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SPACE CANADA ANNOUNCES 2025 INTERNATIONAL SPACE SOLAR POWER COMPETITION WINNERS

(Toronto, CANADA, November 14, 2025) – SPACE Canada is proud to announce the winners of the 2025 International Space Solar Power Competition, an initiative that celebrates innovative student projects exploring the potential of space-based solar power (SBSP) to provide clean, sustainable energy for Earth and Space.

This annual event challenges students worldwide to develop to design, analyze, and propose novel concepts that advance space-based solar power technologies and applications from satellite design and power transmission to deployment strategies and international policy frameworks. The 9th Annual International Space Solar Power Student Competition is a global, undergraduate and graduate level annual event presented by SPACE Canada, in partnership with the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) Power Committee, International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) Space Solar Power Permanent Committee, National Space Society (NSS), and the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC).

This year's competition attracted a record number of participants with submissions from universities in over 28 countries, 10 teams were invited to the semi-finals round at the International Space Development Conference held in Orlando, Florida. The top 2 teams advanced to the finals at the 76th International Astronautical Congress to compete for the 2025 Mark Hopkins Award. The IAC 2025 attracted more than 19,000 participants, with 7,500 delegates from around 99 countries including space agencies, industry leaders, and academics. The finalists presented at the IAC 2025 Space Power Symposium Session in Sydney, Australia, where they had the opportunity to present their ideas to an audience of global leaders in space and energy. Winners were selected by a distinguished panel of experts from the space industry and academia. Judging criteria included technical feasibility, originality, scalability, and potential for real-world impact.

The Mark Hopkins Award aims to celebrate his legacy by acknowledging individuals or teams demonstrating extraordinary ingenuity, perseverance, and transformative ideas in the field of space-based solar power. The results of the 2025 Mark Hopkins Award are:

Winner: Pietro De Marchi, Yirui Wang, Massimiliano Vasile, James Campbell, Josh Ferrier, Niranjana Gopalakrishnan
University of Strathclyde, Brunel University of London
Project: Estimating the Potential Impact of SPSs on Space Environment Stability via Stochastic Network Analysis

Runner Up: Yuta Katsuyama, Ryuya Kumagai, Yumi Kawai, Takumi Horibe, Tomu Matsutomo, Naoki Warigai, Shinnosuke Sano, Yamato Nishida, Simon Maillote, and Koji Tanaka
HOSEI University, Suwa Tokyo University of Science, The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI
Project: Innovative Conceptual Study of an Ultra-Lightweight, Large-Scale Solar Array for Lunar-Orbiting SPS

SPACE Canada and the cooperating organizations congratulate all of the teams (Semi-Finalist and Finalist) on their outstanding research projects in this year's competition. We would also like to thank all the participating Professors and Institutions for their support and effort, as well as the Judges who gave their time and advice in this great purpose. Lastly, the International Space Solar Power Competition for the Mark Hopkins Award commends all students for their excellent work and their remarkable contributions and unwavering commitment to advancing renewable energy solutions and wish them well in developing their concepts and ideas further.

"This year's competition showcased remarkable creativity and technical depth," said Dr. Andrew Wilson, Competition Manager, "students demonstrated not only strong engineering capability but also an understanding of the broader societal and environmental impacts of space-based solar power. Their work highlights how academic innovation can shape the real-world transition to sustainable energy."

The International Space Solar Power Student Competition seeks to inspire the next generation of engineers, scientists, and entrepreneurs to tackle one of humanity's most pressing challenges: ensuring sustainable and secure energy for Earth. The winning teams demonstrated outstanding creativity, rigorous research, and the potential to make space solar power a viable contributor to global energy needs. The competition is part of SPACE Canada's broader mission to promote international dialogue, research, and education on space-based solar power, fostering collaboration among academia, industry, and government to build a truly global clean energy system.

"These students represent the next generation of thinkers and builders who will shape humanity's sustainable future in space," said George Dietrich, President of SPACE Canada "Their ideas remind us that space technology, when guided by collaboration and purpose, can become a cornerstone of global sustainability and energy security."

Space Canada remains committed to fostering innovation and collaboration in the field of space-based solar power. Next year's contest announcement will be available on the site shortly, and interested students are encouraged to apply.

About SPACE Canada: SPACE Canada (Solar Power Alternative for Clean Energy) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization based in Canada; dedicated to the promotion of solar energy from space; an abundant and sustainable source of safe, affordable clean energy for the world. To learn more, visit www.spacecanada.org/

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