

## TAR UMT wins 2nd prize at China-ASEAN AI Smart City Cup

TAR UMT's Team Trailblazer wins 2nd prize at China-ASEAN AI competition with road safety AI project.



**TUNKU** Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology (TAR UMT) has put Malaysia on the international AI map, with its student team claiming Second Prize at the **AI for All: China-ASEAN Super League 2026 Smart City Development and Innovation Competition**. The Grand Finale was held on 29 March 2026, with the TAR UMT squad — competing as **Team Trailblazer** — besting a field of 1,382 entries from across China and ASEAN.

### Malaysia's Sole University Team in the Grand Finale

Out of 745 submissions in the University Track, only 30 teams advanced to the Grand Finale. TAR UMT stood out as the **only all-Malaysian university team** among those 30 finalists — a remarkable distinction that placed the team shoulder to shoulder with students from some of the region's most prestigious institutions, including Tsinghua University (China), the National University of Singapore, Maharakham University (Thailand), and the National University of Civil Engineering (Vietnam).

### Meet Team Trailblazer

The winning team comprises five engineering students from TAR UMT's Penang Branch: **Khoo Wei Ern** (Bachelor of Electrical and Electronics Engineering with Honours), and **Koa Chong Chun, Lim Yong Han, Chow Zhi Xuan, and Lim Faung Zhen** (all pursuing Bachelor of Electronics Engineering Technology with Honours). The team was mentored by **Assistant Professor Dr Beh Chong You**, Programme Leader of the Department of Engineering and Built Environment at TAR UMT Penang Branch.

### TrailKIT: AI That Could Save Lives on the Road

For the competition, Team Trailblazer developed **TrailKIT**, an AI-powered roadside emergency safety solution aimed at protecting drivers and reducing the risk of secondary collisions during vehicle breakdowns. The system combines real-time hazard awareness, proactive roadside alerting, emergency location support, and readiness monitoring into a single compact platform.

Positioned at the intersection of smart mobility, public safety, and urban resilience, TrailKIT reimagines conventional roadside warning systems as an intelligent, responsive safety ecosystem. Built with affordability and scalability in mind, the solution reflects how human-centred AI can contribute to safer roads and more inclusive smart city infrastructure.

### A Win That Reflects TAR UMT's Innovation Drive

The achievement is a strong signal of TAR UMT's growing strength in applied research and international competition. The university, which has produced more than 320,000 graduates to date, continues to foster an environment where students can excel in emerging fields such as Artificial Intelligence and Smart City Development.