

# E-NEWSLETTER

A MONTHLY INDUSTRY UPDATE FOR GLOBAL INVESTORS AND MORE!



#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Malaysia Attracted RM264.6 Billion of Approved Investments in 2022

#### **SERVICES**

'ESCAPE' from the ordinary into a world of retro-eco fun

#### **INDUSTRY**

Breaking New Grounds: Malaysia's Potential in Specialty Chemicals

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

To Aur Esteemed Partners and stakeholders.

Welcome to INVEST MALAYSIA, where we bring you the latest stories and updates on investment and our country's achievements. We are glad to have you here and hope to inspire you to explore the vast investment opportunities available in Malaysia. Remember, your success is our success.

Malaysia has achieved RM264.6 billion in approved investments for 2022, with the lion's share of RM154 billion stemming from the services sector, trailed by RM84.3 billion from the manufacturing industry, and RM26.3 billion from the primary sector. The country's ability to weather the challenging economic environment, as reflected by its theme of "Sustainable Investments for Growth," demonstrates its resilience, while also inspiring international investors' trust that Malaysia is a preferrable investment location. Congratulations on the accomplishment, and let us work towards even greater success in the future!

As we move towards a more sustainable future, Malaysia is committed to environmental sustainability and green initiatives. Our Twelfth Malaysia Plan (12MP) reflects our strong commitment to achieving net-zero carbon by 2050, ensuring sustainable and resilient socio-economic growth. We believe that everyone has a role to play, and we are excited to have joined forces with the Malaysia Automotive, Robotics, and IoT Institute (MARii) to organise the first national-level Electric Vehicle (EV) Conference 2023. The event highlighted Malaysia's progress and plans towards a more sustainable and environmentally-friendly future. As we gear up for new growth areas and opportunities, we look forward to future collaborations and stronger working engagements with relevant stakeholders for the betterment of our economy and society.

We are also proud to announce the exciting development of KL International Hospital (KLIH) within the mixed development of KL Wellness City. This new private hospital is poised to offer an extensive and integrated range of healthcare services, including medical suites, medical facility, wellness, and fitness facilities. As we improve the quality of healthcare available in Malaysia, KLIH's establishment will help to position Malaysia as a medical tourism hub in the region. As you explore potential business prospects and various government facilities to diversify and grow, we assure you that MIDA will remain consistent in our mandate to promote Malaysia as the preferred investment destination for investors, locally and internationally.

As the famous quote by Tony Robbins goes, "The only impossible journey is the one you never begin." Let's embark on this investment journey together, with Malaysia as your preferred investment destination.

DATUK WIRA ARHAM ABDUL RAHMAN **Chief Executive Officer** Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA)

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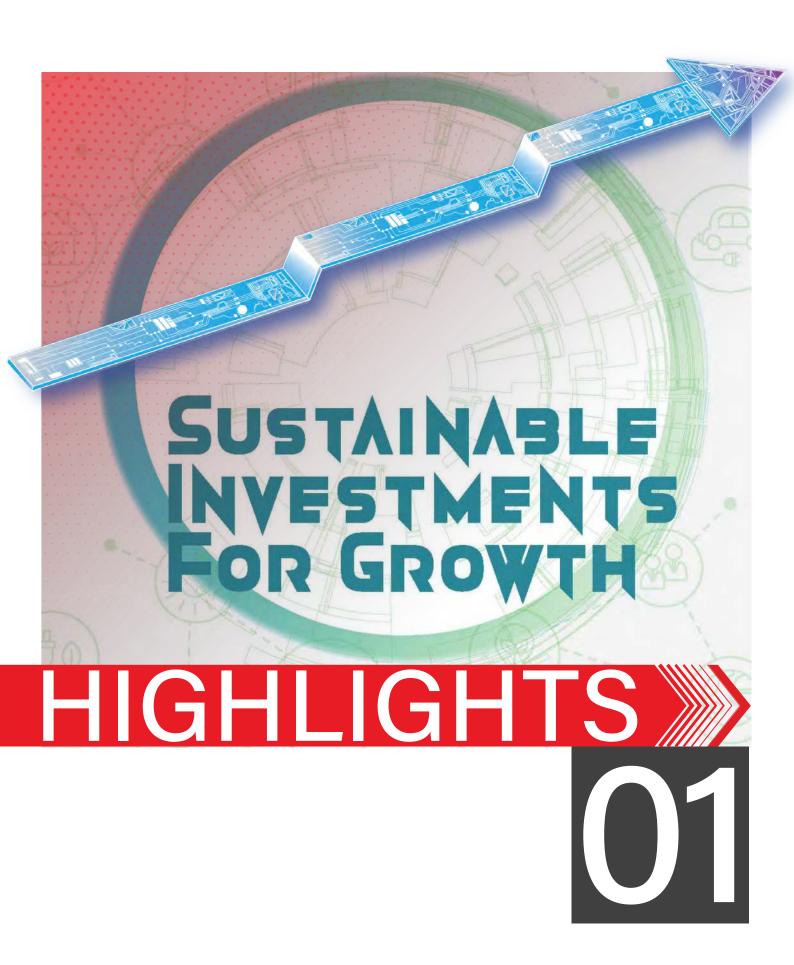
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## **HIGHLIGHT**



