

Global AI Challenge for Building E&M Facilities 2025 – Awards Ceremony

8 August 2025 (Friday)

Opening Remarks by Mr POON Kwok Ying, Raymond, JP, Director of Electrical & Mechanical Services

Greeting

Good afternoon, Ms. Bernadette Linn (Secretary for Development), Miss Diane Wong (Under Secretary for Environment and Ecology), Ms. Lillian Cheong (Under Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry), honorable guests, distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen.

On behalf of the Electrical & Mechanical Services Department, I extend my deepest gratitude to each of you for joining us in celebrating the culmination of the Awards Ceremony for the Global AI Challenge 2025. Today, we celebrate not just excellence in artificial intelligence but also the collaborative spirit that drives progress across borders and disciplines.

Overview of Global AI Challenge 2025

Taking this opportunity, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our distinguished speakers from around the world—your invaluable insights shared this morning have profoundly enriched our discussions and inspired all attendees.

I would also like to highlight how this diverse mix of wisdom from various fields and domains in lines with the ongoing developments in the current AI ecosystem. In recent years, we have witnessed remarkable advancements in AI across sectors such as energy, construction, and innovation and technology (I&T), creating numerous opportunities for synergy. Therefore, for this year’s challenge, we have extended our invitation to the Development Bureau (DevB), the Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau (ITIB), and the Environment and Ecology Bureau (EEB) to serve as Advisors for this event. Thank you for their invaluable advisory support in making this event a success.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed judges and organizing committee. Your unwavering support and expertise are crucial in identifying the most impactful solutions. To all participants, whether you take home an award today or not, your contributions are already driving the AI revolution forward.

This year's competitions feature two distinct themes: “Build Your AI Model” and “Pitch Your Innovative Proposal”. “Build Your AI Model” focuses on developing a generalized AI model aimed at predicting cooling demand across multiple buildings. Meanwhile, the 'Pitch Your Innovative Proposal' invites participants to showcase their ideas for the Best AI Innovation in Construction and Engineering.

We are excited to announce that this year's competition has attracted remarkable participation, with over 50 organizations joining as co-organizers, supporting entities, and sponsors, and more than 200 teams representing 26 geographical regions. To foster greater involvement, we have introduced an academic group within the competition, providing young innovators with the opportunity to develop and showcase their ideas in construction and engineering alongside seasoned experts. The Global AI Challenge not only accelerating the AI transformation in Hong Kong but also laying a strong foundation for the younger generation to master the application of artificial intelligence.

Closing

Before we proceed to the awards, I'd like to leave you with this thought: The true measure of success in AI lies not only in technological brilliance but in its power to create meaningful and scalable change. The solutions we honor today are not just academic exercises; they are stepping stones toward a smarter, more sustainable future. Let us continue pushing boundaries, challenging the status quo, and working together to ensure AI drives progress that uplifts industries, communities, and the world at large.

Once again, thank you all for being part of this remarkable journey. Now, let the celebrations begin!

Thank you.