

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE OLYMPIAD

JUBILEUSZ 50-LECIA OLIMPIADY WIEDZY TECHNICZNEJ

There have been almost 1000 laureates selected during 50 years of organizing the Olympiad of Technical Knowledge (OWT) by the Federation of Scientific –Engineering Association of NOT. All the mentioned events were attended by thousands of pupils of secondary schools (technical ones and lyceums, as well). In the school year 2023/2024, the mentioned Olympiad was held first time in the changed formula as Technical Knowledge Olympiad – Engineering in Electrical Power Technology. The conducted earlier competition in two topic groups – mechanical-constructional and electric-electronic problems has been limited to the questions of electric power engineering after the recommendations of the Ministry of Education and Science.

On the 3 June 2024, during the solemn Gala held in the House of Engineer in Warsaw, the 50th edition of the Olympiad was summed up and its 13 laureates were awarded. They originated from the large group of the participants. The best finalist was Piotr Pawlik from the Group of Technical Electric Schools and Lyceums in Krosno; he gained the maximum number of 100 scores in final competition for solving of the tasks. The victory in the Olympiad assures the entrance to the chosen technical university for the laureates without examination.

The Jubilee Gala, as being conducted by Mr Janusz Kowalski, had the exceptional character. It was attended by many outstanding guests and social activists, involved for the years, in organization of Olympiad of Technical Knowledge. There were present the teachers and guardians who motivated the youth to participation in the Olympiad, the authors of the tasks and the members of the Jury and the representatives of association movement and its agendas and, also, the members of the Chief Committee of OWT-IWE with its Chairman, Prof. dr. hab. Stanisław Wincenciak, Eng. The event was also participated by the representatives of the Regional Organizational Units, without which the implementation of the Olympiad would be impossible, and, also the secretaries and members of the Regional Committees of OWT who arrived with the Olympic idea to thousands of schools and pupils.

From among the invited guests, the solemn Gala was attended, *inter alia*, by the following persons: Piotr Zakrzewski – the Vice-President of the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland; Dr Janusz Niedziółka – the Head of the Office at the Department of Strategy, Qualifications and Vocational Education at the Ministry





of the National Education; Dr Hubert Cichocki – the President of the Scientific Research Network Łukasiewicz – the partner of the Olympiad; the representatives of higher education schools: Doctor of Medical Sciences, Bożena Piechowicz – the Rector of the University of Applied Sciences in Siedlce; Prof. dr hab. Rafał Dańko, Eng. – Pro-Rector for Student Affairs at AGH; Dr hab. Tadeusz Dziubak, Eng., University Professor – Deputy Dean for Scientific Affairs at the Department of Mechanical Engineering of Military Technical University, and also, the representatives of the sponsors: Jan Rosiński – the Chief Technologist in Toruńskie Works of Dressing Materials, SA; Jan Koblak – the Chairman of the Supervising Council of HORUS-ENERGIA company; Sławomir Smoktunowicz – from Department of Communication of Polish Power Engineering Network S.A.; Zofia Tyszkiewicz – the specialist for Educational Projects of Foundation ADAMED.



– For a half of the century, the Olympiad of Technical Knowledge had passed different organizational and territorial changes but it was always addressed to the pupils interested in science, technology and engineering profession – Ewa Mańkiewicz-Cudny, the President of FSNT-NOT said in her inauguration speech. – The Olympiad opened always the way to the start for the youth to the technical universities. All my predecessors had paid a great attention to its organizing, encouraging the pupils of the secondary schools to participate in this extremely important competition. From among 990 laureates during the past 50 years, the majority of them obtained the great success in engineering and technical professions. As being the creators of technology, they have introduced many innovative solutions; they patented their inventions and became the outstanding scientists. They proudly stress the role which OWT played in their life. To-day we are focusing on other problems than those dating back to few decades before but the will to improve the world has always connected and it connects nowadays all creators of technology. I think that in the perspective of few years, a part of you undoubtedly will become the members of our organization which covers 40 scientific-technical associations and includes ca. 80 thousand engineers and technicians. You are the great hope that the movement of scientific-engineering associations, as lasting for 200 years, will be still actively developing.

When congratulating the present laureates, the President of FSNT-NOT added: – I really do hope that you will continue this beautiful idea as the expression of the care of the well-being of the whole humanity, the future generations and our planet, and ensuring the lasting peace all over the world.



