

September 2022
Issue

MIDA

INVEST MALAYSIA E-NEWSLETTER

A MONTHLY INDUSTRY UPDATE FOR GLOBAL INVESTORS AND MORE!



SPECIAL FEATURE

Malaysia's Shift Towards
Green Mobility

HIGHLIGHTS

MIDA Launches Istanbul Office
As A Gateway For Malaysia-Türkiye
Cross-flow Investments

SERVICES

Shaking Up the Conventional
Education Space for IR4.0

From the CEO's Desk: Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman

Dear valuable partners and stakeholders,

I am excited to share the September edition of INVEST MALAYSIA as we enter into the final quarter of the year. We have a plethora of news on industry, economy and events that can update you further for some of your business decisions and arrangements.

This edition not only highlights companies that have decided to use Malaysia as a springboard for expansion, but it also celebrates companies that have earned a name for themselves on the global arena. For example, world-leading medical products and solutions company Mölnlycke Health Care (Mölnlycke) on 20 September had a ground-breaking ceremony for its new €50 million (RM233 million) surgical glove plant in Kulim Hi-Tech Park, Kedah. The new 14,620m² production site is fully equipped with a cutting-edge automated glove production and packaging line, and the Swedish industry giant says it aims to create new job prospects in the state.

Meanwhile, the story of leading Malaysian-owned industrial automation company Greotech Integration (M) Sdn. Bhd. will prove inspirational, as not only did it manage to weather the pandemic by successfully constructing three factories in Batu Kawan during the challenging COVID-19 pandemic years, it added RM27.73 million of capital investment in new machines and land to meet its customer's growing demands and manufacturing needs.

MIDA in collaboration with the Kedah State Government had successfully organised the Invest Series: Unfolding States 'Business Potential' - Kedah programme on 22 September 2022 at Perdana Hall, MIDA Sentral, Kuala Lumpur. This programme was held to provide the business community with the latest updates on development and investment opportunities in the State of Kedah, as well as a platform for participants to network with relevant State Government agencies. In addition, a Business-to-Business (B2B) Session with the Kedah investment team was held to provide platform for all participants to learn more about the current development in Kedah and the plethora of investment opportunities it has to offer.

Last but certainly not least, MIDA is delighted to announce the launch of our Istanbul Office which coincided with the signing of the pivotal Malaysia Türkiye FTA expansion package, that was set to provide Malaysia and Republic of Türkiye new economic opportunities and drive the steady growth of Malaysia-Türkiye's bilateral trade relations. With the fundamental purpose to serve as the main gateway for aspiring Turkish investors to expand business in Malaysia and vice versa, we believe that the establishment of MIDA's office in Istanbul is timely, aligned with the global economic recovery.

The new office will also act as a gateway for Malaysia-Türkiye crossflow investments to provide companies from both nations with new economic opportunities and drive steady growth of bilateral trade relations. This will be in addition to Türkiye's current investments in Malaysia as of June 2022, where a total of 14 manufacturing projects have been approved with total investments worth USD156.3 million (RM525.2 million).

MIDA will continue to strive harder to ensure that the world knows what Malaysia has to offer to the business people with mutually benefits. The new inflows as well as our new expansion into Türkiye is indeed timely to portrait Malaysia is ready to serve the investors and expand our wings to the European and Middle East regions as we getting ready for another cycle around the sun.

Together We Grow!

DATUK WIRA ARHAM ABDUL RAHMAN

Chief Executive Officer

Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA)



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HIGHLIGHTS

01



From Left:

YBhg. Datuk Lokman Hakim Ali, Secretary General of MITI; YBhg. Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman, MIDA CEO; YB. Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin bin Ali, Senior Minister and Minister of International Trade and Industry; Mr. A. Burak Dağlıoğlu, President of Invest In Turkey; Ms. Suheyla Cebi Karahan, Chairperson of DEIK Turkey Malaysia Business Council; Mr. Çağatay Özden, Head of Department Ministry of Trade of Turkey South Asian Countries; YM Tengku Mohd Dzaraiif Raja Abdul Kadir, Consul General of Malaysia in Istanbul.

MIDA Launches Istanbul Office As A Gateway For Malaysia-Türkiye Cross-flow Investments

Türkiye seen as a base to tap into the Europe, Central Asia and Middle East markets

30 September 2022, MIDA officially launched its newest office in Istanbul. The historical day is evidence of stronger Malaysia-Türkiye's bilateral trade and investment relations.

MIDA Istanbul was officiated by the Senior Minister and Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI), YB. Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, in the presence of Secretary General, YBhg. Datuk Lokman Hakim Ali, MIDA Chief Executive Officer, YBhg. Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman, MATRADE Chief Executive Officer, YBhg. Datuk Mustafa Abdul Aziz, Consul General of Malaysia in Istanbul, YM Tengku Mohd. Dzaraiif Raja Abdul Kadir, Invest Türkiye President, Mr. A. Burak Dağlıoğlu, and

Türkiye Ministry of Trade Head of Department, Mr. Catagay Ozden.

MIDA Istanbul office signifies MIDA's continuous efforts in attracting Türkiye high-value and high-tech investments into Malaysia. These include targeted sectors such as advanced manufacturing (machinery and equipment, aerospace and food manufacturing including the Halal segment) and services (ICT and digital business). Over the decades, Malaysia's expertise in connectivity and business-friendly policies are the magnets that have drawn greater investments from all over the globe.

MIDA Istanbul will also serve as a main gateway for Malaysian businesses to expand their commercial interests and investment horizons in Türkiye and beyond, including adjoining regions such as the Middle East and the European Union. This is in line with Malaysia's initiative to strengthen cross-border investments to facilitate more Malaysian companies to invest globally.

As Malaysia is centrally located in Southeast Asia, the country serves as the prime gateway for Turkish investors to penetrate the ASEAN market. Similarly, Türkiye is also strategically located at the crossroads of Europe, Central Asia, Middle East and North Africa. Malaysian companies should consider using Türkiye as a base to tap into the large European market as well as the emerging markets of Central Asia and the Middle East.

For the first half of 2022, Malaysia attracted a total of RM123.3 billion (USD28.0 billion) worth of

approved investments in the manufacturing, services and primary sectors involving 1,714 projects that are cumulatively expected to create 57,771 job opportunities in the country.

Foreign direct investments (FDI) remained the major contributor, at 70.9% or RM87.4 billion (USD19.9 billion), while investments from domestic sources contributed 29.1% or RM35.9 billion (USD8.2 billion).

With the newly-launched MIDA Istanbul office, Türkiye will no doubt contribute immensely to Malaysia's socio-economic development and bring about new growth areas in the country's investment landscape.

For more information, contact **MIDA Foreign Investment Division** or email to investmalaysia@mida.gov.my.





MIDA Leads the Way

With Supportive Facilitation That Promotes Ease of Doing Business

As the principal agency responsible for the promotion of investments as well as the coordination of industrial development and selected services sectors in Malaysia, the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA)'s role is not only confined to attracting companies that intend to invest in the country, but also includes facilitating the implementation of investment projects.

One of the facilitations provided by the Government to further accelerate the growth of industry in Malaysia is the import duty and/or sales tax exemption under the provisions of Section 14(2)

Customs Act 1967 and/or Section 35(3) Sales Tax Act 2018 to manufacturers and investors in the selected services sector.

Implementing a new project involves massive costs, including but not limited to: the purchasing of machinery, equipment, sample materials, prototypes, raw materials and components. To alleviate these heavy cost burdens at the starting point of a project, and in keeping with Malaysia's business-conducive investment environment, companies engaging in manufacturing and selected services sectors can benefit from the following investment facilities:



Application for a MIDA Confirmation Letter [*Surat Pengesahan MIDA (SPM)*] to claim Import Duty and/or Sales Tax Exemption from the Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD).



Import duty and/or sales tax exemption on raw materials/components for the manufacturing sector. Additionally, companies in the selected industries -(aerospace, machinery and equipment, motorcycle assembly and petroleum products used as raw materials for industries other than oil refinery that manufacture finished products not subjected to sales tax) can also apply for sales tax exemption on imported or locally-sourced raw materials and components.



Import duty and/or sales tax exemption on machinery/equipment for selected services sectors covering Research & Development (R&D), Private Higher Education Institution, Private Higher Training Institution (science, technical or vocational) and Tourism Projects without accommodation.



Import duty and/or sales tax exemption on machinery/equipment for selected activities in the agriculture sector.

These investment facilities have proven to be vital in assisting investors in their project implementation, while spurring sustainable growth within industries.

As Malaysia embraces the Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR4.0) and the various technologies involved, MIDA has taken steps to revamp its existing business processes to increase delivery efficiency of its investment facilitation services, thereby further enhancing the ease of doing business in Malaysia. Since July 2020, investors have been able to submit digital applications for import duty and/or sales tax exemptions, following the launch of the enhanced version of JPC Online Application Module. This module helps companies obtain timely approvals for their import duty and/or sales tax exemption applications.

Effective 25 July 2022, companies may apply for import duty and/or sales tax exemption for the Export/Free Zone (FZ)/Licensed Manufacturing

Warehouse (LMW) market for iron and steel raw materials/components under HS Code 7201 to 7316. All applications can be submitted through the InvestMalaysia portal at investmalaysia.mida.gov.my.

To learn more about these supporting facilitations, contact **MIDA Tariff Section** or email to investmalaysia@mida.gov.my.



INDUSTRY

02



Sustainable Investment in Cristobalite Industries

TSM will be the first and largest cristobalite manufacturer, not only locally but also for Asia and Oceania

Industry Overview

Cristobalite is a substance produced from High Purity Silica (HPS) sand, and is characterised by its high abrasion resistance and strong white pigmentation. Cristobalite is a polymorph (any substance or mineral that forms different types of crystal) of respirable crystalline silica (extremely small particles) that have the same chemical compound (silicon dioxide or SiO_2) which are formed at extremely high temperatures of more than $1,200^\circ\text{C}$. Cristobalite can be found in the ashes of volcanic eruptions, and in a relatively smaller number of rock types (limited to specific geographic regions). It is composed of the same elements as quartz but with a different crystal structure, making it a separate mineral. Cristobalite is also known as engineered quartz. The preparation method comprises of ore dressing,

concentration, heating and calcining. Cristobalite is highly suitable for use in various applications, including exterior wall paints, road markings, kitchen top coatings, glass and ceramics, foundry casting, metallurgy, industrial chemicals as well as for other uses including adhesives, sealants, polishing, and abrasives.

