

DOST-ITDI @ 124 years celebrates Innovation, Growth, and Excellence for the Nation

Bicutan, Taguig City - The Department of Science and Technology's Industrial Technology Development Institute (DOST-ITDI) celebrated its 124th founding anniversary on July 1, 2025, at City of Dreams Manila. This year's theme, "Pag-ibig sa Inobasyon, Paghubog sa Industriya, Pag-unlad sa Bayan," underscored the Institute's deep commitment to innovation, industry development, and national progress.



The celebration featured a ceremonial program, recognizing outstanding contributions and model employees, top industry partners, the launch of ITDI's new Mission and Vision, and a festive show of employees' talents, fun games, and raffle draws—all in the spirit of unity, progress, and innovation.

Formally opening the program was ITDI Director Dr. Annabelle V. Briones, who, in her speech, congratulated and expressed thanks and gratitude to everyone who consistently worked smart to help propel ITDI's growth and existence, 124 years and counting.

She believed that DOST-ITDI's 124 years of unwavering dedication to scientific excellence and technological innovation have been essential in shaping the country's future, with all researchers, employees, and partners as the wings beneath the success.

"As we celebrate this important milestone, we look forward to continuing our pursuit of groundbreaking research and development that will benefit our nation and beyond," Dr. Briones said.

Inspired by Technology, Driven by Innovation

Dr. Janet F. Quizon, ITDI Deputy Director for Administrative and Technical Services, warmly introduced Ms. Ermelita V. Valdeavilla, Chairperson of the Philippine Commission on Women, who gave an advocacy speech on Gender and Development.



Following the introduction was DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr., sending his earnest congratulatory and inspirational message.

With a grateful gesture, Sec Solidum said, *“Thanks to your tireless efforts, countless micro, small, and medium enterprises have become stronger, more resilient, and more competitive. But what truly distinguishes DOST-ITDI is your commitment to inclusion and empowerment. In a world where science and technology evolve rapidly, we must ensure that no one is left behind. I commend DOST-ITDI for taking on this responsibility”*.

Initiating a drive called Men Oppose to Violence Everywhere (MOVE) wall signing led by Engr. Reynaldo Esguerra, Officer-In-Charge and Deputy Director for Research and Development, and his members, pledged to oppose violence and uphold the safety and protection everywhere.

Engr. Roland Andrew T. Cruz, Chief of the Planning and Management Information System Division (PMISD), led the launch of ITDI's new Mission and Vision.

This was followed by the recognition of outstanding contributions, model employees, and a festive showcase of talents, games, and raffle draws—all in the spirit of unity, progress, and innovation.

Named ITDI-Wide Model Employees were Jillian D. Sarto - FMD (Junior - ATS), Patricia Ashley M. Mendoza - FMD (Senior - ATS), and Ma. Bettina A. Macaraeg - FPD (Senior - R&D).

Divisional Model Employee for Junior Staff – ATS was given to Erwin B. Leoncio (OD/ODD), Jillan D. Sarto (FMD), Virginia V. Marino (PMISD), Christian M. Baylon (ADM), Glen T. Dabela (TSD), Jose Mangundayao (STD), and Elvie M. Ocsan (NMD).

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Divisional Model Employee for Senior Staff – ATS goes to Joseph M. Pasag (OD/ODD), Patricia Ashley M. Mendoza (FMD), Jose Mari B. Manalo (PMISD), Liezl G. Cudapas (ADM), Albert M. Pallaya (TSD), Ruth L. Damian (STD), Engr. Jose Marco D. Latosa (NMD).

Awards for Divisional Model Employee for Junior Staff - R&D go to Elmer C. Magora (FPD), Sheila D. Mantaring (EBD), Cedrix Edrile Nepomuceno (MSD), Allan B. Quirante (PTD), Rudy Leo Quiniquito (CED).

Divisional Model Employee for Senior Staff – R&D given to Ma. Bettina A. Macaraeg (FPD), Engr. Prima Joy F. Margarito (EBD), Dale Mhar B. Alfeche (MSD), Ermin S. Orendain (PTD), and Oliver C. Evangelista (CED).

The award for Best Division 2024 was given to the Environment and Biotechnology Division for R&D Group, the National Metrology Division for Technical Services Group, and the Finance Management Division for Support Group.

Awardees for 2024 Industry Partners accorded to L. Angeles Machineries Corporation (LAMACO), a licensed fabricator of Bioreactor, Dual Drum Composter, Electric Plastic Densifier since 2013; NSB Engineering Design and Fabrication, a licensed fabricator of Salt Iodizer Machine, Salt Washer, Salt Spin Dryer, Salt Evaporating Set Up since 2019; Southern Metrology Calibration Services Inc., a “suki” of ITDI training services who was recognized in 2023, and in 2024 managed to send 23 participants to 11 calibration courses of ITDI-NMD; and Department of Energy (DOE) who contributed approximately ₱8.8 million to the joint project with the Department of Science and Technology – Industrial Technology Development Institute (DOST-ITDI), on Sustainability of Fuel Cell R&D and Testing Center for Scientific Knowledge and Research Capacity Enhancement and Technology Advancement.



Gracing the occasion was another significant personality, the former DOST Secretary Fortunato T. Dela Peña, who delivered a message of appreciation and gratitude, full of optimism that ITDI will surpass its achievements beyond expectations.

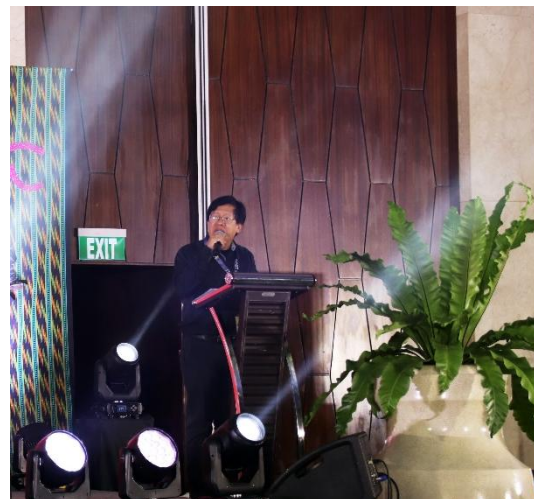
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After talks and awards, lights and a colorful festive team presentation lit up the stage as participants showcased their talents with escorts and muses flaunting their beauty and charm. Raffles add spice to fun and games, bringing joy to everyone.

Entertainers were also recognized and awarded prizes for best group presentation and sportsmanship for players.

The Mindanao cluster emerged as the champion for group dance presentation. Teams Luzon and Visayas came in 2nd and 3rd place.

A sneak preview of what's coming in 2026, as ITDI ages gracefully at 125 years, was played on screen.



Closing the program was Engr. Reynaldo Esguerra, ITDI Deputy Director for Research and Development, congratulated and thanked everyone for participating and sharing their talents and resources, making the activity wonderful and meaningful. (//DDGotis, ITDI S&D Media Service; Photo credits: TSD Photo-Documentation Team)