Young Members Column

Exploring Press-in Technology through Japanese Language Class

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I am Syahri Fuddin bin Kamaruddin, a first-year student of Faculty of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM).

Technology is one of the most interesting topics to be discussed. It is not exaggerating to say that the first thing popped out in my mind when discussing about this 'techno' topic, is Japan, one of the most technologically advanced countries in history. International language is one of the core subjects in University Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM), and I chose to take Japanese language more than just curiosity and passion. We have learnt a lot including the International Press-In Association (IPA), an organization that has been one of the university's international partners.

The fact that we have been introduced to IPA excites me more than I ever imagined. Through this exposure, we had the opportunity to learn about "Press-In Technologies", which is one of the best eco-friendly technologies in my opinion. More interesting facts about this technology is that it potentially provides an innovative solution against floods, pollutions and even Tsunamis. To think that such solution can be possible is quite surprising and the introduction to this kind of technology piqued my interests and curiosity.

For the International Language Exhibition in the university, we have been directed to create two replicas of tidal and tsunami defense system using straws and polystyrenes. In that exhibition, we had the chance to introduce this revolutionary technology of 'Silent Piling' applications from GIKEN Limited Company to our visitors and fellow students. It is a great experience to share a lot of things which seem impossible for our mind to handle at first, but to think that it is actually a great idea to come up with this kind of technology, makes me more than just amazed. Japanese engineers are trying to apply this technology not just in construction applications, but also in disaster countermeasures.

Fig. 1. Photo session at our booth
(the author is the second from left)

Fig. 2. Describing tsunami protection wall concept

There is a lot of things we can learn from the company and its philosophy, depending on how we put our perspectives onto it. “仕事に銘を打て”, which is also means “To Leave One’s Mark” can put a positive impact in everyone’s life. It encourages someone to realize his or her responsibility clearly and completely to set a task with definite goals and objectives, directly allows them to have the capability to inscribe a signature or mark in his or her work.

This philosophy brought a positive impact in myself as well, motivates me to be more confident with everything I will do or done. I still have a lot of things to learn as an engineer. I will continue to be dedicated to my study at university for my future work.

I would like to take this opportunity, and express my gratitude to my lecturer, Madam Hiyama Junko/Hiyama sensei for giving us the opportunity and exposures to this technology, company and philosophy. We learnt a lot not just in class, but also at the exhibition as well. For a student that have a huge interest in Japan and its culture, including its animation, it is a great pleasure to deeply understand the thing that we learnt throughout this semester so far.

Fig. 3. Photo with my fellow friends after Press-in concept presentation

Fig. 4. Explaining the concept of tsunami protection wall to Dr. Nor Azizi