# **Malaysia Attracted RM264.6 Billion of**

# **Approved Investments in 2022**

8 March 2023

On 8 March 2023, Malaysia's Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI), YB Senator Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz, announced the country's investment performance for 2022 during the MIDA Annual Media Conference (AMC) 2023. The AMC themed "Sustainable Investments for Growth," revealed that Malaysia had secured RM264.6 billion worth of approved investments, comprising 4,454 projects that are expected to create 140,370 new job opportunities for Malaysians.

# MALAYSIA INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE







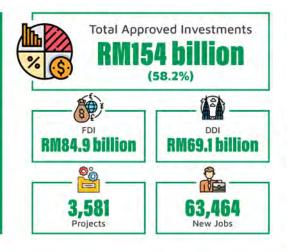
Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) accounted for 61.7 per cent of total approved investments, or RM163.3 billion, while Domestic Direct Investment (DDI) recorded 38.3 per cent or RM101.3 billion.

FIVE STATES RECORDED HIGHEST APPROVED INVESTMENTS	RM (BIL)
Johor	70.6
Selangor	60.1
Sarawak	28.2
W.P. Kuala Lumpur	25
Pulau Pinang	16.3

FIVE MAJOR SOURCES OF FDI	RM (BIL)
The People's Republic of China	55.4
<b>USA</b>	29.2
The Netherlands	20.4
Singapore	13.5
<ul><li>Japan</li></ul>	11.4

Note: Reporting of foreign investments is based on immediate source in line with international statistical compilation of FDI





#### TOP SERVICES SUB-SECTORS







Information and Communications

Real Financial
Estate Services

ncial Utilities

Distributive Trade

RM84.7 billion RM28.9 billion RM11.2 billion RM10.8 billion RM6.2 billion











Services
RM4.2 billion

Health Services RM2.1 billion

Hotel and Tourism RM2.1 billion

m Establishments

Ilion RM2 billion

bbal Transport
shments Services
billion RM1 billion

The Minister's speech highlighted that investing in sustainable technologies and solutions is urgent, and must be a whole-of-nation effort to attract the right investments that will support local SMEs and supply chains, as well as create job opportunities for the rakyat.

Here's a summary of Malaysia's approved investments for 2022

The services sector emerged as the dominant player, with approved investments totalling

RM154 billion across 3,581 projects - a 58.8% increase from the previous year (RM97 billion).

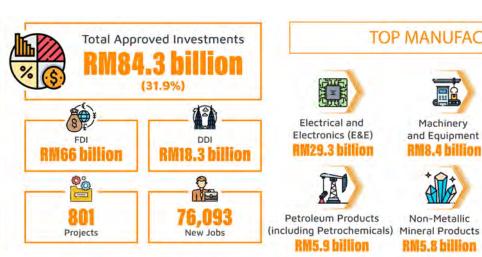
Of this value, FDI accounted for 55.1 per cent (RM84.9 billion) of total approved investments in the services sector, while domestic direct investment (DDI) made up the remaining 44.9% (RM69.1 billion).