The Market

The size of the cristobalite market was valued at USD36.33 million (RM168.42 million) in 2020, and is projected to reach USD49.32 million by 2028, growing at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 4.1% from 2021 to 2028. The increasing rate of building construction across the world is driving the demand for artificial stones which is contributing to the growth of the cristobalite market.

Global Cristobalite Market

2021-2028



Source: www.verifiedmarketresearch.com/product/cristobalite-market, 2020

Featured Player of The Industry

Terengganu, Malaysia is home to the largest silica sand reserve in Southeast Asia, with more than 300 million tonnes of high-grade silica deposits. TRG Silica (Marang) Sdn. Bhd. (TSM) a subsidiary of Terengganu Industrial Minerals Group (TIM) - will be the first and largest cristobalite manufacturer, not only for the Terengganu Silica Valley development but also for Asia and Oceania. The project will be developed over three phases: the company's first phase will be in operation by 2024, the second phase production by 2025, and the third phase targeted to be completed by 2027.

The TSM project will produce cristobalite girts and flour powders offering one of the highest brightness levels of any similar mineral. Cristobalite is characterised by high brightness, relatively high Mohs hardness of 6.5, and a low refractive index, as well as having properties such as easy wetting, high inertness in various media and transparency for UV-radiation.

TIM being part of the largest silica mining in Asia and Oceania, have a material opportunity to use renewables in order to lower costs, improve safety, reliability and sustainability, and to mitigate risks and ultimately gain a competitive advantage.

Implementing Sustainable Strategies

Sustainable mining and processing refers to the development of non-metallic mineral and energy resources in order to attain a balance between economic development, environmental protection, community benefits, and government responsibilities all in a way that maximises economic and social benefits while simultaneously minimising the environmental impacts of mining integrating environmental, economic, safety, and community aspects in all phases of a project.

As a player in the advanced silica industry, TSM realised the importance of finding at balance between profitability and environmental sustainability. It found that the balancing can be achieved through responsible mining and processing, guided by sustainable resource development, best practices in environmental management and recycling of non-metallic mineral-based products such as: Besides sustainability, mining activities in Malaysia will also focus on value-added aspects of the industry that go beyond extracting raw minerals. These will involve integration of the entire upstream, midstream, and downstream activities, to benefit the local economy. Efforts will be channelled to ensure that mining activities are

carried out in a sustainable manner - and to achieve this, new potential mining areas will be identified with greater accuracy for better development planning.



The implementation of a solar farm at the plant site and the development of solar energy, which improves its carbon footprint, enhances its social responsibility presence, and leaves a sustainable legacy at the end of mining life. It achieved this by leasing out the idling reserve of unmined land into a Large Solar farm that contributes to a negative carbon footprint where the full conversion from conventional energy to renewable energy (solar power plant) will help decrease CO₂ emissions.



Tailoring their plant designs and process techniques to models that will not contribute to air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, climate change, nor and acid usage.



Ensuring Green Building standards are present in its factory through the use of natural lighting, ventilation, an indoor aquaponics natural waterfall (which uses natural lighting and incorporates a rainwater harvesting system) and a car park that has solar shades.



The designing plants, which also consider the sustainability principle by minimising power and water requirements, where as smart water management system has been implemented to recover the maximum amount of wastewater from the processes in order to save on water consumption.



The installation of a recycling water processing system with a closed-circuit water apparatus that flows through a thickener system, so that there is zero wastewater discharge to the environment.



The installation of a combustion air waste heat system that will reverse back to support the heating processes.



The installation of catalytic bag filters to convert excess emission of Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x) gasses into water (H₂O) and nitrogen gas (N₂), thus reducing CO₂ emissions.



The installation of a storage system designed to extract runoff water from the stockpile tower ground, which will then be reused for processing.



The automation of the finished product storage and packaging using a dedicated station where transportation is via a roller conveyor.



SERVICES

03



Shaking Up the Conventional Education Space for IR4.0



Education and training play a key role in equipping the current and future workforce with the right skills for the digital economy and ensuring that everyone enjoys the benefits of digital transformation. In order to achieve its mission to empower its very own workforce with the fundamentals to survive in this digital-centric industry, AirAsia Academy started reskilling and cross-training AirAsia Allstars (employees) to ensure that their knowledge and skills are up to date and competitive for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR4.0).

Engineer reskilled to be a UX Designer for self-development to stay relevant and keep up with the booming digitisation.

Following the success of upskilling and reskilling AirAsia Allstars, AirAsia Academy opened its doors to the public in October 2020 to provide an opportunity for the current and future labour pool within the region to prepare themselves for careers that are shaped by digital technology.

President (Ventures) Capital A and Chief Executive Officer Aireen Omar explained that AirAsia Academy is on a mission to democratise education by making it more accessible, affordable and inclusive.

"As a one-stop technology, leadership and innovation academy aimed at supercharging the digital economy within the region, our ultimate goal is to promote lifelong learning. We hope to achieve this with AirAsia Academy's on-demand learning (ODL) platform where people of all ages can access a wide range of topics with a minimal subscription fee," said Aireen.

As an edutech arm under Capital A Berhad (formerly AirAsia Group), AirAsia Academy is considered one of the fastest growing online education platforms in the ASEAN region with over 470,000 platform sign-ups and has already conducted more than 7,500 courses to over 8,000 learners within two short years.



Since it was set up in 2020, there are now more than 1,700 Allstars who are proud graduates of the AirAsia Academy. Among them are many inspirational exemplary stories such as an Assistant Security Officer reskilled to become a cybersecurity expert, an Associate Product Manager reskilled to be a Software Engineer, and an Aircraft Support



The platform's specialised learning track provides a complete journey from novice to professional in a single programme, endorsed by the Malaysia Board of Technologists (MBOT) and certified by Google Cloud.

Essentially, the academy offers an end-to-end, one-stop edutech platform; from building relevant in-demand skills with professional Instructor Led Training (ILT) courses to subscription-based On Demand Learning (ODL) featuring more than 16,000 technology, education and lifestyle content as well as a Learning Management System (LMS) to help learners and educators monitor the learning progress and Job Placement opportunities for its graduates.

The AirAsia Academy offers scholarships for eligible recipients under the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE), Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MiGHT), Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) and an exclusive sponsorship programme, #RatuTech for underprivileged women from the B40 group. Sponsors for the scholarship programme include Airbus, Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation (SDEC), Centre of Technical Excellence Sarawak (CENTEXS), Sabah Creative Economy and Innovation Centre (SCENIC), Kementerian Sains Teknologi Inovasi Sabah (KSTI), Google Cloud, Carsome and Yayasan Peneraju.

As the principal investment promotion and development agency, MIDA continues to elevate digital tech development in a broad range of industries. MIDA has been aggressively promoting the digital tech sector, such as data centres, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence (AI), creative



and digital content like gaming and animation, as well as system integrators and solution providers to fortify Malaysia as the tech launchpad in the region. The initiatives by AirAsia Academy to reskill and cross-train the local workforce will surely benefit the employees' readiness for the new opportunities in the digital economy – making Malaysia a more compelling destination to attract long-term quality digital investments, building a future-proof workforce and elevate local digital companies' capabilities to become global leaders in this digital age. For more information on digital investment, please contact **MIDA Business Services and Regional Operations Division**.



WHY MALAYSIA SERIES

04

Sweden and Malaysia Continue to Work Hand in Glove



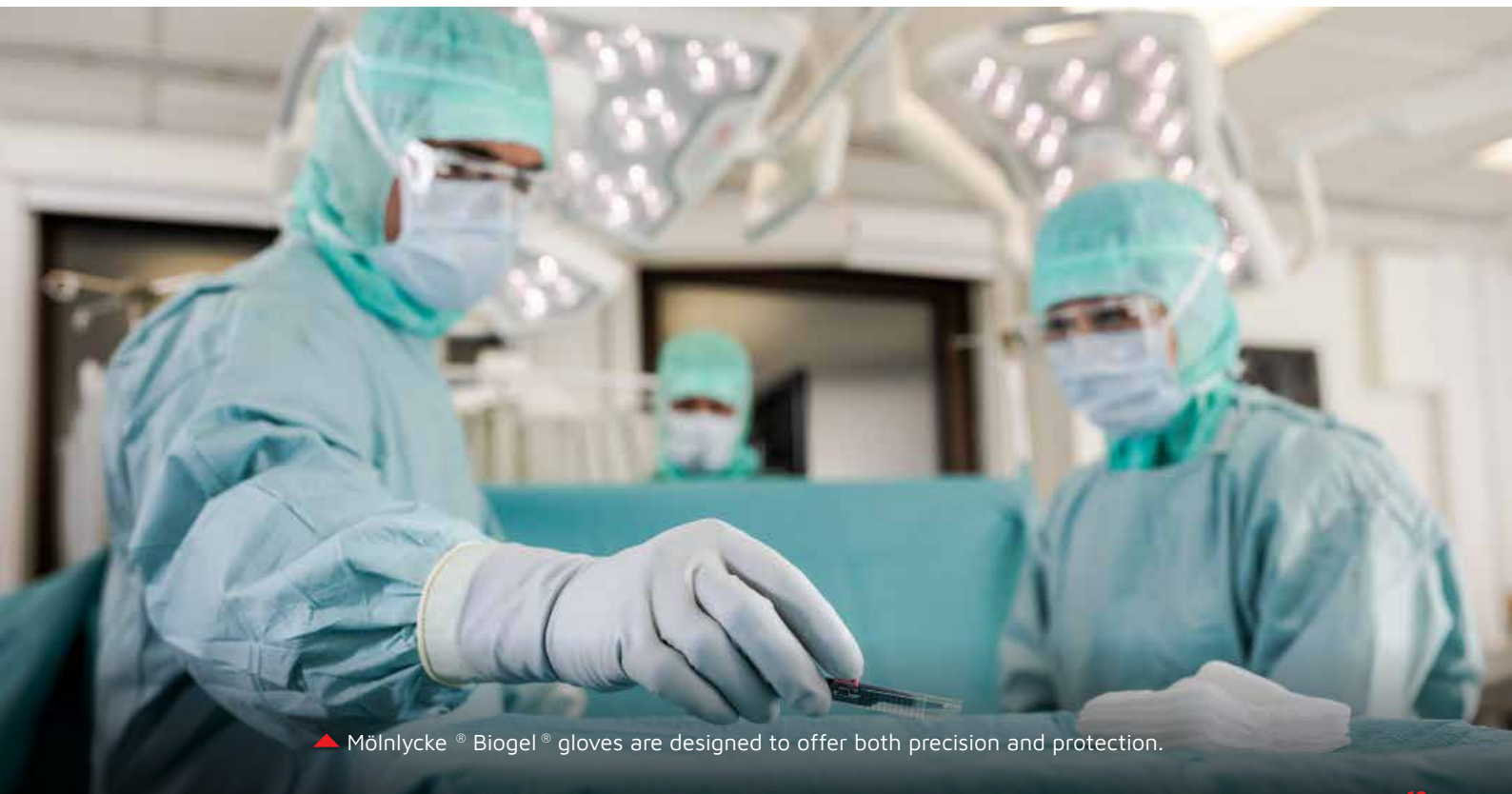
Mölnlycke launches new €50 million plant in Kulim, Kedah

