

OPENING REMARKS BY YBHG DATO' AZMAN MAHMUD, CEO OF MIDA

Towards Autonomous Technologies Conference Wednesday, 21st March 2018 MIDA HQ, Kuala Lumpur

YB Datuk Chua Tee Yong
Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI)

Distinguished Guests,

Members of the Media,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Good morning. Welcome to MIDA's Towards Autonomous Technologies Conference 2018. We are honored to have YB Datuk Chua Tee Yong, Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry to be with us today at this event. A special thanks to our partner, CREST and DRB HICOM University for their collaboration in organising this conference.
2. We are encouraged to see so many participants with a wide representation of the industry's stakeholders. I believe this reflects the growing interest of companies in this new growth area of autonomous vehicles.
3. Today's conference is part of MIDA's continuous efforts in providing platforms for industry stakeholders to discuss and exchange ideas in new and emerging areas. Together with other agencies under MITI, we continue to promote and highlight the importance of new growth areas such as autonomous vehicles and technologies. It is important for industry players to stay up to date with these advances in order to remain relevant and competitive in the global arena. We look forward to a productive sessions throughout the day on the development of the autonomous vehicles, especially on regulatory framework, legislation, policy, and technology breakthroughs.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. When we talk about autonomous vehicle, it is also important to discuss on the existing regulatory framework and models continue to hold in the face of these technological disruptions.
5. As Malaysia's principal investment promotion agency, MIDA sees that the potential benefits of autonomous vehicles in urban transportation system are enormous and wide-reaching. To achieve them, it requires the right mix of ambition, planning, regulation testing and careful execution in a setting that involves multiple stakeholders.

6. Therefore, the conference today will feature various experts sharing on issues, challenges, technology breakthroughs and perhaps some recommendations for Malaysia to pursue this journey towards producing more autonomous vehicle technology.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

7. There will be 3 speakers and 2 panelists' sessions for today. DRB HICOM University, that is the first speaker, will highlight on its role as a research and education institution that is developing a sustainable automotive ecosystem in Malaysia.
8. We have also invited 2 industry experts from Frost and Sullivan and Robert Bosch to share with us on the changing landscape of the industry due to technology disruption, particularly on autonomous as well as some technological breakthroughs in this area.
9. Through the panel sessions, we trust that all participants will benefit from the conversations with the notable panel speakers that we have lined up. They cover a broad spectrum of the ecosystem ranging from academicians, namely Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), to the industry players – President of Malaysia Automotive Association and the Managing Director of Clarion Malaysia; as well as representatives from REKA Inisiatif.
10. Saving the best for last, we will also be hearing from relevant Government related bodies. This includes the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Malaysia Automotive Institute (MAI), Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (MIROS) and Perbadanan Kemajuan Negeri Perak (PKNP).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

11. Before I end, I would like to thank all our distinguished speakers and panelist for taking the time to share their perspectives in relation to the development of autonomous vehicles and its related technologies.
12. My special thanks also goes to our collaborators, CREST and DRB HICOM University for their commitment and cooperation in working together with MIDA in organising today's conference.
13. On that note, thank you and have a fruitful session ahead.