The information and communications sub-sector dominated the services sector, with approved investments worth RM84.7 billion, or 55 per cent.



Launching of Malaysia Investment Performance Report 2022. From left to right: YBhg. Datuk Seri Isham Ishak (Secretary General MITI), YB Liew Chin Tong (Deputy Minister MITI), YB Senator Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz (Minister MITI), YBhg. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob (Chairman MIDA), YBhg. Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman (CEO MIDA)





#### TOP MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES



Electrical and Electronics (E&E) RM29.3 billion

RM5.9 billion



Machinery and Equipment RM8.4 billion

Non-Metallic

RM5.8 billion



Transport Equipment



Chemicals and **Chemical Products** RM7.4 billion



Scientific and Measuring Equipment RM4.7 billion



Rubber Products RM3.6 billion

On the manufacturing sector front, Malaysia's attraction as a top investment destination in the region remains strong, with a steady influx of high-quality investments. This sector contributed RM84.3 billion, or 31.9 per cent of total approved investments in various economic sectors. These approved manufacturing projects are expected to create 76,093 new job opportunities in various managerial, technical and skilled craft positions.

FDI accounted for 78.3 per cent of total approved investments, totalling RM66.0 billion, with DDI contributing the remaining 21.7 per cent (or RM18.3 billion).

Noteworthy is that the number of new projects approved outnumbered expansion/diversification projects, with the numbers recording 416 projects amounting to RM35 billion and 385 projects worth RM49.3 billion, respectively.







#### PRIMARY SUB-SECTORS







Mining

Plantation and Commodities

Agriculture

**RM24 billion** 

RM2.2 billion

RM154.4 million

Finally, the primary sector recorded 72 projects, contributing RM26.3 billion to the overall approved investments.

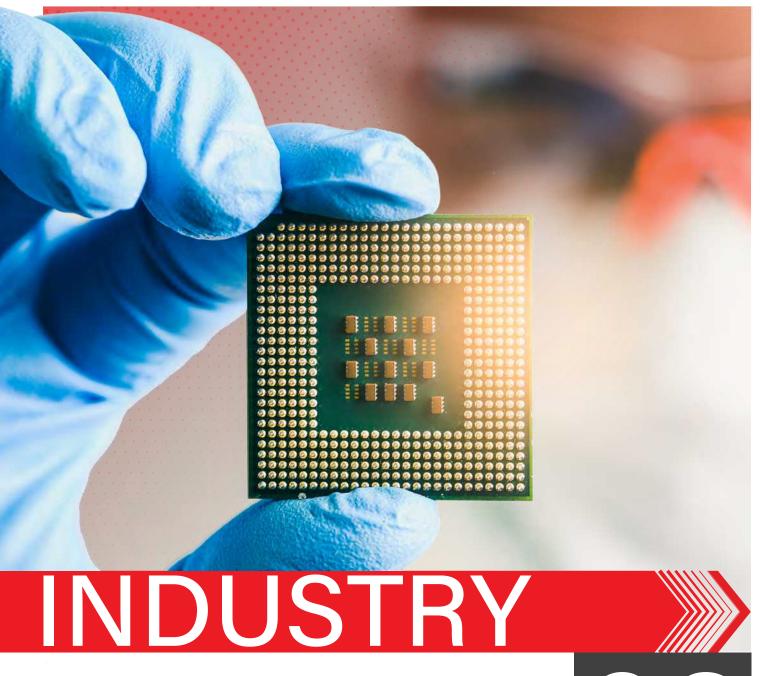
# Looking ahead

The investment performance for 2022 depicts Malaysia's unwavering determination to navigate challenging times. It showcases that for 2023, Malaysia is geared up on an action-oriented path by placing multi-tiered economic, social and governance policies, reforms, and initiatives to ensure equitable and sustainable economic growth, and increase the nation's attractiveness as an investment destination.

