

# UAE's teen app developers extolled

BY WILLIAM FARIA

**DUBAI:** Selected from over 40 developers, UAE-based El Techie, a team of five young app developers aged between 15 to 17 years, grabbed the grand prize at the 2nd Live Hackathon series held at the inaugural Future Technology Week that came to an end in Dubai on Thursday evening.

As part of the prize, the team will receive a three-month internship at Pacific Controls Middle East and a one-year free access to Microsoft's range of tools and software including the global technology giant's Azure, a cloud computing platform.

At the Hackathon, El Techie presented a unique, innovative and thoughtful smart application Alzheimer's Curapp – an app made for people suffering from the neurological disorder that causes the death of brain cells resulting in memory loss and cognitive decline. Curapp currently has more than 100 users across 30 countries and growing.

The innovative application con-

sists of eight simple yet critical and practical features such as: Remember to work – this feature uses Google Voice to complete and remember the patients' tasks; Where I am? – helps patients to know where they are by longitude and latitude with the help of Google map and Google earth allowing them to know their actual location; Social Phone / Social M.R.P – this feature helps people beyond or in patients' stimuli, giving them direct access to emergency services such as ambulance; Notifier – this helps the patients notify or remind about using the application; Camera – a simple yet powerful feature that allows patients to capture memorable memories through smart devices, including smartphones and tablets' built-in camera function; Mapigate – allowing the patients to navigate from one place to another using Google maps; News Everyday – this feature updates and provides news alerts using Yahoo News and Radio Streaming – an entertainment feature that stream across different radio channels. The judges of

the Hackathon series were Sajaad Chaudry, Chief Business Officer, Pacific Controls, and Necip Ozyucel, Cloud and Enterprise Business Group Lead – Gulf, Microsoft. Other competing teams included TickMe App, a bus ticket app; Pre-Parking App; Amb Tracking, an app that allows ambulances easy road access; and Toll Gram App, that monitors toll gate fees. Each entry was evaluated based on three themes: Smart Transportation, Smart Environment and Smart Cities, creating unique, innovative, convenient and smart applications for everyday use and smart living.

Future Technology Week, Dubai World Trade Centre's (DWTC) new umbrella brand brought together four leading IT shows, including Gulf Information Security Expo & Conference (GISEC), The Big Data Show, GEMEC and IoTX included a three-day exhibition that came to a close on Thursday evening and attracted a high-profile contingent of the world's leading technology companies.