

Empower 17-An Innovative Idea for Industry-Student Interaction

Empower-17, a unique mega event having the participation of 16 industries of repute and participants from over 15 engineering colleges in Central India was conducted in the department of electrical engineering, Ramdeobaba College of Engineering & Management, Nagpur. “Empower” conducted for fourth time has now become one of the most sought after event by the industrial houses and the students as well, is recognized as “innovative idea” by the NAAC committee of UGC, Govt of India.

Idea behind Empower: Senior faculty members of Electrical Engineering Department, while visiting “ELECARAMA”, which is the biggest exhibition of Electrical & Electronics Manufacturers Association in India, noticed that exhibition of latest product & technologies was essentially organized for consumers of electrical goods and services and was commercial in nature. The industries provided more focus on business and the visiting students seemed to be neglected. Secondly, ELECARAMA is organized in Metro Cities only and for students from Central India it is difficult to visit the same losing opportunity to get acquainted with latest technology and meeting industry professionals. With lot of thought provoking discussions, the staff members came out with a unique format having combination of the display of the latest technology products, technical seminars and expert guest lectures. The concept was discussed with professional from the reputed companies in Nagpur, which they liked and supported wholeheartedly. Thus this ideas was converted into an innovative event in 2012. In last four events, over 1200 engineering students from four engineering streams (Electrical, Mechanical, Electronics, and Computer Science), 40 industries and 25 engineering colleges were a part of Empower.

Team Empower: The organization of the mega-event is done by faculty of Electrical Engineering department and the engineers from all the participating company under aegis of “**Team Empower**”. Second Year Electrical Engineering students conduct the event.

Format of Empower: Event starts at 8.45 am and ends at 5.00 pm. Each invited company is allotted a spacious class room in the department for two days. The class room is divided in two parts, one with an arrangement of power point presentation for a small group of 25-30 students and the other half has arrangement for display of latest product & technologies. The engineer from the company discusses latest design, development, and field applications for 30 minutes and in the next 30 minutes the students observe the displayed products and get their queries sorted out by industry professionals. The batch then moves to next classroom for interacting with another different company with different products. Some rooms are converted into exclusive product display area by 4-5 companies. Thus every student gets a chance of interacting with engineers from 15-16 companies of international and national repute, remaining on the campus for two days exclusively for the students. Since each company discusses different products, repetition is avoided. Students are exposed to a vast arena of the entire engineering field, giving them first-hand knowledge of the products and technologies they are learning in these classrooms.

Expert Guest Lectures: In order to have additional inputs, every day for one hour, the student delegates assemble in our Central Auditorium and listen to expert guest lectures from very senior management dignitaries from highly reputed industries/ companies. This completes “Empower”ment of over 300 students from various engineering colleges in Central India.

Team Empower takes care of all the student delegates with breakfast, lunch, high tea, participation certificate etc. Certificate is awarded to only those student delegates who attend the complete function for two days up to last hour.

The event is also visited by HODs, Deans, faculty of the engineering colleges along with the consultants, contractors and professionals in Central India.

Empower-17

Empower-17 was successfully conducted on 7th & 8th January 2017. Twelve spacious classrooms and Central Auditorium were occupied for the event. Total 16 industries in the field of Electrical Engineering of international & national repute participated in the event. The student delegates were of third & final year Electrical engineering from 15 engineering colleges in Central India including BITS Pilani and Government Engineering College Amravati.

On First Day i.e. on 7th January 2017, the program was inaugurated by Mr. Girish Tiwari, Vice President & Head (Electrical Business Group), Larsen & Toubro, Mumbai. He was accompanied by General Secretary Shri Govindlal Agarwal, Principal Dr. R.S. Pande and Prof. V.T. Barhate, HOD Electrical.

Mr. Girish Tiwari delivered expert lecture on “Transforming from academics to field environment”. He enlightened over 300 student delegates on the qualities desired by the industries while recruitment and thereafter to become a successful professional. Students were advised to focus on BASICS of engineering knowledge and clarity of communication while appearing for interviews. While in profession, he advised to maintain time scheduling, dependability, not to change the companies frequently and not to leave the job for the sake of money.

