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Nightmare no more!

Big prizes for competition winners

By Abbu Lu

The booth of furniture designer and manufacturer Kian Contract at Archidex 2008 was literally buzzing as world renowned architects rubbed shoulders with their local counterparts at the Professionals Networking Evening last weekend organised by Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM).

While all that was taking place, three members of the public waited expectantly close by.

They were the lucky grand-prize winners of "Your Worst Nightmare" competition jointly organised by Architect Centre Sdn Bhd (ACSB) and NST-Property.

"I can't wait to see the couch that I have won!", said Louella Lu, whose entry "Overflowing business" was judged the first prize winner.

Lu didn't have to wait much longer. At 6pm, following the emcee's brief announcement which included a note thanking the sponsors, the prize-giving ceremony proceeded.

The retired employee of HSBC Bank Malaysia Bhd was all smiles as she received the prizes from ACSB general manager Hussein Hamzah.

Lu's entry won unanimous votes from the judges comprising PAM president Lee Chor Wah, ACSB director Sarizal Yusman Yusoff, and NST-Property editor Andrew Wong.

She won a sofa set by Kian Contract valued at RM8,000 and RM1,500 worth of DorteZ locksets by Panmart.

First runner-up was Chew Eng Fun, who submitted the "Leaking sockets, termite infested parquet" entry that detailed her family's horror of having to deal with leaks through electrical sockets and parquet flooring that was invaded by termites.

Chew, represented by Lisa Teoh, won a dining-room set by Kian Contract worth RM4,500 and DorteZ locks worth RM 1,000.

The "Irkome staying next to lift shaft" entry was second runner-up. The prizes comprised a patio set worth RM2,300 by Kian

Contract and DorteZ locks worth RM500.

Heilmi Shabirin, representing his mother Jamaliah Lamzah, said the entire family was delighted and pleasantly surprised that their "headache" turned out to be a "prize" instead.

Hussein said he was pleased by the "surprisingly good response" generated by the competition which aimed to "create awareness among the public on the importance of maintaining their homes".

"Most of these 'horrors' are preventable if people are proactive," he added.

Heilmi receiving the third prize from Hussein while ACSB's accredited building inspector and trainer, who is also the event's emcee, looks on.



Teoh is all smiles as she accepts the second prize on behalf of Chew.



For her "Overflowing business" entry, Lu takes home the first prize worth a total of RM9,500. Presenting that to her is Hussein.

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