"Moving forward, as Malaysia strives to become Asia's investment gateway, the country is making every effort to quickly emerge as ASEAN's digital hub, owing to our highly developed ICT infrastructure. talented **STEM** pool, intellectual property protection framework, and rule of law. The revised New Industrial Master Plan 2030 set the tone for Malaysia's industrial development by outlining new growth opportunities, improving the ease of doing business, and attracting high-quality digital investments. To reduce our carbon footprint and promote sustainable development, we will prioritise investments that benefit the people, planet, and profit, as well as funding for green projects and renewable energy. Our goal is to create high-paying jobs for Malaysians while also ensuring that growth is equitable and beneficial to all stakeholders." added Tengku Zafrul.

MITI and MIDA, will continue to strive harder to attract high-quality digital investments, generate more value and opportunities for growth through data and cloud-based technologies, and create high-paying jobs for Malaysians.







Why are specialty chemicals important to the industry? To further explore the realm of specialty chemicals, this article will guide you through understanding the industry's significance, especially to Malaysia's ecosystem. Specialty chemicals are typically produced through batch processes, as opposed to commodity chemicals that use larger and continuous processes. The coverage of specialty chemicals is vast across various industries such as electronics and semiconductors, cosmetics and personal care, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology, automotive, food and beverages, construction and building materials, and many more.

Food & 口り INDUSTRY COVERAGE OF SPECIALTY Construction & **Building Materials** CHEMICALS Electronics & ansportation 

Figure 1: Usage of Specialty Chemicals

Specialty chemicals have distinct characteristics that allow them to be used as modifying elements of chemical behaviours and performance in small quantities. Their unique molecular complexity gives them specific functions and a narrow range of applications. Some of the world's manufacturers of specialty chemicals include large corporations such as BASF SE, Mitsubishi Chemical, Sumitomo Chemical, and DuPont.

Currently, a few specialty chemical producers exist in Malaysia but can scarcely cater to the needs of the electrical and electronics (E&E) industry. The E&E industry is ranked first among the top manufacturing industries in Malaysia for the year 2022. Amidst issues such as volatile energy prices, geopolitical tensions, global inflation, and major disruption of supply chains within the semiconductor industries, progressive trends and growth of technologies have led the E&E industry to be one of the rapidly growing sectors in the manufacturing industry. Major specialty electronic chemical players include Linde, Air Products, BASF SE, Cabot Microelectronics, and Solvay.

The demand for semiconductors is expected to drive the growth of specialty electronic chemicals by 5 per cent by 2026. As a result, the global market size for specialty electronic chemicals is estimated to be USD1.61 billion in December 2022 with a CAGR of 8.5 per cent between 2022 to 2027. Asia Pacific has been identified as the largest region in the electronic

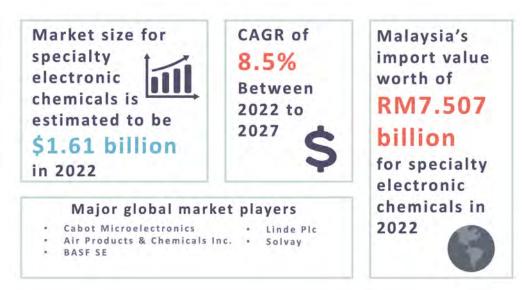


Figure 2: Specialty electronic chemicals information

chemicals market and is expected to be the fastest-growing region for the industry with rapid development of electronics and Electric Vehicle (EV) battery manufacturing sectors in countries such as India, China, and Japan.

