



Media Release

Communiqué

University of Waterloo Student Team Wins National Award for Innovative Automotive Research

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vancouver, B.C.: A student team of researchers from the University of Waterloo has placed first in the Honda Canada HQP Poster Competition, a national automotive research competition held in conjunction with the AUTO21 Network of Centres of Excellence Scientific Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia. AUTO21, a federal Networks of Centres of Excellence, focuses on automotive research and development and the development of highly qualified people for future work in the automotive sector. The graduate and post-graduate level student researchers contribute to AUTO21's 41 research projects.

The winning team contributes to the Regenerative Braking Systems project, which provides student researchers an opportunity to work with hybrid technologies, an emerging area of research for the automotive industry. The team is investigating how to advance regenerative braking systems to enhance hybrid systems through new design methodologies.]

Final Placement:

First	Regenerative Braking Systems	University of Waterloo	\$4,500
Second	Regenerative Braking Systems	University of Windsor	\$3,000
Third	Neuro-Fuzzy Systems for Inspection in Manufacturing Processes	Queen's University	\$1,500
Fourth	On-Board Fuel Cell Powered Auxiliary Power Units	Queen's University	\$1,000

“These four finalist teams exemplify the research excellence required for the development of leading edge technologies,” said Dr. Peter Frise, AUTO21 CEO and Scientific Director. “The University of Waterloo team impressed the international judging panel with their dedication to innovation and a passion for exploring ways to improve existing technologies. The judges were challenged to select just one winner.”

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Honda Canada, the sponsor of the poster competition provided a total prize purse of \$20,000 for the competition, with the purse divided between the final round of judging at the Scientific Conference and previous rounds of judging at an earlier event in May. The winning team was selected from a group of four finalist teams who advanced from an initial pool of 71 teams evaluated in May. The winning team received \$4,500 in cash, with the other teams receiving cash prizes as well.

“Honda Canada is committed to supporting youth in the areas of engineering, environment and education,” said Jim Miller, executive vice president Honda Canada. “This event pays tribute to the highly qualified people as determined by AUTO21. Mirroring Honda’s spirit of innovation and the passion to pursue dreams, these are the men and women creating a stronger promise of continued innovation and success for the auto industry.”

The Honda Canada HQP Poster Competition is part of the AUTO21 Scientific Conference, taking place June 13 and 14 at the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre. AUTO21 researchers and industry and government representatives are attending automotive research presentations and hearing from industry leaders from major automotive manufacturers and other parts of the sector.

AUTO21 currently supports more than 230 researchers and nearly 450 student researchers working on 41 auto-related research and development projects at 39 Canadian universities. The projects are supported by more than \$12 million per year in combined public and private sector funding. Research is conducted in the areas of health, safety and injury prevention; societal issues; materials and manufacturing; design processes; powertrains, fuels and emissions; and intelligent systems and sensors. AUTO21 is funded through the Networks of Centres of Excellence of Canada program.

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