

M'sian team shortlisted for final in France

A STUDENT team from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) is one of the five teams selected by Airbus to compete in the third edition of the "Fly Your Ideas" challenge.

The other teams making the final are from Australia, Brazil, India, and Italy. Team Embarker from UPM will be travelling to Toulouse, France where they are in the running to win €30,000 (RM117,900) if their ideas are chosen for the top prize.

The winners will be announced at an exclusive ceremony in Paris on June 14. This year's challenge inspired over 6,000 students from 82 countries to register with 618 teams submitting a proposal. The proposals had to cover one of six themes identified by Airbus as key 21st century challenges for a greener aviation industry.

The Malaysian team comprises aerospace engineering students Koo Teck Hock, Ong Thiam Chun, Teong Chee Khoon and team leader Tan Kai Jun. Their proposal, for a self-sustaining aircraft cabin concept in which the excess body heat from seated passengers is used as an alternative source of energy to power small electronics in the cabin, successfully passed the eliminating rounds.