The idea of the Olympiad of Technical Knowledge and its aims have not been changed for 50 years – Prof. Dr Hab. Wojciech Radomski, Eng. stressed in his appearance. He recollected the history of this event. It was organized for the talented young people who want to tie their future with the profession of engineer of technician.

– I am only worried about the fact that during the period of organizing OWT, one third of all students in Poland represented technical directions and now, we can observe a significant decrease of this phenomenon – Professor added. – I would like that the Olympiads could motivate again the youth to greater interest in the studies on technical directions. Together with the participants of OWT, laureates, teachers and scientific environment, we are one great Olympic Family which should grow and develop constantly. The success of



organizing it for 50 years is a merit of ambitious and talented youth as well as the teachers and guardians who develop the passion for science in the young people. It is only a pity that the Ministry of the National Education does not appreciate too much this valuable initiative. It has only a patronage for few years on the Olympiad but it does not support it financially. Nobody receives any means for its organization. The work is performed honourably, with the awareness of its role in the education and development of Poland. Professor thanked all the persons involved in organization of OWT for their efforts and wished the Olympiad to survive the successive 50 years.

The appreciation for the level of knowledge of the laureates, their interest and great engagement of the teachers was also expressed by other participants of the solemn Gala; *inter alia*, by Piotr Zakrzewski – Vice-President of the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland who paid also attention how the protection of intellectual and industrial property was important for the creators of technology. In turn, Dr Hubert Cichocki, the President of the Research Network Łukasiewicz – partner of OWT encouraged the young people to become interested in the participation in the program “Olympiad Laureates in Łukasiewicz; the youth meets the experience there”. – *We are here in a very wide team and represent different institutions but we are all aware how important is the cooperation of public administration, business and science* – he stressed.

After the appearances of organizers and patrons of the 50th edition of the Olympiad of Technical Knowledge – Engineering in Electrical Power Technology, the President Ewa Mańkiewicz-Cudny and Prof. Stanisław Wincenciak handed the diplomas and awards to 13 laureates.

The first award went to Piotr Pawlik from the Group of Technical Electric Schools and Lyceums in Krosno; **the second place** was granted to Rafał Kmiotek from the Defenders of Polish Post Group of Communication Schools in Gdańsk; **the third place ex aequo** was granted to Dominik Jarosławski from the Stanisław Staszic II Lyceum in Lublin and to Adam Sienkiewicz from the Duchess Anna Jabłonowska de domo Sapieha II Lyceum in Białystok. [The complete list of the laureates is available on the page of Olympiad.](#)

– *I was lucky that the tasks occurred to be very easy for me* – Piotr Pawlik, the winner of maximum number of scores (100) in OWT assured. – *The first task concerned electronics which has been the subject of my interest since primary school; in the second task, I invented ad hoc the formula in order to solve the problem in the best way. The task consisted in the selection of the number of photovoltaic panels and wind turbines as the costs of implementation of such undertaking could be most optimal for 10 years of exploitation. According to the invented formula I considered different variants and combination and I obtained a very good result. It decided on the success of my idea. I gained the maximum number of scores and obtained a free entrance (student's “index”) to AGH. I encourage all to participation in OWT as it opens the way to the dreamed studies.*

The culmination of the ceremony was distinction of the persons with the special merits for OWT and awarding them with diplomas, medals and golden and silver honorary badges of NOT. The highest distinction of NOT – the Piotr Drzewiecki Medal was granted to Professor Wojciech Radomski.

The discussed above solemn event was possible owing to the engagement and efforts of many persons as well as owing to the support of our sponsors and partners. In behalf of Federation SNT-NOT, Regional Committees and the Chief Committee of OWT, the leading host of the ceremony paid the words of gratitude to pedagogic teams of many schools, universities, authors of the tasks to be solves and the members of the Jury, the Regional Organizational Units of NOT, the Ministry of the National Education and the sponsors of the Olympiad: Polish Electric Power Engineering S.A., Toruńskie Works of Dressing Materials S.A., Foundation Adamed, companies Horus-Energia, Stern Weber, MZGOK Konin; partners: the Research Network Łukasiewicz, Association for the Support of Polish Technology, House of Engineer in Warsaw, Publishing House of SIGMA-NOT, company NOT- Informatyka (Computer Science), the National Museum of Engineering and portal: Leaders of Innovativeness.

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