The results of TEPCO's first "Electricity Load Forecasting Technology Contest"

Prize	Winner	Comments from Judging Committee
Best award	TOSHIBA Corporation	Load forecasting methods based on weather forecasts are easily affected by times of seasonal change, such as the period during which the contest was held. This team successfully dealt with that shortcoming by using weather forecasts from multiple locations. The entry also employed ensemble learning to achieve even greater precision, impressing the judges with its ingenuity and potential. We are looking forward to future developments.
2nd place	TESLA Asia Pacific, Ltd.	Although this team had limited access to the weather forecast data in Japan and were not able to use a local weather vendor during the Actual Forecast, they derived very high accuracy in both forecast of the Annual Forecast and the Actual Forecast. This suggests that if the weather data from a local weather vendor was used, this team may improve their performance in the prediction.
3rd place	Japan Meteorological Corporation	We took note of concepts such as temperatures weighted for each region's population. Although it is simple, this highly precise method holds promise for the future.
Presentation award	Uda Wataru (Youworks Co.,Ltd)	Analyzing problems according to each factor that affects load is a fascinating concept. It is a simple yet attractive method. Incorporating indicators such as social activity was a creative approach.
Special prize	CHIYODA Corporation	Despite using data that can be obtained free of charge, their method devised a means of achieving stable load forecasts even when weather forecasts are inaccurate. This creative approach uses many explanatory variables and a fully coupled neural network. We are looking forward to future developments.
Special prize	Japan Weather Association	This team produced a highly precise Annual Forecast. Taking advantage of the strengths of weather forecasting and optimizing its application for load forecasting were defining characteristics of their approach.