Meet The Outstanding Young Asian Leaders In Manufacturing And Energy

Manufacturing and energy are entering a new era thanks to big data and other technologies and new approaches to old problems by the youngest of entrepreneurs.

Leandro Leviste, 22, comes to mind when thinking about this year’s 30 Under 30 Asia honorees are adapting new technologies. Between his second and third years studying politics at Yale University, Leviste spotted an opportunity back home in the Philippines, which has some of the highest electricity rates in Asia. He invested his savings to set up Solar Philippines in 2013, one year before he graduated. The following year Bank of the Philippine Islands gave the company its first $1 million loan. Fast forward and Leviste now has 200 employees and his company generated $125 million in revenue last year — he says it expects to hit $750 million this year.

Other members of this year’s class include Aimee Marks, 29, founder of TOM Organic, Australia’s leading organic cotton feminine hygiene brand. Dhairya Dand, 26, originally from India, is now based in Seattle, where he runs ODD, an experimental fabrication and design studio. Riding the ecommerce wave from a logistic business model, Changwen Lai, 28, of Singapore offers quick, cheap and reliable delivery with Ninja Logistics.
For the complete list of honorees in manufacturing and industry, including our youngest, Owen Xu, 16, who founded a water conservation and reuse company, see below.

Richa Bajpai, 28, Abhishek Humbad, 28 India
Cofounders, NextGen PMS

Victor Chan, 29, China
Managing director, Daming Group

Eric Chen, 28, Hong Kong
Founder, Vitargent

Chiu-Hao (Ted) Chen, 25, Singapore
Cofounder, EverComm Uni-Tech Singapore