



Press Release

Top 10 Young Arab Innovators Revealed Amidst Tough Competition

Candidates undergo second round of eliminations following Proof of Concept stage

Doha, Sunday October 13th 2013: The latest Proof of Concept episode of *Stars of Science*, aired on MBC4, challenged the 16 selected candidates to scientifically validate their ideas with 10 now through to the Engineering stage.

Six candidates were eliminated during the Proof of Concept stage following a heated debate amongst jury members that included Dr. Hayat Al Sindi, the Founder and President of the Saudi-based i2 institute, Dr. Mazen Hasna, Vice President & Chief Academic Officer at Qatar University and the programme's permanent jury members Mr. Youssef Al Salhi, GM of Qatar Shell research and technology center and Dr. Fouad Mrad, Executive Director for the Regional Technology Center at the United Nations – ESCWA.

The judging criteria was based on each candidate's working prototype (50 per cent), product feasibility (30 per cent) and their resourcefulness and approach (20 per cent).

The Engineering stage is one of the most challenging as the 10 remaining young innovators will be judged on their product's functionality, marketability and resourcefulness before six move on to the Design stage.

The prestigious panel of jurors for the Engineering phase will include Dr. Farouk Al Baz, Research Professor and Director of the Center for Remote Sensing at Boston University who has been acting as a VIP juror for four consecutive seasons, as well as Dr. Eyad Masad, Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies at Texas A&M University Qatar and Professor of Civil and Mechanical Engineering at Texas A&M University (USA).

Dr. Farouk Al Baz, Research Professor and Director of the Center for Remote Sensing at Boston University in the United States, said: “We are really impressed to see that this year a majority of the candidates’ projects are very much focused on directly benefitting the wider society. Each innovation tackles a prevalent issue in the Middle East in a unique and innovative way. We look forward to seeing what each of the candidates will be presenting at the Engineering stage.”

Hosted by Khaled Al Jumaily, *Stars of Science* Season Five consists of eight prime-time episodes plus the live finale, where the public will be invited to vote alongside the Jury. The program began on September 13th 2013 (8 pm KSA), with daily updates airing from Saturday to Thursday at 4.30 pm KSA on MBC4.

For the latest updates, log on to:

- www.starsofscience.com
- <https://www.facebook.com/StarsofScienceTV>
- <http://twitter.com/starsofscience>
- <http://www.youtube.com/starsofsciencetv>

These sites also include information on the applications process for *Stars of Science* Season which is currently accepting submissions from applicants until December 15th 2013.

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Notes to Editors

The top ten finalists who participated in the Proof of Concept prime and are now through to the Engineering prime:

Name	Nationality	Age	Invention
ALAA AL-RAWI	Iraq	24	Auto-Adjusted Comfortable Seatbelt
ANWAR ALMOJARKESH	Syria	26	Assistive Pillow for Hearing Impaired

MOHAMED AMINE BESBES	Tunis	26	Virtual 3D Drawing Pen
MOHAMMED DOUMIR	Algeria	28	Camel Racing Diagnostic Boots
MOHAMMED ISLAM	Egypt	22	Navigation and Home Automation for the Blind
MOHAMMED AI KUWARI	Qatar	29	Automated Verdict in Disputer Football Scoring
NOUF AL-ASFOUR	Kuwait	21	Automated Reflexology Glove
SHERIF YAHIA	Egypt	27	Speech Synthesizer for the Language Impaired
WALEED JAN	KSA	24	Mechanical Braille Editor
MOHAMED ISMAIL	Egypt	29	Solar Panels Autonomous Robot Cleaner

About Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organization that is supporting Qatar on its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

QF's work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and

commercializing solutions through key sciences. The Foundation also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community. For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa><<http://www.qf.org.qa/>>

About *Stars of Science*

Stars of Science is an original TV format, initiated by Qatar Foundation, which has been broadcast on over 17 TV channels throughout the Arab world and is now on MBC4. Currently in its fifth season, *Stars of Science* supports 16 young innovators who have an idea based on a novel scientific feature. Each project is developed for commercialization through several stages of the innovation cycle which includes proof of concept, engineering prototyping, design production and business feasibility.

The four finalists are ranked by a jury and viewers in a live show where the winning products are launched. The 4 finalists receive a distributed cash prize worth \$600,000 to help them develop their potential product further.

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