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CLP's Tree Pruning Robot Challenge Returns Inspiring Innovation and Nurturing Future Engineering Talent

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (CLP Power) on 6 July hosted the **Tree Pruning Robot Challenge**, the signature event of the 2025/26 edition of the **Engineer in School Programme** which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. Nearly 100 junior secondary students from 10 schools participated, gaining hands-on experience in applying artificial intelligence (AI), big data analytics and robotics to enhance power supply safety and electricity system operations.

Highlighting the importance of power system resilience in the face of extreme weather, the Challenge featured workshops on AI and data analytics, alongside sharing by CLP Power engineer on power quality, supply reliability and the Predictive Vegetation Management System. Students also gained practical insights into how innovative technologies can strengthen the power system by using big data and cloud computing to predict tree growth, and operating the self-assembled robotic arms to simulate pruning trees that may interfere with overhead lines.

CLP Power Chief Corporate Development Officer Ms Quince Chong said, "As the Engineer in School Programme marks its 10th anniversary, we are delighted to see more young people being introduced to engineering and innovation through the programme. CLP Power has been actively leveraging technology to drive the energy transition and enhance power grid resilience, while nurturing talent equipped with engineering and digital skills. I hope this Challenge has given the students a deeper understanding of the applications of AI and innovative technologies in power engineering, while fostering problem-solving skills and creativity through collaboration and hands-on experience."

Assistant Director (Electricity and Energy Efficiency) of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), Mr Marsden Kong, said at the award ceremony that the smooth operation of a city depends on a stable, safe and reliable electricity supply, which is a goal jointly pursued by EMSD and CLP Power. He commended the students for applying innovative technologies into practice during the competition and encouraged them to embrace challenges. He also noted that every detail in engineering undergoes repeated testing, and that the experience gained through this process would become valuable nourishment for the growth of the students.

The judging panel comprised President of the Hong Kong Institute of Planners Ms Theresa Yeung, President of the Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design Mr Benny Chan and CLP Power management. The championship went to Lingnan Secondary School. One of the participating students Cai Yanyi said, “The workshops and sharing session by CLP engineers, I learned how AI and innovative technologies are applied in power engineering to enhance supply reliability. The Challenge mirrored real-world engineering projects, where solutions must be continuously tested and refined. This has deepened my understanding of the power industry.”

Launched in 2016, the **Engineer in School Programme** aims to strengthen junior secondary students’ understanding of clean energy and sustainable development, inspiring interest in the power engineering and energy sectors. To date, more than 270 secondary schools and around 80,000 students have participated in the programme through its talks, STEM workshops and site visits.

About CLP Power Hong Kong Limited

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (CLP Power) is the Hong Kong utility subsidiary wholly owned by CLP Holdings Limited, a company listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and one of the largest investor-owned power businesses in Asia. CLP Power operates a vertically integrated electricity supply business in Hong Kong, and provides a highly reliable supply of electricity and excellent customer services to more than six million people in its supply area.

Photo Captions:

Photo 1



CLP Power Chief Corporate Development Officer Ms Quince Chong hopes that the **Engineer in School Programme — Tree Pruning Robot Challenge** can help students understand the application of AI and innovation in power engineering and inspire them to use technology to solve problems.

Photo 2



Assistant Director (Electricity and Energy Efficiency) of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), Mr Marsden Kong commends the students for applying innovative technologies into practice during the competition and encourages them to embrace challenges.

Photos 3 & 4



Students operate robotic arms during the Challenge, applying AI and data analytics to simulate pruning trees that may affect overhead power lines, gaining experience the use of innovative technology in power systems.

Photo 5



CLP Power Chief Corporate Development Officer Ms Quince Chong (first from right) and Assistant Director (Electricity and Energy Efficiency) of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Mr Marsden Kong (first from left) present the trophy to the champion team from Lingnan Secondary School.

Photos 6 & 7



Guests operate robotic arms to experience the simulated tree-pruning process.

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