On second day, Mr. Swapnil Joshi, Regional manager, Infrastructure & Green Initiative, Infosys limited Pune along with Secretary, RCOEM, Mr. Rajendra Purohit and Principal Dr. Rajesh Pande visited all the Exhibition Halls and appreciated the efforts made by RCOEM in the area of Student-Industry interaction. Mr. Swapnil Joshi delivered expert lecture on “Green Building & Smart Cities”. He shared his vast experience in the development of some of the finest green buildings and campus in India.

Prof. Jayant Joshi explained the theme and importance of EMPOWER to the gathering. Prof. N.M. Deshkar proposed the Vote of thanks. Prof. Jayant Joshi, Prof. N.M. Deshkar, Prof. Uday Mujumdar along with Prof. Gaurav Goyal, Prof (Mrs). S.H. Deshmukh, Prof (Mrs). S. C. Rangari, Prof (Mrs) P. A. Salodkar, Prof (Mrs) S. V. Umredkar, Prof (Mrs) V. A. Huchche, Prof Pankaj Sawarkar, Mr. Manoj Kothekar, Mr. Prashant Tiwari and second year electrical students worked hard to make the event a grand success.

The third and final year Electrical Engineering students from the following engineering colleges participated in the event.

Shri Ramdeobaba College of Engineering & Management	BITS, Pilani	Government Engineering College, Amravati	Karmaveer Dadasaheb Kannamwar College of Engineering
St Vincent Pallotti College of Engineering	J. D. College of Engineering	Anjuman College of Engineering & Technology	Yeshwantrao Chavan College of Engineering
Priyadarshini College of Engineering	KITS, Ramtek	Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar College of Engineering & Research	Priyadarshini Institute of Engineering & Technology
S.B. Jain College of Engineering	Nagpur Institute of Technology	Rajiv Gandhi College of Engineering & Research	

LIST OF INDUSTRIES IN EMPOWER-17

Industry	Field	Products Displayed
Larsen & Toubro Ltd (Electrical Business Group)	LV Switchgear & Control gear	Moulded Case Circuit Breakers, Air Circuit Breakers (C-power & U power Omega., Power, Control & capacitor duty Contactors, DOL & Star-Delta Starters, Power Quality Solutions-Capacitors, Thyristor switching module, harmonic reactor, cap duty contactors, overload relays.
Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Ltd	Illumination	LED high-bay luminaires, floodlights, street lights, down lighters, panels, mirror optic, tube lights/ bulbs; Metal halide high-bay, sodium vapour streetlight, metal halide flood lights.
Hager Electro Pvt Ltd	LV Protective Devices	Miniature Circuit Breakers, Distribution Boards, RCCB, Over Voltage Relay, MCCB, Changeover Switches, Testing Kits
RISHABH Instruments	Measuring Instruments	Digital Ammeters, volt meters, energy meters, multi-function meters, clamp meters, Current Transformers, insulation testers, power clamps, power supply.
KEI Industries Ltd	Wires & Cables	House Wires, LT Power & Control Cables, HV & EHV Cables, Cable Termination Kits
Coaltech Automation & Mitsubishi Electric	PLCs	Mitsubishi PLCs, Application Demo Kits
Powerica Ltd & Cummins	DG Sets	Special Demo Van of DG Set brought to Nagpur from Mumbai.
Instrument Sales Corporation	Earthing & Lightening	Maintenance free earth electrodes, earthing compound, early streamer type lightening arrester
V. V. Associates	Solar systems	Solar panels, Grid connected Inverters, solar pump.
High Rise Transformers	Power & Distribution Transformer	100 kVA, 11 kV/433 V Transformer, Buchholz relay, Oil & Winding Temperature indicators
Yokogawa	Precision measuring & data storage equipment	Digital Storage Oscilloscopes, Precision Power meters, Calibrators
Western Engineers	Control Panels	Motor Control Center, Power Control Center, Aluminium/ Copper Busbars, Insulators, Feeder Box.
D. V. Associates	Sensors, Transducers	Sensors, Transducers, Mini-PLC automation.
T K Ghosh Group	Overhead Line Accessories	11 & 33 kV Disc /Post Insulators/Pin insulators, AB Switch, Rotary Isolators, Dropout & Horn Gap Fuse, ACSR & AAC Conductors
Stride Automation and L&T (Electrical & Automation)	Electric Drives & Automation	Variable frequency drive 45 kW, 3kW; HMI, Wireless router, Power Harmonic Analyser, Demo kits in Electric Drives, Automation & remote control.
Vee-tech Engineers	11 kV Switchgear	11 kV load-break switch.