The usage of specialty electronic chemicals within the E&E industry is in processes such as doping, etching, cleaning, photolithography, and deposition. Chemical vapour deposition is one of the steps taken during wafer fabrication (front-end process) that creates a semiconducting material in which volatile precursors are introduced to alter its electrical properties. Here, wafer substrates (typically silicon) are exposed to doping gases (dopants) to produce semiconducting materials depending on their applications. Examples of dopants are rare gases such as arsenic (AsH<sub>3</sub>), diborane (B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>), and

phosphane (PH<sub>3</sub>). In addition, using epoxy as an adhesive such as polyimide or silicon-based materials is essential during the back-end process to secure manufactured chips to substrates or metal frames. Finally, hydrogen peroxide remains the most demanded specialty electronic chemical used during the front-end and back-end processes as it is often used during the etching and cleaning of integrated circuits (IC).

It has been identified that Malaysia's E&E industry is highly dependent on foreign supplies. As shown in Figure 4, the total importation of specialty electronic chemicals in Malaysia tremendously surged from 2019 to 2022. Here, the total import value of RM5.61 billion in 2021 increased to RM7.51 billion in 2022 which is 33.91 per cent from the value of its precedent by exploring the potential vear. Thus,

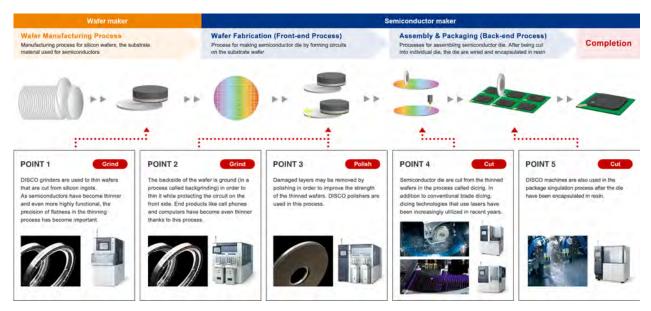


Figure 3: Semiconductor Manufacturing Process

#### INDUSTRY

#### Importation of Specialty Electronics Chemicals in Malaysia

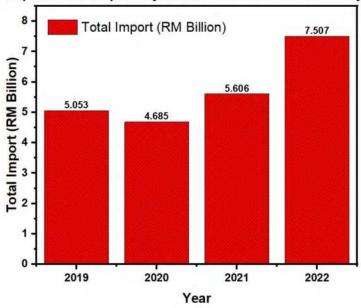


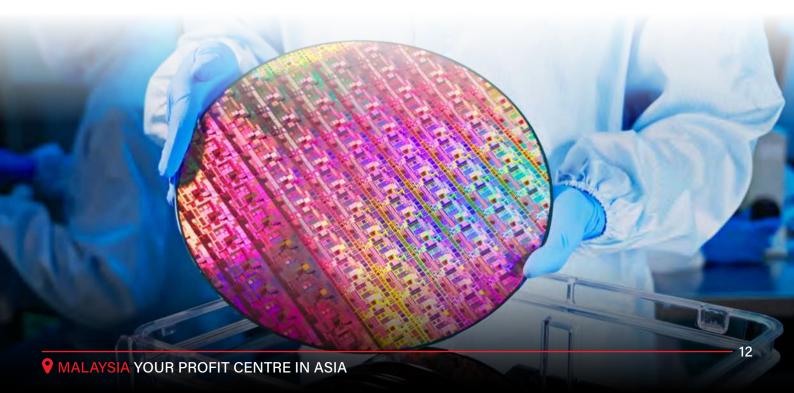
Figure 4: Malaysia's import of specialty electronic chemicals data

manufacturing specialty electronic chemicals in Malaysia, the dependency of Malaysian supply on the foreign supply chain market can be reduced.

MIDA as the government's principal investment promotion and development agency, recognises the potential of specialty electronic chemicals in completing the gaps in our current E&E ecosystems. The promotion of this new growth area is vital as blueprinted in the National Investment Aspirations (NIA). With a holistic approach to ensure sustainable economic growth and strengthening Malaysia's economic foundation, it is essential to keep track of major E&E market players and its sub-players within targeted pipelines to establish an integrated ecosystem. Understanding the need to develop a

strong foundation to ensure Malaysia's high-value economic growth and promoting product upscaling to qualify our local SMEs to be on par with major MNCs of E&E will be part of our initiative to elevate Malaysia's economic development. Amongst the targeted specialty chemical supply chain to support our E&E industry is the existence of producers for chemicals such as etchants, dopants, adhesives, and photoresists.