World-leading medical products and solutions company Mölnlycke Health Care (Mölnlycke) on 20 September saw the ground-breaking ceremony for its new €50 million (RM233 million) surgical glove plant in Kulim Hi-Tech Park, Kedah.

The plant was officiated by Menteri Besar Kedah, YAB Dato' Seri Haji Muhammad Sanusi Md Nor, along with Sweden's Ambassador to Malaysia, H.E. Dr. Joachim Bergström, and Mölnlycke CEO, Zlatko Rihter. Also present at the official launch were MIDA CEO, YBhg. Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman, Senior State EXCO Member for Industry and Investment, Higher Education, Science, Technology and Education, Dato' Wira Dr. Ku Abd Rahman Ku Ismail, Northern Corridor Implementation Authority (NCIA) CEO, Mohammad Haris Kader Sultan, and Mölnlycke Board Chair, Karl-Henrik Sundström.

The new production site – which is spread across a 29,164sqm lot with a building footprint of 14,620 sqm – is fully equipped with the cutting-edge automated glove production and packaging line for its famous Biogel gloves. The Swedish industry giant says the new facility is a major milestone of its sustainability roadmap WeCare, and is complimenting Malaysia's sustainable industrialisation goals while aiming to create new job opportunities within the state.

In his opening speech, Mölnlycke Health Care Sdn. Bhd.'s General Manager, JC Guillou said: "This is a great milestone for Mölnlycke Health Care. This significant investment shows the board's support and confidence in the future of the gloves franchise business and in our execution capability. This new plant will show Mölnlycke as a modern, responsible,



▲ Mölnlycke® Biogel® gloves are designed to offer both precision and protection.



▶ Mölnlycke® introduced the Biogel® puncture indication system to clinicians already in 1993, as the world's first. With studies showing that up to 92% of glove perforations went undetected while single gloving, we developed the Biogel® Indicator® System.

and attractive company and help retain and attract new talents. This is more than ever a great time to be part of the Mölnlycke family."

The Menteri Besar of Kedah said: "The state of Kedah is very proud to be the host of Mölnlycke's new state-of-the-art factory, and to be recognised as a state that provides the right prerequisites for sustainable production of high-quality surgical gloves; in that respect, we are pleased to play a role in enabling Mölnlycke to live its vision to improve hand performance for health care professionals across the globe."

Meanwhile, MIDA CEO, Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman remarked that Mölnlycke's new production facility in Malaysia is a mark of confidence in the continuous sustainable growth of the Malaysian economy and will be a boon for Malaysia to maintain its leadership position in the glove manufacturing sector. "We are committed to supporting industry leaders like Mölnlycke and we hope to see the company grow to greater heights in the years ahead."

The manufacturing plant was constructed in partnership with global sustainability solutions providers ENGIE and Veolia Water Technologies. Veolia will be assisting in improving the plant's wastewater management, effectively recycling water, and further improving the discharge quality.

Mölnlycke reiterated that sustainability has always been a key aspect of the company's core strategy, as it sets out to build a sustainable healthcare manufacturing ecosystem that would effectively meet the industry's demand for high-quality surgical gloves, with minimal environmental impact.

The Group has several decades worth of good relations with Malaysia, where its first surgical gloves plant started operating in the country in 1990. At present, Mölnlycke – which has both manufacturing and sales of high quality surgical



▶ Mölnlycke® surgical ProcedurePak® are customised trays that contain all single-use items needed for a specific surgical intervention.

and diagnostics gloves locally – employs some 2,900 people, and the new plant is expected to see an additional 450 local jobs created in 2022 and 2023.

Mölnlycke – whose company headquarters is located in Gothenburg, Sweden employs around 8,000 people globally, and operates in more than 100 countries worldwide. Since 2007, the company has been a part of Investor AB, an engaged owner of high-quality, global companies which was founded by the Wallenberg family in 1916.

As the Government's principal investment promotion and development agency under the

Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), MIDA is encouraged to see the addition of this new plant, which is distinctly designed to build a sustainable healthcare manufacturing ecosystem for high-quality surgical gloves in a cutting-edge automated glove production and packaging line.

MIDA believes that Malaysia is core to Mölnlycke's surgical gloves business, and the continued support of this Swedish industrial conglomerate reinforces our goal of being a strategic partner for every investor, in addition to strengthening the local infrastructure and ecosystem that will enhance Malaysia's status as an attractive and important investment destination.



◀ **Zlatko Rihter**
President and Chief Executive Officer,
Mölnlycke



GOING GLOBAL SERIES

05



Greatech Integration Forging Ahead

Leading industrial automation company ready to meet challenges in wake of world's recovery from pandemic

The worldwide COVID-19 pandemic not only saw a huge impact on the world population in terms of health and social impact, it made a huge dent in the world economy whose repercussions are likely to still have an effect for at least a decade. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), 2020 was marked by some of the largest reductions in trade and output volumes since World War II.

Certainly, for Greatech Integration (M) Sdn. Bhd. ("Greatech Integration"), the circumstances did not prove to be too great of a setback; not only did the Malaysian-owned leading industrial automation company manage to weather the pandemic by successfully constructing three plants in Batu Kawan during the challenging period, it added RM27.73 million of capital investment in new machines and land to cater for customer's growing demands and manufacturing needs. There are also additional capital investments on new machinery to increase the company's in-house fabrication capacity.

Claiming that the year 2020 was quite a significant one for themselves despite the challenge with the pandemic outbreak mitigation, the firm successfully secured a major order for both a production line system within the e-mobility industry, as well as for equipment in the life sciences industry.

An illustrious establishment in Penang

Established in 1997 as a precision tooling specialist of machine parts and components used in the manufacture and assembly of hard disk drives, Greatech Integration is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Greatech Technology Bhd. which was one of only seven Malaysian companies to make it to Forbes Asia's "Best Under A Billion 2022" list as reported on 9 August 2022. The list highlights 200 Asia-Pacific public companies with less than USD1 billion (RM4.63 billion) in sales and consistent top- and bottom-line growth.

Being primarily a manufacturer of automated equipment, the company subsequently expanded the business into manufacturing semi-automated assembly equipment for hard disk drives, which were exported to Thailand at the start of their international thrust.

With products ranging from single automated equipment to production line systems consisting of multiple automated equipment, Greatech Integration's business activities involve design, development, and production of customisable systems, machinery, and equipment for their clientele's manufacturing processes.



The company says that it has evolved from being a single automated equipment maker into a leading one-stop industrial solutions provider to serve its global customers.

As a total solution provider, Greatech Integration offers services that include conceptualisation, engineering development, prototyping, system integration, installation, and commissioning, as well as customer training, after-sale service, parts, retrofits, and equipment relocation. Its customers – who mostly operate in the solar, e-mobility, semiconductor, consumer electronics and life science industries – span across the globe and include China, Vietnam, Singapore, Thailand, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and several European Union nations.

Supporting Malaysia even as it expands overseas

Although it has made a successful foray on to the world stage, Greatech Integration firmly believes in remembering its roots, not only by aspiring to mark a global footprint in the international arena but to also help build Penang into a world-class automation hub. To realise this dream, it will continue to invest in three key strategic pillars: upskilling its designing and engineering capabilities; attracting and retaining key talents; and building an enduring culture that encourages open communication and innovation.

The automation giant seems to be serious at keeping its word; Greatech Integration was one of nine local firms to participate in the the Penang Internship Subsidy Programme (PISP) launched on 18 February 2022, a talent development programme that offers qualified companies a monthly allowance subsidy amounting to RM300 per intern recruited from outside Penang for six (6) months.

This is part of the state's aim of attracting about 150,000 of knowledge workers from other states over the next five years (or 30,000 knowledge workers annually) due to a shortage of such workers in the state. The programme has since seen 111 internship placements being taken up, which in turn have become part of Penang's approved manufacturing investments inflows worth RM76.2 billion in 2021, according to MIDA data.

Additionally, the company has gotten directly involved in the lives of the local community; not only did it donate funds to both the Malaysian Red Crescent Society Penang and Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) Hospital in August, Greatech Integration participated in the Penang STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics) 4.0 as a platinum sponsor. The sponsorship – part of a collaboration with Penang STEM 4.0, the Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM) Penang, Tech Dome Penang, and the Penang Math Platform to host various STEM-themed talks, workshops, and competitions at Han Chiang High School has become part of its mission to groom the younger generation to meet the challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR4.0) and digital transformation.

