Description of Innovation
The Hybrid Electric Road Train (HERT) is a road vehicle composed of interconnected air-conditioned coaches, each driven by electric motors, and powered by a diesel-electric generator set and battery power system which stores energy every time it decelerates and reuses the stored energy during acceleration, thus making it cleaner and environment-friendly.

The 240-passenger and 160-passenger (light) models can help ease traffic and may provide shorter and more predictable travel time. Passenger safety and comfort are harmonized in its design.

The Problem
According to a study conducted by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the economic cost of transportation is 3.5 billion pesos a day in Metro Manila alone and it will balloon to 5.4 billion pesos if no measures were done to help address the transport and traffic problems. Coupled with the fast-rising population of the Philippines which was 100.1 million in 2015, there is a great need to have a more efficient and more environment-friendly transportation system.

The Solution
To help address this problem, the Department of Science and Technology-Metal Industries Research and Development Center (DOST-MIRDC) created the Hybrid Electric Road Train (HERT). The HERT, also known as called Road Train, is an alternative mass transport system that is envisioned to help ease traffic congestion and carry more passengers per trip compared to other local public transport on the road. Its doors are designed wide enough to allow fast loading and unloading of passengers to reduce on-station dwelling time. Its operation is designed similarly to that of regular trains which have designated stops and strict schedules. It is cost effective, energy-efficient, environment-friendly, and most importantly safe alternative mass transport system designed and built by Filipinos.

Market Strategy
Licensing to manufacturers, transport providers and operators

Status
One prototype is operational in Cauayan Isabela while the other prototype is in General Santos City for a techno-promotion demo. On-going talks with two interested licensees

What we need
Licensees that will manufacture and operate the Road Train

Contact Information
Franz Joseph D. Libao
Senior Science Research Specialist
DOST-MIRDC
franz.libao@mirdc.dost.gov.ph
+639065798019, (02)8370431 loc 340