Thus, to explore the prospect of this new growth area, interested investors may contact MIDA's Chemical and Advanced Materials Division at https://www.mida.gov.my/staffdirectory/chemical-and-advanced-material/ for further assistance.





# SERVICES

03

# **CAPE** from the ordinary into a world of retro-eco fun

The remarkable story of a homegrown Malaysian company with a game-changing approach to fun with sustainability at its core.

The Malaysian-born Sim Leisure Group (SLG) is highly regarded among prominent theme park development and management companies in Malaysia and abroad. The group was founded by Dato Sim Choo Kheng, who has dedicated more than three decades of his life to the leisure and entertainment industry.

Today, SLG is poised to be an economic driver for Malaysia's tourism sector. In fact, the Group has been regarded as a disruptor of the longstanding model used by conventional theme parks by focusing on the rediscovery of childhood fun and a reconnection with nature with the Group's ESCAPE brand, which is SLG's claim to fame.

## A "Play-Changer"

Marketing to one's inner child, the ESCAPE brand has seen phenomenal expansion with the inclusion of ESCAPE Penang and ESCAPE Challenge in Paradigm Mall, Petaling Jaya. A few more ESCAPE destinations is targeted to open in Ipoh and Cameron Highlands, as well as ongoing international projects in Sri Lanka, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and China. Towards this end, SLG has essentially created the first Asian attraction brand to be exported internationally.

"With the ESCAPE brand, we sought to create a truly different experience using a 'low tech, high fun' approach where fun is measured in 'smiles per hour'. Today, the ESCAPE brand is one of the most trailblazing developers of theme parks, answering the call from consumers for different experiences altogether," says Dato Sim Choo Kheng.

ESCAPE is home to more than 40 games, rides and activities which leverage the brand's proprietary Waterplay, Gravityplay, and Adventureplay, which harnesses the simple forces of nature. These include many "world-firsts" such as the Guinness World Record-breaking Longest Water Tube Slide and the Longest Zip Coaster in the world in ESCAPE Penang. Recently, ESCAPE also introduced Malaysia's first ski slope, a Dead Sea Pool and an expanded Base Camp in ESCAPE Penang.

ESCAPE has, in recent times, seen increasing demand from school groups and corporate organisations for fun-filled school programmes, family-day celebrations and corporate team-building sessions, bearing further testament to ESCAPE's unique ability to gather people after a raging pandemic. Notably, the corporate team building exercises held at ESCAPE is 100% HRDF claimable.

# Sustainability at the Core

All this can be enjoyed amidst lush, natural surroundings with ample shade from the scorching heat for some "cool and refreshing" fun. Even the ESCAPE Challenge in Petaling Jaya, which is located within a mall, has taken on a natural setting by bringing the outdoors, indoors.

### **SERVICES**



In this regard, SLG and the ESCAPE brand emphasises a strong focus on sustainability, which has been paramount since the Group's inception. In fact, the Group's approach to sustainability is premised on the recognition that the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) aspects of its entire business and operations, are second to none.

"Take ESCAPE Penang for example, which was built on a construction dump! But with our low-impact approach to development, we see such things as opportunities, giving old wastelands and brownfields a new lease of life, while reducing waste and energy consumption. In Penang, we rehabilitated the land, planting more than 3,500 trees, while taking every effort not to compromise the already existing, decades-old trees. Many of our buildings are cooled with lush vegetated roofing and enhanced with window openings that allow daylight to provide cool illumination. We have also created natural paths for drainage," explains Dato Sim Choo Kheng.

Additionally, SLG has created around 200 job opportunities for the local community since its establishment till today. Moreover, the ethos of SLG's operations is to provide fun and leisure with minimal impact on the environment, while using low electricity consumption.