The next growth pipeline

Greatech Integration says that as part of its strategy in ensuring sustainable growth, allocation of its resources is well distributed to both growing and emerging markets – where it firmly believes that life sciences can be defined as the next pipeline in contributing to such growth.

To that aim, in May 2018 it formed a unique research and development (R&D) team who have leading-edge expertise in different areas to develop new and complex customised equipment as well as enhance or modify its existing range of products (including designing and producing niche technology semiconductor equipment, life science equipment, and automated production lines for e-mobility). The company emphasises the quality of its automated equipment, which will be accredited with the following ISO quality management systems: ISO 9001: 2015; ISO 14001:2015; ISO 13485: 2016; and ISO 45001:2018.

As the agency tasked with making Malaysia the world's preferred investment destination, MIDA is proud to feature Greatech Integration as a local champion that is making waves at the global level. MIDA will work together with Greatech Integration to not only maintain the Malaysian champion's strong world presence and financial position, but to also support the country's economic growth and aid local community needs.



**SPECIAL
FEATURE**

06



Malaysia's Shift Towards Green Mobility

The global outlook on electric vehicles (EV) is uniformly in their favour

The term 'electric automobiles' is no longer uncommon in the global automotive business because it is the rage. Clean energy, zero carbon emissions, and air pollution issues can all be reduced once the world moves toward Environmental, Social, and Governance objectives (also known as ESG). The industry is undoubtedly preparing for the ambitious goal of zero emissions set for 2050 – a goal that will mostly be driven by electric vehicles (EV), which play such a crucial role in this matter.

The market for EV is growing fast everywhere. As of the end of 2021, the number of electric cars on the roads globally were about 16.5 million – triple the amount in 2018. Global sales of electric cars have kept rising strongly in 2022, with two million sold in the first quarter, up by 75% compared to the same period of 2021. The People's Republic of China (China), was the main driving force behind the increase in EV sales in 2021, being responsible for half of the growth; approximately 3.3 million more vehicles were sold in China in 2021 compared to the number sold to the entire world in 2020. Following the 2020 boom, sales in Europe continued to expand strongly (up 65% to 2.3 million) – and after two years of decline, sales in the United States also increased (to 630,000).

Similar patterns emerged in the first quarter of 2022, with sales in China more than doubling compared to the first quarter of 2021 (accounting for the majority of worldwide growth); this compares to a rise of 60% in the United States and 25% in Europe.

The ASEAN EVs Market was valued at USD498.9 million (RM 2.31 billion) in 2021, and is expected to reach USD2.7 billion by 2027, registering a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 32.7% during the forecast period (2022-2027).

Effects on the Malaysian transportation sector

Malaysia's transportation sector is certainly booming, resulting in a large energy demand. However, the sector intensively suffers from low energy conversion efficiency of combustion engines (18.8% in 2019) therefore, the high number of private vehicles have increased the overall carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission rate significantly.

Since the transportation sector proved to be one the biggest contributor to annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, a new way out was required.

Incorporating EV culture into the Malaysian economy lends itself very well as a prospective solution; however, the challenge would be to inaugurate mass use and encourage the purchasing of EV.

In line with global recognition and emphasis on green growth, the Government of Malaysia committed to drive sustainability and inclusivity as outlined in the Twelfth Malaysia Plan (12MP), with the commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 at the earliest.

Malaysia EV industry and its ecosystem

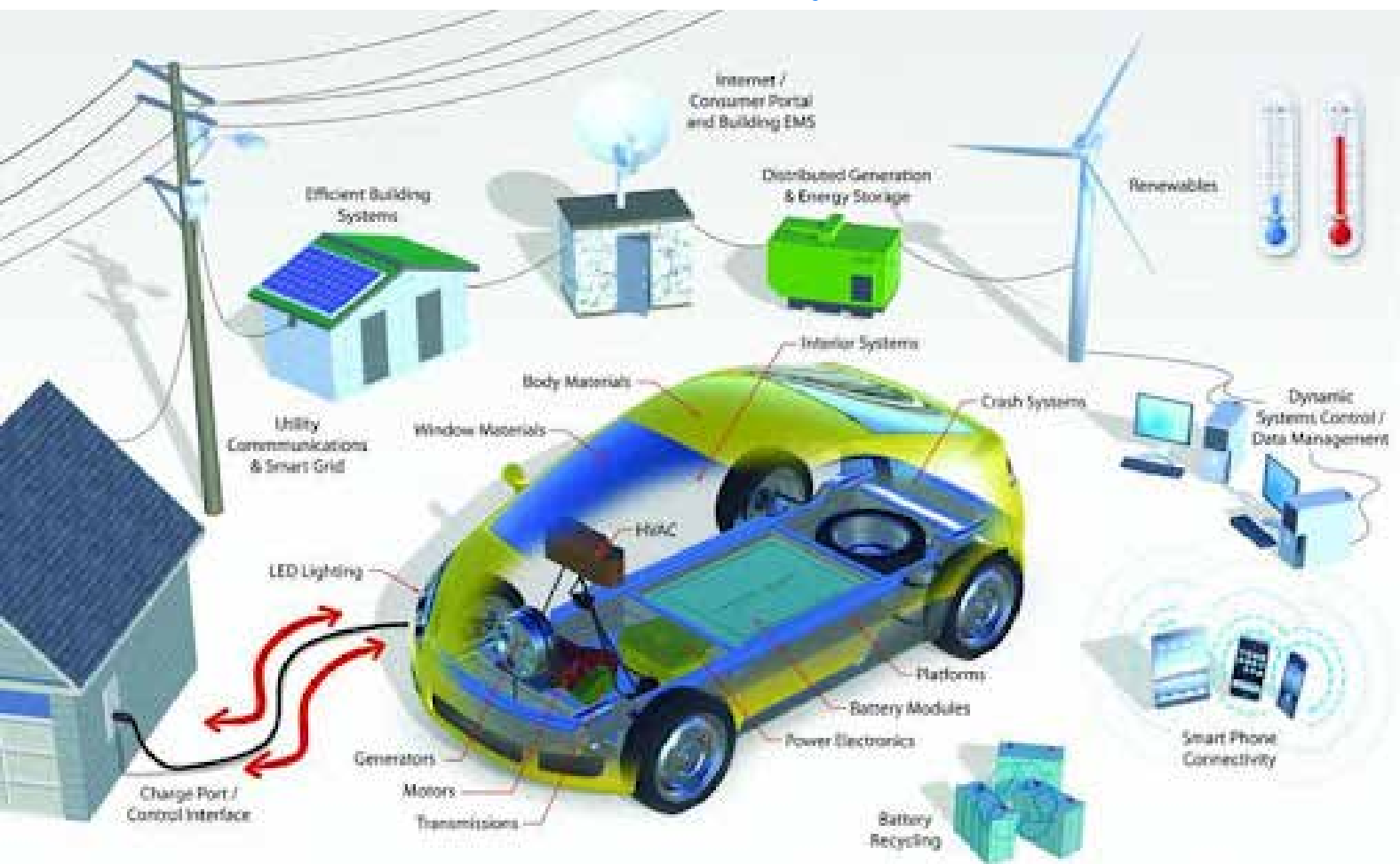
The booming demand for efficient and low-emission vehicles is expected to rise more significantly over the next decade as governments and countries continue to implement measures amid the rising prices of petroleum and to navigate the solutions to address climate change.

The Malaysian EV market is currently in the initial stage of ecosystem growth and market expansion. Nonetheless, Malaysia can always benefit from its position as one of the leading electrical and electronics (E&E) manufacturing hubs in Southeast Asia and take the lead in producing high-value E&E parts and components for EV which would be crucial to ensure the success of this initiative.

The substantial size and diversity of the local E&E ecosystem specifically, with regards to the EV supply chain is the key strength of Malaysia's EV ecosystem, which can support the manufacturing and assembly of EV and Autonomous Vehicles (AVs) due to the presence of a mature technological topography that spans through R&D of crucial component manufacturing, (such as sensors and transceivers) that will eventually spur technology transfers and developmental know-how for the local automotive industry.

Malaysia is a producer for materials related to EV battery manufacturing – not only does the country have reputable local companies that are equipped

Electric Vehicle Ecosystem



factory automation lines for battery cells and battery packs production which can support EV battery manufacturing activities; it also possesses a comprehensive E&E ecosystem, particularly for front-end to back-end semiconductor manufacturing activities.

The country continues to be an attractive base for global automotive manufacturers, where Honda, Toyota, Nissan, Mercedes-Benz, and BMW are just some of the global automotive giants which have set up their operations to take advantage of buoyant consumer demand.

Already, many companies have expressed interests in setting up EV charging stations across Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand, as they anticipate a market expansion on the EV industry's growth. As such, the EV industry cannot operate in a silo, and needs to offer a complete ecosystem in order to flourish. In that respect, Malaysia should look to differentiate itself from its neighbours and focus on its unique role in the value chain in order to be more competitive.

Guiding principles to EV development

Malaysia has undertaken various policies and initiatives to develop the EV Ecosystem alongside its other government agencies and ministries. The National Automotive Policy (NAP) 2020 has emphasised the need for adoption of Energy Efficient Vehicle (EEV) including EVs in line with Malaysia's commitment to reducing carbon emissions under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The NAP has also outlined several specific initiatives to strengthen the local EV ecosystem that will spur technological transfers and develop know-how in order for the local automotive industry to continue thriving.

In addition to the above policies, The Low Carbon Mobility Blueprint (LCMB) 2021-2030 was introduced by The Ministry of Environment and Water (KASA) to assess the best options in energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation planning in the transport sector.

The aspiration highlighted by the Government under the LCMB is to achieve at least 15% of EV out of the total industry volume (TIV) by 2030, with 10,000 units of Charging Facilities built by 2025

(comprising 9,000 alternating current (AC) units and 1,000 direct current (DC) units).

