

## **Sponsor and Organizer of KPIT SPARKLE**

This contest is sponsored and organized by KPIT Technologies Ltd., having its registered office at Plot No. 17, SEZ, Rajiv Gandhi InfoTech Park, Phase 3, MIDC, Hinjewadi, Pune 411 057, India (hereinafter referred to as “Sponsor and/or Organizer”).

All requests and communication related to the contest have to be addressed to the above address.

## **Jury / Evaluation Committee**

Representatives and/or employees of the Sponsor and/or Organizer, technical experts of the Sponsor’s and/or Organizer’s Research & Development department(s), and/or independent external experts will form a Jury/Evaluation Committee which will also be involved in conducting this contest. Sponsor and Organizer reserve the right - at their sole discretion and without prior notice - to appoint, dismiss and/or replace members of the Jury/Evaluation Committee at any time.

## **Eligibility to Participate**

This contest is open to all students of undergraduate courses from science and engineering, faculties of colleges and universities in India, and select institutions (seen in the list in the portal) in the USA, Germany, Japan, and Thailand.

## **Contest Periods**

**Registration and idea submission:** For Participants is open from 01.08.2023. Participant teams can submit ideas in the idea submission form and a video of the working prototype if they have it ready as proof of concept. This phase ends on 31.10.2023, 24:00h IST.

**Prefinale:** Select teams based on the quality of the idea submitted would present a High-quality working prototype video to prove the feasibility of implementation. This will be an online presentation with the KPIT SMEs.

The dates for this round of presentations and selection of finalists will take place 01.12.2023- 03.12.2023.

The Results declaring the finalists will be published on the portal by 08.01.2023.

## **Finale:**

The finale will take place in mid of March 2024, in Pune. The date and venue details would be provided to all selected finalists. Participants may log in to the KPIT SPARKLE portal, to know the status of their project, Sponsor and/or Organizer reserve the right, to modify the above dates

without prior notice. Neither Sponsor nor Organizer can be held liable for any consequences of such a change in dates.

Sponsor and/or Organizer reserve the right to cancel the contest at any time depending on the quality of ideas received.

### **Participating in the Contest / Time Schedule**

Entering the contest is free of charge. To enter the contest, Participants must register themselves by completing the electronic entry form available at <https://sparkle.kpit.com> by clicking on “Register now” and signup to get registered in KPIT Sparkle 2024 contest.

Participants have to enter the project details after registration. In the case of a team, the team lead must invite the other members of his/her team. The team should consist of a maximum of 5 members including the team leader. Each team must appoint a team leader, (i) who will represent the team, (ii) who will be the contact person (for the Sponsor and the Organizer), and (iii) who must act as a coordinator between the other team members. The team should have a mentor who can be from the college/industry. During Phase 1. All team members must log in and fill in all necessary details. After Phase I Participants may not be allowed to change their project details.

THE TEAM LEAD INVITING THE OTHER TEAM MEMBERS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RESPECTIVE CONSENT OF THE OTHER TEAM MEMBERS IN REGISTERING THEM AS TEAM MEMBERS.

All required information entered must be true and correct (inter alia true first and true last name, e-mail address, etc.) (hereinafter collectively referred to as “Personal Information”). Any entry form that is incomplete or that contains inaccuracies or discrepancies will not be considered and will result automatically in the disqualification of the Participant.

After registration the Participant will receive an email with a link for verification of his/her email address. After verification of the email address the Participant must login at <https://sparkle.kpit.com>

### **Idea Submission**

**Participants** - via an online form available at [ <https://sparkle.kpit.com> need to register and login first] – submit their ideas for solutions on the theme

The below are themes for KPIT Sparkle 2024

- Innovative Approaches to arrive at Data Determinism and Time determinism in Embedded Software
- Innovative approach toward building an Operating System for a safe & scalable Microkernel architecture.
- Innovative Approach towards Lightweighting Linux for Safety-critical Embedded Applications
- Innovative approaches toward Cyber Security of Software
- Leveraging DPI (Digital Public Infrastructure) & 5G connectivity to create innovative and end-user-friendly-applications in Mobility.
- Application of Large Language Models for Mobility
- Innovative approaches to improving battery range in an Electric Vehicle
- Alternate sources of Energy for Mobility
- Alternate approaches to building Autonomous Systems

The ideas will be evaluated on below parameters:

