Press information

TUM DeSal Challenge 2016

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TUM DeSal Challenge 2016 – Nomination of finalists

The jury nominates 12 international student teams for the participation at TUM DeSal Challenge 2016.

For about 60 students, the 15th of February 2016 was not meant to be an ordinary day – 14 teams from Germany, Croatia, Poland, Jordan as well as Iran were anxiously waiting for the day of decision to come. They are highly committed and they all are willing to fight – not only to raise attention for the global challenge of water scarcity in many parts of the world, but also to find appropriate solutions.

Their solution is sustainable seawater desalination exclusively powered by renewable energies. For the last few months the teams have developed creative, innovative concepts for the construction of energy-self-sufficient desalination plants. They have sent in their ideas to the TUM DeSal Challenge and now an independent jury of specialists, consisting of renowned experts both from scientific research and industries, has selected the best ideas.

The jury is unanimously agreeing – the upcoming challenge in the middle of June is going to be very exciting! The remarkable difference to the previous events in 2009, 2011 and 2013 is above all the international character of the current competition. Almost the full range of desalination methods is represented: Membrane systems such as reverse osmosis plants, even electrodialysis, but also a large number of thermal systems, from the more classic “Improved Solar Still” to the humid air distillation as well as multi-stage evaporation systems.

One of the major challenges of the 21st century is the supply of clean drinking water for a growing world population at low environmental impact. Thus one major research field addresses an increase in the efficiency of seawater desalination systems and their transient energy supply from renewable, mainly solar, sources. The scientific approach taken uses knowledge from the areas of multi-phase and heat and mass transfer phenomena, as well as supply and process engineering.

Water and renewable energies are also important topics in our teaching and we organise the student competition "TUM DeSal Challenge".

TUM DeSal Challenge 2016 is supported by:

TUM · Lehrstuhl für Thermodynamik · DME · KRONES · KSB STIFTUNG · OMYA · Solarenergieförderverein Bayern e.V. Bavarian Association for the Promotion of Solar Energy

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This does not only show how detailed and technically adept nowadays young people deal with the solutions for providing drinking water, but also that they are ready to launch into new ways.

The 12 nominated teams enter the final phase now. About four months are left for them to implement their concepts. They are going to compete against each other with well functioning constructions at the grand finale on June 17th/18th at the university campus of the Technische Universität München in Garching, Germany. The finalists will be supported by the organizers, each with a 1,000 € budget for the construction of their system. For the winners in six disciplines 3,000 € in prizes are waiting. May the best team win!

The host of the TUM DeSal Challenge, Lehrstuhl für Thermodynamik of Technische Universität München, and Deutsche MeerwasserEntsalzung e.V. invite to the TUM DeSal Young Scientists Colloquium, for the first time in 2016, which will provide a platform for scientific contributions of young scientists working in the desalination area. The Colloquium will take place on June 17th, parallelly to the TUM DeSal Challenge. In the event's, a big summer night festival is meant to ignite the exchange of ideas between science, youth and society within a fun atmosphere – the organizational team invites everyone to join in!

The organizational team greatly thanks their supporters: KSB Stiftung, Solarenergieförderverein Bayern e. V., Deutsche MeerwasserEntsalzung e. V., Krones AG and Omya AG.

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Nominated Teams for TUM DeSal Challenge 2016				
Rank	Points*	Team	Team leader	Institution
1	95	vAquIon	Johannes Engelsberger	Technische Universität München, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
2	80	Alavi	Ali Shahnazari	Sari Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources University
3	79	Chorismós	Florian Kretzler	Thomas-Mann-Gymnasium München
4	77	Membranos	Dr. Marcus Kohnen	Gymnasium Essen-Werden
5	74	WUT Solar Tower	Bernard Swoczyna	Warsaw University of Technology
6	73	SolarPura	Peter Brailovsky	Technische Universität München
7	70	AgriBox	Jacob Hamar	Technische Universität München
8	66	Osol1	Andreas Oberbauer	Technische Universität München
9	64	The Thin Distillery	Stjepan Budimir	University of Split
10	63	Still Waiting	Philip Bonnaire	Technische Universität München
11	53	Cheap Water	Kilian Heilgemair	Technische Universität München
12	51	Helios	Moritz Binzer	Technische Universität München

* Max. 100 points can be achieved with the application. Evaluated are the degree of innovation and the application itself.