Recently, the Government has launched the New Energy Policy (2022 – 2040), that highlighted the percentage of EV is set at 38% from the total industry volume (TIV) by 2040 under the Low Carbon Nation Aspiration target.



Issues and challenges in the development of EV

It must be noted that the road towards realising the full potential of EV would be a lot bumpier without the collective action of key stakeholders across the value chain, including manufacturers, policymakers, property players, infrastructure providers, and day-to-day consumers.

One primary issue is the unaffordability of EV; the price of EV and batteries are relatively expensive, due to low localisation for critical parts and components – which would certainly be a factor for a buyer who is considering the purchase and maintenance costs. Other factors include regulatory policies; the availability of charging infrastructure; vehicle service points, and road infrastructure. These alone are strong enough concerns for car-purchasing Malaysians to think about when considering the switch from Internal Combustion Engine vehicles (ICE) to EV – which, in turn, could translate to low adoption of EV.

Furthermore, it has been observed among prospective EV users that psychological factors – including as risk perception; corporate culture; and company image – play a significant role for fleet purchasers (that is, buying more than one vehicle

at a time), whereas attitudes, lifestyle, personality, and self-image become essential focus points for private individuals. Interestingly, regardless of whether the buyers are private or fleet consumers, the environmental issue is one the lowest priorities considered when purchasing an EV.

From an investment perspective, the EV ecosystem – especially its critical components (battery management systems or BMS; battery pack and capacity; Artificial Intelligence or AI; on-board charging; charging infrastructure; and modular-based battery swapping technology) – is in its early stages in Malaysia. As such, there are vast investment opportunities for potential investors.

Establishment of the EV Task Force

To address the issues and challenges, the Government has formed an Electric Vehicle Taskforce to facilitate policy formation on EV and to streamline EV incentives towards the adoption of EV in Malaysia. This initiative is in line with the National Investment Aspirations (NIA) to elevate the focus on Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) issues across all sectors. Led by MITI, the Taskforce members include various ministries, agencies (including MIDA), and representatives from the industries to spearhead EV development holistically in Malaysia.

The established Taskforce is currently looking into rationalising the EV agenda in Malaysia, and proposing recommendations for a comprehensive policy, which will help encourage EV manufacturers to make Malaysia their automated regional hub and to propel the adoption of EV as the preferred choice of local consumers. As the co-secretariat alongside MITI, MIDA is actively committed to attracting potential investment to Malaysia, while seizing opportunities to spur the EV automotive segment.

Encouragement to the EV segment

Besides the above-mentioned policies and the Taskforce initiatives, the Government has also offered incentives under the 2022 budget. These incentives including offering exemptions for whole import duty, excise duty, and sales tax for locally-assembled EV until 31 December 2025, and exemptions for whole import duty and excise duty for imported EV until 31 December 2023 – will simultaneously support EV manufacturers and encourage EV ownership, which is expected to raise the EV industry and ecosystem while also allowing for more green investments and for the creation of high-skilled job opportunities in Malaysia.

Additionally, there will be tax exemptions that will come into play. A road tax exemption of up to 100% will be provided for EV on top of individual income tax relief of up to RM2,500 for the purchase, installation, rent, hire purchase, and subscription fees for EV charging facilities. Special tax incentives are also available for the development of critical EV components (as mentioned earlier).

All of these policies and initiatives are being set down for the next couple of years, as the Government targets for Malaysia to participate significantly in the regional electric mobility market by 2030. These measures should see the local automotive industry generally thriving into the next generation as the world moves towards clean energy, a safe environment, and better living for humankind.



Driving investment into the EV segment

MIDA is committed to driving quality investments to support the EV supply chain and its ecosystem in Malaysia. We are optimistic that EV will steadily gain popularity and become more mainstream, particularly since there is growing demand for green transportation within the ASEAN region.

Encouragingly, the investments from two prominent EV global players from South Korea – Samsung SDI Energy Malaysia to produce EV battery cells, and SK Nexilis to manufacture electro-deposited copper foil for EV batteries are a testament to the assurance that investors have regarding Malaysia's commitment to a greener future. Additionally, prominent automobile manufacturer Volvo Car Malaysia has announced an electrification plan to produce its first assembled EV at its manufacturing facility in Shah Alam, Selangor.

Spurred by these signs of confidence, Malaysia will continue to welcome more of such investments which – along with the proactive initiatives already in place – should see the country become a prominent global value chain player and preferred technology partner for EV. As such, MIDA will continue to be a networking conduit in connecting companies and technology solution providers both international and local in efforts to assist and facilitate industry players in their digitalisation journey, as well as pushing the nation towards achieving low the carbon mobility agenda in line with the National Investment Aspirations and Sustainability Agenda.

As the Government's principal investment promotion and development agency, MIDA continues to be at the forefront of attracting and facilitating investors and ensuring that Malaysia continues to maintain its position as an investor-friendly destination for long-term growth, for both foreign and domestic businesses. Among the efforts undertaken are:-

I The establishment of dedicated units to promote and facilitate relevant investments:



- II The formulation of relevant policies and strategies under the National Investment Aspirations (NIA), and the National Policy on Industry 4.0 (Industry4WRD);
- III The introduction of a special tax exemption package to encourage foreign companies to relocate their operations or establish new operations in Malaysia and make Malaysia an international supply chain centre; and
- IV The introduction of the Industry4WRD Intervention Fund.



EVENTS

07

MIDA INVEST SERIES UNFOLDING STATES' BUSINESS POTENTIAL KEDAH

A Briefing by Kedah State Government
22 September 2022 (Thursday) | 10.00 am
Perdana Hall, Level 10, MIDA Sentral



www.mida.gov.my



MIDA Invest Series Presents Kedah's Business Potential

Kedah approved 71 projects with a total investment of RM9.7b in 1H2022

Introduction

On 22 September 2022, MIDA collaborated with the Kedah State Government to successfully organise the "MIDA Invest Series: Unfolding States 'Business Potential' - Kedah" programme at Perdana Hall, MIDA Sentral, Kuala Lumpur. The MIDA Invest Series has been one of the agency's programmes since it was launched in 2018.

A total of 300 participants were present at the event, from various backgrounds and industries such as captains of industry, business associations and /organisations, senior management personnels from the manufacturing and services sectors, entrepreneurs, academicians, and government officials.

The programme kickstarted with a welcome address by the Chief Executive Officer of MIDA,

YBhg. Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman, and was echoed by remarks by the Senior Kedah State Executive Council (EXCO) Member (Industry and Investment, Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation), YB Dato' Wira Dr. Ku Abd Rahman Ku Ismail who elaborated on the Kedah State Government's investment aspirations based on the Kedah Development Plan 2035.

Kedah dignitaries who attended the event include Chief Executive Officer and Economic Planning Development Director of Invest Kedah Berhad, Mr. Muhamad Mahazi Hj Ibrahim, Kulim Technology Park Corporation (KTPC) Chief Operation Officer, Mr. Che Abdul Khalid Md Din, Northern Corridor Implementation Authority (NCIA) Investment Department Director, Mr. Fajaffri Mohd Fadzil, and First Solar Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. Vice President and Managing Director of Manufacturing Operations, Dato' P'ng Soo Hong.



Other notable dignitaries included the Senior Manager of Kedah State Development Corporation Mr. Khalid Salleh, Chief Executive Officer of Northern Gateway Sdn. Bhd., Mr. Razwin Sulairee Hasnan Termizi and Chief Executive Officer of KXP Airportcity Holdings Sdn. Bhd., Mr. Nur Salman Saad @ Bidin.

The MIDA Invest Series aims to help Kedah to showcase its full potential, attracting investments to the Rice Bowl state by leveraging its unique comparative and competitive advantages.

The programme also aims to provide the business community with information on the facilities offered by the government. It also aims to provide information on initiatives to build and sustain the competitive edge of domestic companies, besides keeping abreast with the latest industry and investment updates.

More than the Rice Bowl State

Change is required for progress, and the business community must recognise that the most important changes have already commenced. The Government of Malaysia, through MIDA, remains resolutely committed to growing our investment-friendly environment to coordinate the inflow of foreign as well as domestic investment.

For many years, the northern region of Malaysia has been driving the growth of the manufacturing industry by being a preferred destination for offshore semiconductor manufacturing activities - a thriving electrical and electronics (E&E) regional hub.

From the proposed Kedah Aerotropolis to the various industrial parks, Kedah has the potential to become a global industrial hub. The move to introduce the Express Construction Permit (known as E10) clearly indicates Kedah's aspiration to be an ideal destination for global business expansion.

Kedah has been making significant advancements recently, proving that it's more than just a "Rice Bowl State" of Malaysia. Kedah is also becoming an investor-friendly state by simplifying administrative matters.

The E10, for instance, is an initiative that speeds up the process of allowing investors to operate within a 10-month period from the average of 24 months.

In fact, E10 was first implemented in Kedah, specifically Kulim Municipal Council (MPKK) and has been acknowledged by the Special Task Force to Facilitate Business (PEMUDAH) as an example of best practices that should be emulated by other states and local authorities.

In the first half of the year (1H2022), Malaysia attracted a total of RM123.3 billion worth of approved investments in the manufacturing, services, and primary sectors involving 1,714 projects. The investments are expected to create 57,771 job opportunities nationwide. Foreign direct investment (FDI) accounted for 70.9%, or RM87.4 billion of the total investments, while investments from domestic sources contributed 29.1%, or RM35.9 billion.

Despite the challenging global economic environment, Kedah has been one of the top five states for investment by the business community. In 1H2022, there were 71 approved projects in Kedah with a total investment of RM9.7 billion, of which RM8.9 billion were accounted for by foreign sources. These projects will be instrumental in creating over 3,209 job opportunities.

Notable companies leveraging Kedah's well-established infrastructure and network of experienced support services include: Intel, Risen Solar Technology, AT&S, Infineon, First Solar, and Fuji Electric. These companies hold much promise for further collaborations and opportunities with Kedah's local businesses.