- The uniqueness of idea: This aspect will be evaluated based on the distinctive steps outlined and compared against the standard technology available in the market. Additionally, we will assess whether there is any intellectual property (IP), copyright, or new method associated with the idea.
- Feasibility of implementation: Ratings will depend on responses that include the research conducted by the team regarding the idea's implementation. The team is also required to provide an expert's letter outlining their observations and recommendations.
- Product Readiness: Ratings will be assigned based on the submitted video that demonstrates virtual validation and implementation if the idea has matured.
- Convenience and Safety: We will assess the idea by examining its ease of implementation on the ground and its compliance with existing safety standards.
- The submitted prototype will be evaluated based on ratings for Performance and Efficiency, Safety & Reliability, Security, Scalability, and Modularity, as well as Usability and User Experience.
- The Evaluation Committee will at its sole discretion select the best ideas/ prototypes which are innovative and according to the above-mentioned criteria, which will be Selected and Approved for high-quality prototyping. The decision of the Evaluation Committee will be final and binding and

cannot be challenged. Sponsor and/or Organizer will send an email / SMS to Participant's (or team leaders in case of the team) registered email/phone no.

- Participants, whose ideas/ videos of initial prototypes have been selected, must (i) create a high-quality working prototype (i.e., software, hardware) of his/her/their idea and (ii) submit a video [of up to seven minutes] that show the functionality of the prototype. The video must be submitted by uploading it to [ <https://sparkle.kpit.com> post login]. Participant teams can revise the video prototype. Based on this submission the finalists will be selected and informed.
- The Participants shall bear all the costs and expenses for creating the prototype, photo, and/or video. These costs and expenses will not be reimbursed by the Sponsor and/or Organizer in any way.
- Participants may use the support of their universities, faculties and/or their laboratories to develop or build the prototypes, provided, the same is in consent with these entities.
- Evaluation committee will on the basis of the submitted videos evaluate the prototypes on the criteria of readiness and functionality. The Jury will at its sole discretion select the best thirty prototypes according to these criteria. The Participant (s) of the selected prototypes will be invited to presenting the prototype at Presentation Day. During Finale Sponsor and/or Organizer will send the invitation by email to Participant (or team lead) registered email address.

### **Selection of Winners**

At Finale, the Jury will assess the presented prototypes and give – at its sole discretion – ratings based on the following criteria:

- Quality of innovation
- Comparison of the below parameter with the market benchmark
- Performance and Efficiency
- Safety and Reliability
- Security, Scalability, and Flexibility
- Usability and User Experience

## **Awards**

- The Participant (s), whose prototype receives the best overall rating wins a platinum award of Rs. 7 Lakh.
- The Participant (s), whose prototype receives the second-best overall rating wins a gold award of Rs. 5 Lakh.

## **Announcement of Winners**

The winners will be announced in the Finale, which is an in-person event held in Pune Maharashtra.

## **Allocation of Awards**

The award monies will be transferred directly to the bank account of the Participants (equal division to the individual team member). For this, it would be mandatory for all the individual team members to have a Unified Payment Gateway (UPI) id associated with the respective individual's bank account, and the details of the same are shared once the Organizers ask for this information.

For international participation, candidates should share the correct details of the Bank and SWIFT codes as they get selected for the finale.

## **Taxes**

The winners are solely responsible for the tax payment of the awards received according to applicable tax laws. So, no taxes are cut at the source.

## **Responsibility of Participant (s)**

The Participants are responsible and must make sure that the ideas, prototypes, photos, and/or videos submitted by them do not violate any applicable laws or any third-party rights. They are also responsible and ensure that they have obtained the necessary consent /permits of third parties in order to participate and abide by these Terms. The Team leaders must ensure that each Team member has consented to registering him/her as a Team member and submitting his/her ideas and/or prototypes created or co-created by them as described in these Terms. Plagiarism would lead to disqualification.

## **Data Protection**

When entering the contest, the Participants consent that their Personal Information collected by Sponsor and/or Organizer shall be used by Sponsor and/or Organizer or their agents to conduct the contest, to contact the participant or for the purpose of fulfillment of these Terms.

When entering the contest, the Participants agree and consent that their personal information, Identity and Likeness is incorporated into Sponsor's and/or Organizer's databases and get automatically processed for the purposes mentioned above.

At any time, a Participant may revoke his/her consent and exercise his/her right of objection, access, rectification and cancellation addressing written notices via e-mail to [KPITsparkle@kpit.com] or via usual mail to Sponsor's and/or Organizer.

