

COMPLETION REPORT

'How Successful Can Remanufacturing Strategies Be Implemented For Automotive Manufacturing Sustainability? – A Comparison of Sociotechnical Perspectives between Japan And Malaysia'.

The study was successfully conducted in Malaysia and Japan over the period of one-half years. The first survey was carried out in Malaysia, focusing on the public in an industrial city in Malaysia. The city, Shah Alam was selected as it was one of the most densely populated industrial city in the country. The survey done through interview focuses on acquiring information on public knowledge and their support towards End-of-Life Vehicle (ELV) implementation. Survey of 400 respondents indicated that while public community understanding on recycling is high, their understanding on ELV reuse and remanufacture is rather low. Most respondents know and support ELV reuse but they are less willing to engage in this process.

Upon completion of the study in Malaysia, a internet based survey among the public in Japan was conducted by a company in Japan. From the survey, 254 responses were obtained. The study has found that there are some differences in the opinion of the public pertaining to specific issues in ELV. For example, even though the public community knowledge on ELV in both countries is high, the percentage of respondents in Japan that they are not sure of the quality and durability of ELV components even after it has been tested is higher than in Malaysia. Public readiness to be involved in ELV reuse initiatives are also higher among the Malaysian respondents. The study has also shown that a high percentage of respondents agree to the ways suggested to dispose old cars, and steps should be taken by the industry and the government to support reuse strategy. However, the public community in Japan and Malaysia differ in their opinion on whether the government should provide incentives for the public who are involved in recovery activities. Most respondents in Japan are uncertain on the need to provide incentives while most respondents in Malaysia agreed to the suggestion.

It is hoped that findings from this study will help the country to better understand the overall public perception, views and culture with regard to reuse of end of life vehicle components. The government with the support of authorized bodies should then be able to formulate policies, frameworks and make informed decisions on how to create awareness and instill public confidence on the utilization of reuse components. Even with a push factor such as a legislation or directive in place, it is imperative for the government and authorized bodies to understand the socio-technical aspects of recovery strategies in view of making it a success.

I would like to take this opportune moment to express my gratitude to the Sumitomo Foundation of Japan for awarding me this prestigious grant..

Publication of the Results of Research Project:

Verbal Presentation (Date, Venue, Name of Conference, Title of Presentation, Presenter, etc.) -
Thesis (Name of Journal and its Date, Title and Author of Thesis, etc.) 1. Published 2013 D.A. Wahab and Z.F Fadzil. 2013. Public Community Knowledge on Reuse of End-of-Life Vehicles: A Case Study in an Automotive Industrial City in Malaysia. <i>Journal of Applied Sciences</i> , ISSN: 1812-5654, DOI: 10.3923/jas2013 2. Manuscript submitted to <i>Journal of Environmental Engineering and Management</i> - awaiting reviewer comments Dzuraidah Abd Wahab and Zuhair Fikri Fadzil. Public Community Knowledge and Support on End-of-Life Vehicles Reuse: A Case Study in an Automotive Industrial City in Malaysia 3. Manuscript at the draft stage for submission D. A. Wahab, Z. F. Fadzil & Y. Umeda. Public Community Perception On End-Of-Life Vehicles: A Case Study Between Japan And Malaysia.
Book (Publisher and Date of the Book, Title and Author of the Book, etc.) -