Within Kedah, several clusters and regions have been selected for active investment promotion by state authorities. These include the Bukit Kayu Hitam Halal and Logistic Centre, Bukit Selambau Industrial Area, Gurun Industrial Area, KHTP Smart SME Park, Kulim Industrial Corridor, Northern Technocity, and Padang Meha Industrial Area.

In the southern and central parts of Kedah, there are new growth areas such as the Kulim Hi-Tech Park expansion, the development of Pulau Bunting, as well as Kedah Aerotropolis, which consists of Sidam Logistics, Aerospace and Manufacturing Hub, Kulim International Airport, and the North Corridor Highway (NCH).

The Kedah State Government is also very committed to develop the new growth areas in the northern region of Kedah with projects such as Kedah Rubber City, Delapan Special Economic

Border Zone (Delapan SBEZ) in Bukit Kayu Hitam under the Northern Gateway Sdn. Bhd., Kedah Science and Technology Park, Bukit Kayu Hitam Halal Hub and Logistic Centre under the Kedah State Development Corporation (KSDC).

During the MIDA Invest Series, the Kedah investment team was represented by its investment agencies, namely Invest Kedah Berhad (IKB), Kedah State Economic Planning Division (BPEN), Northern Corridor Implementation Authority (NCIA), Kedah State Development Corporation (KSDC), Kulim Technology Park Corporation (KTPC), KXP Airportcity Holdings Sdn. Bhd. (KXP), and Northern Gateway Sdn. Bhd. (NGxSB).

MIDA's Project Acceleration and Coordination Unit (PACU)

As part of the PENJANA announcement, MIDA established the Project Acceleration and Coordination Unit (PACU@MIDA), to facilitate the speedy implementation of investment projects across the country.

This unit will assist investors in solving their implementation woes by identifying challenges, proposing appropriate solutions, and facilitating progress monitoring. PACU@MIDA provides professional support and assistance for businesses to grow in Malaysia. As of October 2022, PACU@MIDA has facilitated 1,600 projects in terms of implementation, showing positive results.

With regards to Kedah, MIDA has approved 277 manufacturing projects from 2017 until July 2022. Of these, 188 projects (68%) have been implemented, while 68 projects (24%) are in active planning stages i.e: the sites have been acquired and discussions are underway with relevant stakeholders, and 21 projects (8%) have yet to be implemented.

For more information on investing in Kedah and business facilitation services, contact **MIDA Kedah** or email kedah@mida.gov.my.

Table of Approved Investments in Various Economic Sectors in Kedah (January-June 2022)

Sector	Jan-June, 2022				
	No. of Projects	Employment	Domestic Investment (RM)	Foreign Investment (RM)	Total Investment (RM)
Primary	2	26	6,500,000	0	6,500,000
Manufacturing	15	3,069	465,103,902	8,915,641,840	9,380,745,742
Services	54	114	333,051,090	330,181	333,381,271
Total	71	3,209	804,654,992	8,915,972,021	9,720,627,013

Source: MIDA



1 September 2022

MIDA Advanced Technology and Research and Development Division (ATRD) participated in the National Technology and Innovation Sandbox (NTIS) Tea Talk 2.0 session with the theme: "Malaysia's Tech Innovation: Where are we in ASEAN and how do we accelerate our growth" via Zoom.

MIDA ATRD Division Director, Mr. Syed Kamal Muzaffa Syed Hassan Sagaff was invited as a panellist to share perspectives on the current landscape of technology and innovation in Malaysia as compared to ASEAN countries, as well as potential collaborations between local start-ups and both domestic and foreign industry players for funding and commercialisation.



2 September 2022

MIDA's Building Technology and Lifestyle Division and Domestic Investment Division jointly organised the MIDA-Xinyi Supply Chain Programme to connect China's leading integrated glass manufacturer Xinyi Glass Holdings Ltd. to the needs and potential of local businesses. MIDA partnered with Xinyi Energy Smart, Xinyi's first overseas division in the programme to strengthen domestic resilience.

Xinyi is dedicated to producing premium automotive, architectural, and energy-saving glass, and it has a global sales network that reaches more than 130 nations and areas. Xinyi Malaysia, located in Jasin, Melaka is the first Xinyi's centre outside China.

MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Development), Ms. Lim Bee Vian (fourth from right) delivered the opening remarks and said that MIDA is looking forward to the success of this programme in bridging the needs between Xinyi and the local companies.



2-4 September 2022

MIDA, led by the Executive Director (Services Development), Ms. Zuaida Abdullah (seventh from left) was invited by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC) to attend the Tourism Project Registration Guidelines Revision Workshop in Melaka.

The objective of this workshop is to improve and enhance the current tourism project registration process, as well as to serve as a platform for coordinating and harmonising any policies related to tourism project certificates under both MIDA and MOTAC. The Tourism Project Certificate is one of the requirements for investors to receive tax exemptions.



3 September 2022

MIDA Beijing Director, Mr. Wong Tiang Sing and China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Beijing co-organised an Investment Forum in conjunction with China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) 2022. MIDA Beijing delivered a presentation on investment opportunities in Malaysia's services sector to more than 50 participants from various industries at the event.



5 September 2022

NTT Ltd., a leading IT infrastructure and services company, and the first company to receive the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) status back in 1997, announced the commencement of its sixth data centre construction in Cyberjaya, shortly after the completion of its fifth data centre (CBJ5) in 2021.

NTT reaffirmed its intent to support Malaysia's digitalisation during the meeting with the Trade and Investment Mission (TIM) delegation led by the Senior Minister and Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI), YB. Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali (sixth from left) to Tokyo, Japan.



5 September 2022

MIDA announced the appointment of its new Chairman, Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob. This will be the second time that he has been elected as the Chairman of MIDA, having been first elected to hold the post from 2009 to 2012.

Tan Sri Dr. Sulaiman has had a distinguished career in the Public Service having served in various ministries and departments. Currently, he is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Recovery Council (NRC), member of the Board of Directors for the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) and Perbadanan Tabung Pendidikan Tinggi Nasional (PTPTN). He is also the Chairman of the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER), a board member of Perbadanan Insurance Deposit Malaysia (PIDM) and Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC). Tan Sri Dr. Sulaiman is also active in academia, being an Adjunct Professor at Universiti Malaya's International Institute of Public Policy and Management (INPUMA) and at University Tun Razak (UNIRAZAK), where he lectures in Economics and Public Policy.



6 September 2022

The Swiss Malaysian Chamber of Commerce (SMCC), Malaysian French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCIFM) and Malaysian Spanish Chamber of Commerce and Industry (La Camara) jointly organised the "Post-Facilitation on Investment Session" which was held at one of SMCC's member facility in Sunway, Subang Jaya, Selangor.

MIDA has been invited to brief the Chambers on latest development and updates on the post - investment facilitation and talent matters. MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Promotion and Facilitation), Mr. Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja (centre), gave the

Opening Remarks, followed by presentation by MIDA's Post-Investment Division Director, Ms. Zabidah Daud (third from right), and MIDA's Industry Talent Management and Expatriate Division Deputy Director, Ms. Airin Abdullah (right).



7 September 2022

MIDA, led by the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Promotion and Facilitation), Mr. Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja (third from right) was invited to be one of the panellists at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' 9th Malaysian Head of Diplomatic Mission Conference (HOMC9).

Mr. Sivasuriyamoorthy shared insights and experience on various topics of interest such as Malaysia's investment strategy and the initiatives undertaken to attract quality investments to the participants consisting of officials from the 107 Malaysia Missions abroad, including ambassadors, high commissioners, permanent representatives, consulates general, Trade and Friendship Centre presidents, and chargés d'affaires.



8 September 2022

XP Power, one of the world's leading developers and manufacturers of critical power solutions for the electronics industry began construction on its latest manufacturing facility in Perak, Malaysia. The Asia III site which will be built across the span of five years will be the company's largest facility. This expansion is vital in XP Power's global growth strategy, increasing production capacity to support surging customer demand across regions.

The groundbreaking ceremony was graced by Menteri Besar of Perak, YAB Dato' Seri Saarani Mohamad (fourth

from right); Perak State Exco for Industry, Investment and Corridor Development, YB. Dato' Shahrul Zaman Datuk Yahya (fourth from left); Perak State Exco for Youth, Sport, Communication, and Multimedia and Bota State Assemblyman, Mr. Khairul Shahril Mohamed (third from left); MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Development), Ms. Lim Bee Vian (second from left); InvestPerak Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Izran Abdullah (left); and XP Power Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Oskar Zahn (third from right).



11 September 2022

MIDA Golf Club organised a Friendly Golf Tournament between MIDA and PERODUA at the Palm Garden Golf Club.



12 September 2022

The Consulate General of Malaysia in Mumbai organised a business forum entitled "Post-Pandemic: Business Opportunities in Malaysia" at the President Hotel, Mumbai. The event which was attended by business chambers and companies received positive feedback from the participants. During the forum, MIDA Mumbai Director, Mr. Shazri Hidayat Abd Shukor (standing right) delivered a presentation on the outlook for investing in Malaysia.



12-14 September 2022

MIDA Tariff Division led by its Director, Ms. Normawati Kusairi (fourth from left) together with MIDA Sabah Director, Mr. Joseph Benjamin (fourth from right) organised a familiarisation working visit to six companies based in Sabah, namely Desa Cattle (Sabah) Sdn. Bhd.; Desa Tea Sdn. Bhd.; Mega Aerospace Centre Sdn. Bhd.; Yanmar Kota Kinabalu R&D Sdn. Bhd.; Kina Roof Industries (Sabah) Sdn. Bhd.; and Yun Fook Resources Sdn. Bhd. The main objective of the visit was to share MIDA's initiatives and facilitation for these businesses.

In addition, a roundtable meeting and networking session were also organised with steel companies operating in Sabah. A total of 13 participants from six (6) steel companies attended the event to understand the current initiatives and incentives provided by the Government as well as the latest guidelines on import duty and sales tax exemption of raw material, machinery and equipment.