## **Patent rights**

Participants will remain the sole owners of their submitted inventions in connection with the contest, including but not limited to software, designs, drawings, demoware, prototypes, techniques, and methodology. All materials, deliverables, inventions, works of authorship or other creations arising out of this submission will remain the property of the originating Participant.

Selected videos shall be published by Sponsor and/or Organizer on YouTube under KPIT Sparkle Project Video. Participants provide all the rights to publish their videos along with their identities on YouTube for the KPIT Sparkle program. Participants are aware that Sponsor and/or Organizer will not be liable to pay any Participant any kind of consideration and Participants will not raise any claims or demands against Sponsor and/or Organizer for the same.

Sponsors and/or Organizer believe that the project video provided by Participants is their own idea/ invention and any third party will have no claim on the same. All intellectual property rights under this project video shall at all the time solely remain with Participants and Sponsor's and/or Organizer will have no claim on the same. Participants agree that they will protect, hold harmless and indemnify Sponsor's and/or Organizer from any third-party claim relating to the ownership or infringement of the idea/invention claim or any other claim arising out of this project videos.

## **Cancellation – Modification**

Sponsor and/or Organizer reserve the right, - at their sole discretion and without prior notice at any time to modify, postpone, cancel, or terminate the contest in its entirety, in the event that the integrity, administration, impartiality or normal operation of the contest is compromised in any way especially because of a computer-virus, a software bug, hacker attacks or unauthorized human intervention or for any other purpose. In this event, Participants will be informed via <https://sparkle.kpit.com>. In case of a modification, postponement, cancellation, or termination the Participants have no rights to claim anything (including awards) from Sponsor and/or the Organizer.

## **Limitation of Liability**

In no event shall Sponsor and/or Organizer be liable to the other for any loss of profits, loss of revenue, loss of data, loss of use, any direct, indirect, incidental, special, exemplary, punitive or consequential damages, incurred by Participants or any third party, whether in an action in contract or tort, strict liability or other legal or equitable theory regardless of whether such damages were foreseeable or if the Participants or any other person has been advised of the possibility of such damages.

## **Applicable law – Jurisdiction Clause**

These Terms and Conditions are subject to the laws of India. Any disputes that cannot be settled amicably shall be settled exclusively by the competent courts of Pune, India.

## **Confidentiality**

Participants in the contest undertake not to disclose any information about the content of their ideas and/or prototypes to any third party before the announcement of the winners. 'Third parties,' here, includes other participants in the contest, but not the Sponsor and /or Organizer, its employees, agents, or representatives and members of the jury.

## **Access to Terms**

These Terms are available online at <https://sparkle.kpit.com>.

## **Contact**

All requests and communication related to the contest have to be addressed to the Sponsor and/or Organizer's office. Candidates may send in questions at any time to the following address: [KPITsparkle@kpit.com](mailto:KPITsparkle@kpit.com).

## **Severability Clause**

Should one of the provisions of the Official Rules be or become invalid or infeasible the validity of the remaining provisions of the Official Rules shall not thereby be affected. In this case, the invalid or infeasible provision shall be substituted by a valid provision which comes closest to the economic effect of the invalid provision.

**Entire Agreement:** This Terms contain the entire agreement between Sponsor and /or Organizer and Participants with respect to the provision of contest and supersedes all previous agreements, promises, proposals, representations, and understandings whether written or oral, between the parties respecting the subject matter hereof. Privacy policy

### **Publicity and Image Rights**

Throughout the contest, Sponsor and/or Organizer will communicate on the identity of the Participant (s). Accordingly, Participant (s) undertake to provide their biographical details, namely [name, age, name of the university, faculty, photographs] (hereinafter referred to as “Identity”) and project title, project details, images and videos (hereinafter referred to as “Likeness”) requested by Sponsor and/or Organizer and agree to these being published on the Internet site: [www.sparkle.kpit.com](http://www.sparkle.kpit.com) and on Sponsor's and/or Organizer's social network accounts (on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and XING etc.) as part of the communication campaign for the contest, until the end of 2023. The winners expressly agree to the free usage and publication of their Identity and/or Likeness on the following media: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, and relevant Magazines for any advertising or promotional campaign related to this contest, on the medium mentioned also a record, is maintained on Sparkle “Hall of Fame” page. No compensation will be paid to the Participants for the above-mentioned grant of rights by the Participants. “All the intellectual property rights in the project will continue to vest with the Participant.”