

Participants learn the correct techniques to avoid accidents

By NG WEI LOON

OWNERS of Nissan vehicles and invited guests learnt more about driving under a controlled environment recently.

They were doing this at the Sepang International Circuit (SIC) when Edaran Tan Chong Motor Sdn Bhd hosted the safety driving programme.

Although the current economic climate has forced the organisation to reconsider their business plans, its executive director Datuk Dr Ang Bon Beng said they were not compromising on safety measures.

“We have continued to organise the event at least once a year for the owners to know the respective vehicles better and drive it well at the optimum level. We focused on an educational programme for them to pick up good driving skills and it will definitely help them to manage tricky situations on the road.

“It was also a chance for them to overcome the extreme circumstances when they executed the drills under the supervision of the experts on a safe track,” he added.

Chief instructor Sean Khoo, 38, shared several pointers with the participants on the correct driving posture and steering techniques before moving on to highlight the four specific drills - slalom course, brake and evade, high speed lane change and braking at corners.

Although there were targets set up for the exercises, the cones were not meant to be knocked down and the order of the day was to keep the markers in its original positions.

Khoo, who has been training the Singapore traffic police force since 2007, said the drills were designed to help the participants to overcome their fear with the adequate knowledge and sound basic driving skills.

“It will help them to react quicker and apply the techniques when they have to get out of similar conditions on the road,” he added.

A total of 32 vehicles comprising two participants each were divided into four groups to execute the exercises.

Husband-and-wife pair Danial Aliff Chan and Aznita Rusli agreed it was an ideal weekend outing for them.



Expert tips: Khoo (left) stressing a point to one of the participants of the safety driving programme.

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The 36-year-old Danial said they had a wonderful time and enjoyed the experience driving on the SIC track.

"It was a good learning curve for us. We had fun performing the brake-and-evade technique," added the Aznita, 32.



Close call: A participant avoiding a hazard in the brake-and-evade exercise.