13 September 2022

MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Development), Ms. Lim Bee Vian (centre), accompanied by MIDA Domestic Investment Division visited NCT Alliance Bhd., a real estate developer in the construction field. The visit was organised to gain a better understanding of the company's operations as well as its most recent development on the IR4.0 industrial park: the Selangor Smart Industrial Park (SSIP), located in Sepang, Selangor.

The SSIP will serve as a catalyst for Selangor to realise its objective of becoming a competitive location for manufacturing, logistics, and other businesses in Malaysia. SSIP expects to start operating by 2025 and will begin building by the first quarter of 2023.



13 September 2022

MIDA Chief Executive Office, Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman (second from right) paid a courtesy visit to the Rural Development Minister, YB. Dato' Seri Mahdzir Khalid (second from left). Accompanying the CEO were Executive Director (Investment Facilitation), Ms. Jasbir Kaur Bachan Singh (left) and Industry Talent Management and Expatriate Division Director, Ms. Azrina Hashim (right). The visit aimed to explore on possible collaborations with institutions under MARA in strengthening the supply of talent for industries.



13-14 September 2022

Several MIDA departments, the Chemical and Advanced Materials Division; the Domestic Investment Division; the Green Technology Division; the Oil and Gas, Maritime, and Logistics Services Division; the Strategic Planning and Policy Advocacy (Manufacturing) Division; and the Strategic Planning and Policy Advocacy (Services) Division participated in the Petrochemicals Sustainability Conference (PSC) 2022. MIDA Executive Director of Manufacturing Development (Resource), Ms. Umarani Muniandy (second from left) was one of the panellists for the session on Sustainability Finance, Investment, and Governance.

The conference which was organised by Malaysian Petrochemicals Association (MPA) and supported by MIDA, focused on three key areas to support the sustainability journey including the decarbonisation of operations, circular economy practices and enablers supporting the transition. There were almost 700 participants attended the conference.



14 September 2022

MIDA Sarawak, led by its Director Mr. Jona Anak Kerani organised "The Awareness Programme for SMEs in Sarawak 2022" in Kuching, in collaboration with the Sarawak Manufacturing Association (SMA).

The half-day workshop, attended by 44 representatives from 24 companies included briefings from MIDA, the Malaysian Industrial Development Finance Bhd. (MIDF), and the Standards and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia (SIRIM). Booths were also set up by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), MIDA, MIDF, SIRIM, and the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE).



14 September 2022

MIDA held a graduation ceremony for the first batch of MIDA Leadership Development Programme (LDP) 2022. MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Development), Ms. Lim Bee Vian (seated, centre) officiated the event celebrating the achievement of 19 officers who had undergone the programme at MIDA's Assessment and Development Centre. The six-month programme was a joint collaboration between MIDA and the Malaysian Institute of Management (MIM), formulated to train officers in achieving MIDA's vision and mission.



14 September 2022

MIDA was invited by the Malaysian-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MGCC) to be one of the panellists in the event titled "The Malaysian Hydrogen Industry Outlook", held at the Common Ground, Menara Worldwide Bukit Bintang.

MIDA was represented by the Head of the Circular Bioeconomy Unit, Mr. Timothy Ong (right), among other panellists including the Head of new Energy Gentari Hydrogen, the President of the Malaysian Association of Hydrogen Energy (MAHE), and the Deputy Secretary General Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI).

The panel discussion aimed to answer questions about the current status quo in Malaysia and the potential collaboration with the foreign (German) companies as well as the contribution to the renewables/sustainability agenda in Malaysia. The event was attended by more than 200 people, physically and virtually.



14 September 2022

MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Development) Ms. Lim Bee Vian (centre) sat down for a group interview with journalists from New Straits Times, The Star and Nanyang Siang Pau on the theme "Data Centres are the Catalysts to Direct Digital Investments".

The data centre market in Malaysia is expected to increase by US\$2.08 billion (RM9.43 billion) between 2021 and 2026. Recent data centre investors include Google Cloud, Japan's NTT, Microsoft Corp, Nasdaq-listed Chindata Group Holdings Ltd, Hong Kong-listed GDS Holdings Ltd, and YTL Data Center Holdings Pte Ltd.



15 September 2022

MIDA Building Technology and Lifestyle Division, led by the Director Ms. Rozita Ibrahim (front row, second from left) organised a promotional and familiarisation visit to Terengganu Silica Consortium (TSC) Sdn. Bhd.

The objective of the visit was to gain a better understanding on the company's operations in producing silicon dioxide (or high purity silica) at their modern state-of-the art beneficiation plant and machineries in Setiu, Terengganu.

TSC has established itself as the largest manufacturer of high purity silica in Asia and Oceania and the first in Asia, as well as the first in Asia to have an industrial minerals beneficiation plant with a fully vertically- integrated industry.



15 September 2022

MIDA Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman (centre) received a courtesy call from Tenaga Nasional Berhad's (TNB) Regulatory and Stakeholder Management Division to introduce the newly appointed TNB Representative in MIDA, Tuan Ir. Mohd Fairuz Abdul Kadir (second from left). Datuk Wira expressed his appreciation to TNB for its continuous support in ensuring the smooth implementation of projects approved by MIDA.



15 September 2022

Gentari Sdn. Bhd., the new subsidiary of Petroliaam Nasional Bhd. (PETRONAS) was officially launched by Malaysian Prime Minister, YAB. Dato' Sri Ismail Sabri bin Yaakob. Also in attendance were MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Development), Ms. Lim Bee Vian and MIDA Advanced Technology and Research and Development Division Director, Mr. Syed Kamal Muzaffa Syed Hassan Sagaff.

Gentari Sdn. Bhd. was established with the objective to accelerate the adoption and commercialisation of clean energy under PETRONAS' New Energy Business sector; and to establish partnerships with next generation energy and technology providers by focussing on three (3) main segments of clean energy namely renewable energy; hydrogen; and green mobility solutions.



15 September 2022

MIDA Chief Executive Director, Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman (fourth from left) received a courtesy visit from Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation Malaysia Berhad., led by their Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Hiroshi Okawa (fourth from right). The meeting focused on the environmental, social and governance (ESG) agenda, the supply chain; and the continuation of strategic collaboration centred on business and investment promotion activities.



16 September 2022

MIDA Osaka and Tokyo facilitated a benchmarking visit by Kulim Hi-Tech Park (KHTP) to Japan's leading science/technology park. The visit aimed to explore the opportunities of implementing and adopting similar concepts from the park including Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) elements into KHTP for future development.

Prior to Osaka, the delegation had visited Kanagawa Prefecture, which included visits to Kyoto Research Park, the Amagasaki Sports-no-mori sports complex, Kanagawa Science Park, Tsukuba Science City, and Panasonic's Fujisawa Sustainable Smart Town.



16 September 2022

MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Development), Ms. Lim Bee Vian (fourth from left) and the Cross-Border Investment Unit of MIDA's Domestic Investment Division attended the China-Malaysia Cross-Border Business Forum at the Shangri-La Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

During the event, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed virtually between MIDA and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC). MIDA Guangzhou Investment Officer, Ms. May Tan presented on business and investment opportunities in Malaysia.



17 September 2022

MIDA participated in the 19th China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit (CABIS) roundtable dialogue between the Malaysian Government and Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) from China, which was held at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI). The hybrid event held concurrently in Nanning, Guangxi Province, China, with Malaysia being this year's Country of Honour, focuses on economic cooperation, investment policies, business environment, and investment facilitation between Malaysia and China.

MIDA was strongly represented at the event by a delegation, as well as its Foreign Investment Team and MIDA Guangzhou. The delegation was led by Executive Director (Investment Promotion), Mr. Sikh Shamsul Ibrahim Sikh Abdul Majid (seated, left). Also in attendance were: Green Technology Division Director, Ms. Wan Hashimah Wan Salleh (standing, fifth from left); Machinery and Metal Technology Division Director, Ms. Zakiah Sajidan (standing, second from left); Business Services and Regional Operations Division Director, Ms. Rosedalina Ramlan (standing, third from left); and Chemical and Advanced Material Division Director, Ms. Siti Halimaton Mohd Rejab (standing, fifth from right).



19 September 2022

MIDA Human Resource Management Division together with the National Blood Centre of Malaysia (PDN) and PMCare Sdn. Bhd. jointly organised the Blood Donation Drive Programme 2022. The purpose of the programme was to cater to the critically low supply of blood in hospitals across the country, and to raise awareness about the importance of blood donation.



20 September 2022

MIDA, led by the Executive Director (Services Development), Ms. Zuaida Abdullah (centre) attended the DPL Malaysia 3 Ground Breaking Ceremony by Daiwa House Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.'s subsidiary Daiwa House Malaysia Logistic Sdn. Bhd.

Daiwa House Malaysia itself the local subsidiary of Daiwa House Group, Japan's largest homebuilder says, it expects the project to strengthen its operational capacity in order to fulfil industry demand. The company added that it will also embrace automation and digitalisation to boost productivity and create value through improved operational efficiencies.



20 September 2022

Sweden's world-leading medical products and solutions company Mölnlycke Health Care saw the ground-breaking ceremony for its new €50 million (RM233 million) surgical glove plant in Kulim Hi-Tech Park, Kedah. The industry giant says the new facility is a major milestone of its sustainability roadmap WeCare, and is complimenting Malaysia's sustainable industrialisation goals while aiming to create new job opportunities within the state.

The plant was officiated by Menteri Besar of Kedah, YAB Dato' Seri Haji Muhammad Sanusi Md Nor (centre), along with Sweden's Ambassador to Malaysia, H.E. Dr. Joachim Bergström (third from left), and Mölnlycke CEO, Zlatko

Rihter (third from right). Also present at the official launch were MIDA CEO, Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman (right), Senior State Exco Member for Industry and Investment, Higher Education, Science, Technology and Education, YB Dato' Wira Dr. Ku Abd Rahman Ku Ismail (second from right), Northern Corridor Implementation Authority (NCIA) CEO, Mohammad Haris Kader Sultan (left), and Mölnlycke Board Chair, Karl-Henrik Sundström (second from left).



