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ExxonMobil Egypt exclusively sponsors MECA Academy for fourth consecutive year

ExxonMobil Egypt continues to support MECA in recognition of their outstanding performance

As one of the first companies to believe in the MECA Academy, ExxonMobil Egypt sponsored the academy's annual ceremony, which targets bridging the gap between academia and work life.

During the ceremony, ION, ERA and EPX were announced as the winners of this year's award for finding innovative proposals for power generation from renewable sources and waste management as solutions for the persisting energy crisis Egypt is facing.

Nihad Shelbaya, Public and Government Affairs Manager at ExxonMobil Egypt, confirmed in her remarks that she is proud of MECA's students.

"ExxonMobil Egypt's continuous support to MECA for four years stems from our recognition for these students, for their enthusiasm and persistence to develop their skills and for their obvious passion to learn," Shelbaya said. "These students honourably represent Egypt and they deserve all the support and

mentorship to achieve their dreams of a better future with their brilliant minds and creative ideas."

This year, 360 MECA students benefited from the expertise of 22 volunteers from ExxonMobil Egypt who designed the syllabus and organised workshops and lectures for the students in an attempt to share their work experience to help them face practical reality after graduation.

"Students are very hard working, they're willing to learn. I wish I had found such student activity when I was at Ain Shams University's Faculty of Commerce, I would've definitely joined it," said ExxonMobil Egypt HR Manager, Sally Hussein. "MECA Academy is a great way to develop people, and those who join it are willing to learn, they're not wasting their time. They are keen to learn and the case studies revealed brilliant minds and innovative ideas."

ExxonMobil Egypt Business Support Manager, Mohamed El-Shoky said that

competition among teams was at its highest this year as MECA participants kept on exceeding expectations.

ExxonMobil Egypt Channel Partners Sales Manager, Ahmed Abdeldayem, pointed to the enthusiasm of students as he said: "Working with the MECA team burning with enthusiasm renews hope in a better future. My involvement in this programme for the past four years gave me the opportunity to be part of bridging the gap between the academic study and the practical reality in order to encourage students to pursue their professional life."

MECA participants confirmed the value of the lectures, workshops and direct contact with ExxonMobil Egypt employees, as Amr Nabil, a member of one of the winning teams said: "I benefitted so much from the training provided by ExxonMobil Egypt. Studying the various details and stages of sales, and linking them to my knowledge in the marketing field has maxi-

mised my benefit as well. The practical training also offered us the chance to apply what we studied at the lectures, which ExxonMobil Egypt gave us in the post-competition phase, and compare between academia and work life."

The activities of MECA, which stands for Mechanical, Engineering, Construction and Architecture and which are the four majors in the Faculty of Engineering, began in 2005.

MECA Academy, which was founded in 2007, was the venture of eight students targeting to train engineering students on the operating methods of international companies in four fields, namely: Marketing, Development, Human Resources and International Relations.

The objective of the academy is to train participants on one of the training tracks offered, in addition to developing their skills. Participants compete in teams to evaluate the extent of benefit acquired from the training.