathon was successfully held from 21-22 October. Themed “Smart Properties”, this cross-industry hackathon gives 120 young innovators, entrepreneurs and developers a unique chance to unleash their creativity in shaping new experiences and smarter ways of living.

Prodict, a team comprised of four university students and programmers from India, Poland, the Philippines and the US, was announced the overall winner. Prodict has developed a predictive maintenance solution for utilities, which analyzes data collected from various sensors and through machine-learning technology predicts the imminent failure of utilities operations before they happen.

The first runner up was Pop UP, which developed a virtual guidebook of office equipment using Augmented Reality (AR) technology. The second runner up Softhard.io has developed a comprehensive property management solution leveraging IoT, LPWAN and machine-learning technology.

Apart from the cash prizes of HK\$50,000, HK\$30,000 and HK\$20,000 for the three winning teams, they also won the latest Samsung gadgets as well as the sought-after opportunity to join Microsoft BizSpark Program, including mentorship, software support tools and overseas tours to their innovation centres; they will also be entitled to the fast-track interview opportunity to Cyberport Creative Micro Fund (CCMF) or Cyberport Incubation Programme.

SmarTone Hackathon is a truly cross-industry event and was backed by a stellar partnership of industry leaders, including leading property conglomerate Sun Hung Kai Properties (SHKP), data centre solution provider SUNeVision, as well as Microsoft as the technology partner and Cyberport as event co-organizer.

Themed “Smart Properties”, the event aimed to provide enthusiastic creative millennials, tech-savvy software developers, designers and startup entrepreneurs the chance to realize a vision of technology-enhanced smart properties, as well as to bring their creative ideas to life, enhance consumer experience and enable smarter living and business operations.

“Hong Kong’s future depends on maximizing the potential of the next-generation and SmarTone Hackathon is the ideal platform to identify and nurture the brightest and best from Hong Kong’s budding technology talent pool,” said Anna Yip, CEO at SmarTone. “It is essential we foster the creativity and enthusiasm of the younger generation and events like the hackathon can serve to ignite their innovative thinking to fulfill Hong Kong’s smart city ambition.”

The HKSAR government’s latest policy address made new commitments to driving greater innovation and technology development in a bid to accelerate digital transformation and push ahead on smart city initiatives. SmarTone Hackathon is a great example of an industry-wide collaboration to both nurture talent in the tech space but also foster genuine innovation to positively impact citizens and businesses.

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