

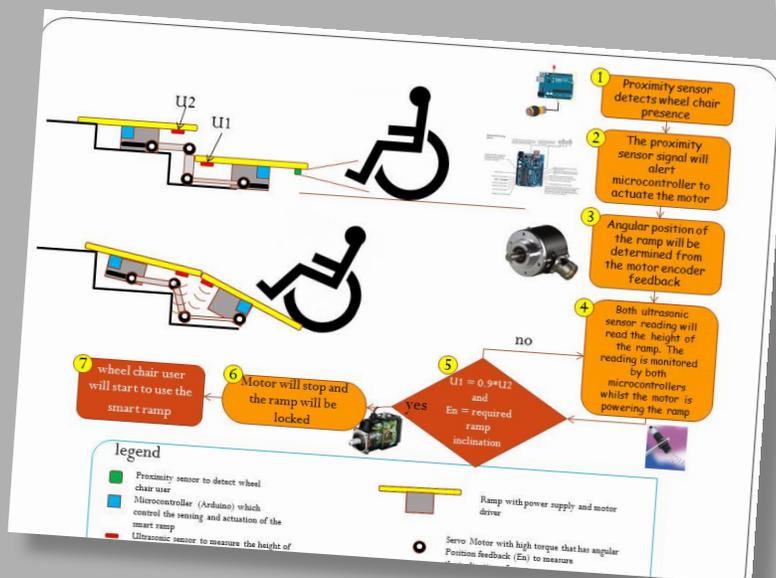
BUILDING LECTURERS BAGGED SILVER MEDAL in IID 2018

Mor Azizah Talkis
(FSPU)

A team of innovative lecturers led by Muhammad Naim Mahyuddin assisted by colleagues, Dr. Dzulkarnaen Ismail, Sr. Anas Zafirold Abdullah Halim, Mohamad Hamdan Othman and Mohd Najib Abdul Rashid bagged a Silver Medal in the recent Invention, Innovation and Design Competition (IID) 2018. The competition was held digitally on August 28, 2018.

This invention was created with the idea of having a better accessibility system for wheelchair users. The current types of ramps for wheelchair users provide enough accessibility for them; however, it is only to a certain degree or range. A wheelchair ramp can be permanent, semi-permanent or portable. Permanent ramps are designed to be bolted or attached in place. The problem with permanent ramps is that they can only be found in certain areas or buildings that provide access for wheelchair users. Besides, the design for this type of ramps requires a lot of planning in terms of space usage. Therefore, it is not cost effective due to the customised sizes of each specific location and buildings.

i-Ramp is designed to be able to fold and lift its parts using the concept of a forklift. It is also made from lightweight materials such as carbon steel and lightweight stainless steel for ease and mobility. The interesting mechanism of i-Ramp is that it will act as a normal staircase when not in use by wheelchair users. It detects the presence of wheelchair by using a proximity sensor installed below i-Ramp and will transform into a ramp for accessibility. A hook with rubber grip is installed on the end of the device thus making it more stable and providing stronger grip when attached to the curb. This safety feature is crucial to ensure that wheelchairs will not topple down even though the materials used are lightweight. The i-Ramp also caters to suit all types of walkways despite having different drop levels, curb obstructions, road dividers and others. The invention of i-Ramp is an outstanding contribution to wheelchair users and hopefully will improve the accessibility of public places for these users.



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