U.S. Finalists Announced in 2010 James Dyson Competition

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Christine Outram and a team of MIT students have been named as the U.S. National winner in the 2010 James Dyson Award competition. Their invention: the Copenhagen Wheel, a wheel that turns a regular bike into an electric hybrid.

This technology-driven wheel allows riders to absorb the energy dissipated when breaking and cycling and store it for when they need a boost up a hill or are simply feeling sluggish. Cyclists control the Copenhagen Wheel by way of a personal smart phone.
SeaKettle by Kimberly Hoffman

This year’s U.S. entries ran the gamut of innovation, and the winning design was followed by runners up SeaKettle, a life raft that desalinates sea water; Empower By Me, a refillable HIV/AIDS medical kit for use in developing countries; Travel Pack, a bicycle travel case; Public Bicycle Security System; Kee to Safer Driving, an in-car stereo system prohibiting texting while driving; Parquinho, a play structure for autistic and disabled users; Purify, a medical sanitation station; Mantis, a portable dental chair and equipment dolly; and Guardian, an advanced fire extinguisher.

Empower By Me by Jamie Perrin

All finalists will compete in the final round of competition against their international counterparts. The global winner will receive a grand prize of over $15,000, and another $15,000 for the student’s university department. Next month, the international finalists will be announced and a panel of esteemed judges will review the remaining entries. James Dyson will select and announce the global winner on October 5, 2010.

Images courtesy of the James Dyson Award.