22 September 2022

MIDA collaborated with the Kedah State Government to organise the "Invest Series: Unfolding States' Business Potential" programme at the Perdana Hall, MIDA Sentral, Kuala Lumpur. The programme was held to provide the business community with the latest updates on development and investment opportunities in Kedah, as well as to act as a platform for participants to network with relevant State Government agencies.

A total of 300 participants with different backgrounds gathered at the event, including business associations and organisations, senior management from the manufacturing and services sectors, entrepreneurs and government officials.

MIDA CEO, YBhg. Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman (centre) delivered a welcome address. His speech was then followed by remarks by Senior State Exco Member for Industry and Investment, Higher Education, Science, Technology and Education, Dato' Wira Dr. Ku Abd Rahman Ku Ismail (third from left), who spoke on the State Government's investment aspirations based on the Kedah Development Plan 2035.



22 September 2022

Comet Technologies Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. held the official inauguration ceremony of their existing facility at Taman Perindustrian Batu Kawan, Penang, where they announced the expansion of their production space by another 30,000 square feet.

The expansion project is expected to generate approximately 200 new job opportunities in Penang over the coming years, and as well as functioning as a manufacturing and service centre for RF Matchboxes, a key product used to control plasma processes for microchips.

The inauguration was officiated by the Chief Minister of Penang, YAB Tuan Chow Kon Yeow (centre). Amongst the 250 distinguished guests in attendance was MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Development) Ms. Lim Bee Vian (second from left).



22 September 2022

GKN Aerospace, a multi-technology tier 1 aerospace supplier for use in defence and commercial aircraft held its inauguration ceremony for its all-new facility of Aero-engine parts repair in Nusajaya, Johor.

The event was officiated by Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry Senator, Datuk Lim Ban Hong (centre), along with Johor State Investment, Trade and Consumer Affairs Committee Chairman, Mr. Lee Ting Han (left, who represented the Johor Menteri Besar's Office) and GKN Aerospace Engines Systems President, Joakim Andersson (right). Also present at the event were

Sweden's Ambassador to Malaysia, H.E. Dr. Joachim Bergström; British High Commission Trade Director, Mr. Richard Colley (who represented British High Commissioner to Malaysia, Mr. Charles Hay); MIDA Executive Director (Investment Promotion), Mr. Sikh Shamsul Ibrahim Sikh Abdul Majid; and the GKN Aerospace top management.



22 September 2022

A total of 30 MIDA officials attended the two-day Sharpening Administrative Reformation Programme (SHARP). Organised by MIDA's Human Resources Management Division, this is the fifth leg of the SHARP programme since its inception.


23 September 2022

MIDA CEO, Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman (left) received a delegation from the management of Gentari Sdn. Bhd., the new subsidiary of Petroliaam Nasional Bhd. (PETRONAS). The discussion centred on three areas of clean energy: renewable energy, hydrogen, and green mobility solutions.

Gentari is a clean energy company focused on delivering integrated net-zero solutions required to put cleaner energy into action today, to transform how we live tomorrow. It was established with the objective of accelerating the adoption and commercialisation of clean energy under PETRONAS's New Energy Business sector, as well as to establish partnerships with next-generation energy and technology providers.


24 September 2022

MIDA Tokyo Director, Mr. Riduan Abd Rahman (top left) delivered the opening remarks at the Virtual Career Fair 2022, organised by the Malaysian Students' Association in Japan (MSAJ) in collaboration with MIDA Tokyo, Human Resource Development from the Embassy of Malaysia in Tokyo, and TalentCorp.

The career fair featured 25 Japanese companies, including Rohm-Wako, KOA Corporation, Tateyama, Nisshin Oillio, Ferrotec, Taiyo Yuden, NTT, Panac, Sankyu, and Japan Lifeline.


26 September 2022

MIDA Executive Director (Investment Promotion), Mr. Sikh Shamsul Ibrahim Sikh Abdul Majid (second row, sixth from left) received a delegation from Incheon Metropolitan City, Incheon Technopark, and several technology companies to discuss on Malaysia's investment outlook and opportunities, as well as to share information on some of Technopark's programmes and the necessary ecosystem support for the development of Korean SMEs to become more widespread in Malaysia.



26 September 2022

MIDA Kelantan Director, Mr. Wan Mohd Supian Wan Deris (third from left) received a courtesy visit from Perbadanan Menteri Besar Kelantan (PMBK), led by its Chief Executive Officer, Tn. Haji Abdul Rashid Mohd Yusoff (fourth from left) to discuss MIDA's roles in propelling the country's economy and on potential collaborations with PMBK.



28 September 2022

MIDA Chemical and Advanced Materials Division had an engagement session with Malaysian Recycling Alliance (MAREA).

The session was chaired by the Executive Director (Resources Based Industry), Ms. Umarani Muniandy (third from right), and a briefing was given by MAREA General Manager, Ms. Pauline Goh (third from left).

MAREA is a non-profit organisation that is committed to driving change by setting up an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) group of companies, to focus on boosting the value chain and to significantly improve the collection and recycling of post-consumer packaging; this is done through a multi-stakeholder approach.



28-29 September 2022

MIDA Singapore, led by its Director, Mr. Vinothan Tulisi Nathzan (centre) and supported by the Johor Economic Tourism and Cultural office (JETCO) participated with MIDA's Corporate Communication Division at the Singapore Business Show 2022 at Singapore Expo, Singapore. The event hosted more than 80 expert business speakers who shared their knowledge and expertise, along with interactive and networking sessions that attracted more than 2,000 visitors.

The Business Show has been running over 25 years in Europe and was held in Singapore for the first time with the aim to create a platform where entrepreneurs, business leaders, and business decision makers meet to inspire one another.


29 September 2022

Scandinavian IBS Sdn. Bhd. (SIBS), a Sweden-based Industrialised Building System (IBS) and one of SIBS Group's five companies with more than 850 employees undertook an expansion of an additional 15 acres of land at their new plant located in Penang Science Park, Simpang Ampat, Penang. Driven by huge demand for SIBS's production, this expansion project is anticipated to increase the production lines to approximately four (4) more compared to the current production line.

Penang State Executive Councillor for Trade, Industry, and Entrepreneur Development, YB. Dato' Haji Abdul Halim Haji Hussain (second from left) attended the event as a representative of Penang Chief Minister Office. Also present were Sweden's Ambassador to Malaysia, H.E. Dr. Joachim Bergström (left), and MIDA Executive Director of Manufacturing Development (Non-Resource), Ms. Najihah Abas (second from right).


29 September 2022

MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Promotion and Facilitation), Mr. Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja presented on "Business Opportunities in Malaysia" to a delegation of visiting Brazilian associations and companies at the Seminar on Opportunities for Trade and Investments in Malaysia.

The panel discussion was conducted by the head of the ASEAN Business Advisory Council in Malaysia, Tan Sri Dato' Dr. Munir Majid. The seminar took place in conjunction with the Brazil-ASEAN Institutional Prospective Mission to Kuala Lumpur from 29 to 30 September 2022.


30 September 2022

MIDA launched its 21st global office in Istanbul as a gateway for Malaysia-Türkiye crossflow investments. MIDA's newest office in Istanbul is set to provide Malaysia and Türkiye new economic opportunities and drive steady growth of bilateral trade relations between the two nations. MIDA Istanbul Office will serve as a gateway for aspiring Turkish investors who wish to expand their businesses into Malaysia, as well as performing the same services for Malaysian companies who wish to expand their businesses into Türkiye.

The MIDA Istanbul Office launch was officiated by Senior Minister and Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI), YB. Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali (third from left). Also present at the event were MITI Secretary General, Datuk Lokman Hakim Ali (left); MIDA Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman (second from left); MATRADE Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Mustafa Abdul Aziz; Consul General of Malaysia in Istanbul, Tengku Mohd. Dzaraif Raja Abdul Kadir (right); Invest in Türkiye President, Mr. A. Burak Daglioglu (fourth from left); and Türkiye Ministry of Trade's South Asian Countries Department Head, Mr. Catagay Ozden (second from right).



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KL Sentral, 50470 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



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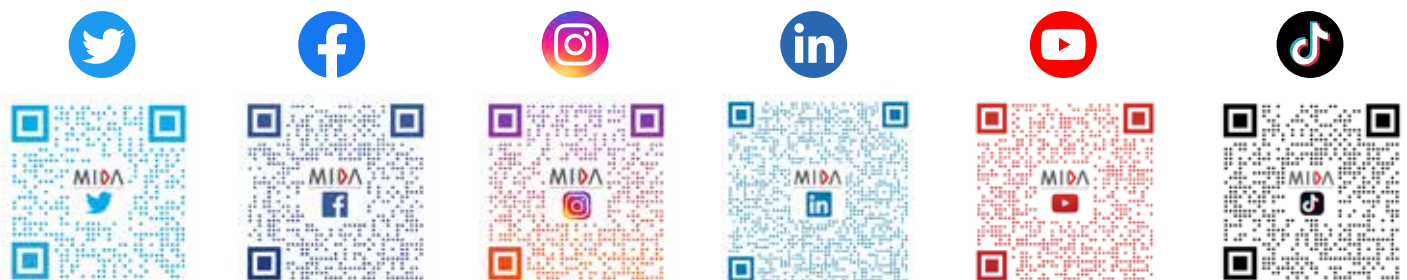
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MIDA, your first point of contact for Investments In Malaysia.

Malaysian Investment Development Authority
MIDA Sentral
No. 5, Jalan Stesen Sentral 5
KL Sentral
50470 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: +603 2267 3633
Fax: +603 2274 7970
E-mail: investmalaysia@mida.gov.my
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MIDA Sentral, No. 5, Jalan Stesen Sentral 5, KL Sentral,
50470 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: +603 2267 3633 / 2263 2555 / 2263 2549
E-mail: investmalaysia@mida.gov.my