# Charting the Way Forward – in Malaysia and Beyond

Sim Leisure Group has certainly built a name for itself, while also placing Malaysia on the world map. What SLG has done with ESCAPE is essentially creating a whole new genre and future direction for the global leisure and entertainment industry. More than that, the brand lives up to its name, providing a holistic and refreshing 'ESCAPE' from the ordinary into a thrilling retro-eco experience, raising a new level of tourism interest in Malaysia while strengthening the country's tourism industry.

As such, MIDA welcomes quality investments that involve high-value and innovative tourism products and services without compromising the impact on the environment, which could contribute to a comprehensive ecosystem. This is in line with the National Tourism Policy 2020 – 2030 which emphasises value creation through innovation aimed at increasing competitiveness, promoting sustainability and strengthening enablers. Therefore, projects like these fit the transformation strategies of the blueprint to make Malaysia a resilient global tourism destination.





## WHY MALAYSIA SERIES



# PacTech: Packaging Technologies

# 15 years in Malaysia and still counting



As a world leader in wafer level packaging technologies (WLP) and advanced packaging equipment manufacturing, PacTech has over 25 years of experience in semiconductor and electronic manufacturing industry. With its leading-edge technologies, PacTech has been a reliable partner to many global players including IDMs, OEMs and fabless design houses around the world.

Since the establishment in Germany in year 1995 as a spin-off from the federal scientific Fraunhofer-IZM, PacTech has been expanding its footprint in the international arena by setting up PacTech USA in 2001, and searching further for a suitable location in Asia. In year 2008, with the attractive package and support from MIDA and the Malaysian government, PacTech has settled down in Bayan Lepas, Penang, to operate as its regional hub to support the Asian customers.

This year PacTech Asia is celebrating its 15 years anniversary and taking a lookback into the journey in setting up our Asian facility in Malaysia. It has been a fruitful journey despite the initial challenges in setting up the site. As PacTech came to Malaysia

under pioneer status, the availability of local talent from similar technical field was scarce, however, there are abundant of Malaysians with good education level and multi-lingual background, where PacTech has managed to build up its local team to cover site operation. As of today, the company has nearly 200 employees in PacTech Asia, with 98% of them are Malaysians which consists offsite directors, and over 50% of the employees have been awarded the long-service award



## WHY MALAYSIA SERIES

Setting foot in Asia has helped PacTech to grow remarkably, where PacTech Asia is now the largest subcontracting site for its WLP division among all PacTech sites after two major capacity and capability expansions. The first expansion involved the increase of capacity in its core technologies of electroless plating and solder bumping. PacTech offers a unique turnkey solution in electroless plating including WLP technologies subcontracting services, in-house design and manufacturing, fully automated plating line (Pacline) as well as fully qualified plating chemicals for a guaranteed process. The company also provides second source service out of all three WLP sites of PacTech. Its Ultra-SB2 machine platform with patented ball placement technology and wafer level yield enhancement feature enables zero solder bump yield loss. Meanwhile, the second expansion involved the installation of sputtering and electro-plating technologies for fine pitch RDL and Cu pillar bumps to enlarge the portfolio of WLP services.

As a pioneer in advanced packing equipment manufacturing, PacTech has been working relentlessly on its innovation and solutions for wafer level and advanced packaging, especially in technologies which can support the worldwide development in miniaturisation and heterogeneous integration, whereby the company has over 165 patents to-date and still counting.

Looking forward into the future of PacTech in Malaysia, we would like to continue the capacity expansion in WLP services following the growing demand, thanks to the stable geo-political situation and stimulation in the semiconductor and electronic manufacturing supply chain. At the same time, PacTech wishes to bring in its advanced packaging technologies of laser assisted solder connection and assembly technologies.





# **GOING GLOBAL SERIES**



When it comes to designing and building manufacturing facilities that are not only functional but also innovative and sustainable, KCLA, a Malaysian-based architectural design and engineering firm, is in a league of its own. With a portfolio of numerous successful projects for well-known manufacturing plants, the firm has established itself as a leader in the industry and a "go-to" choice for companies looking to build high-tech facilities.

One of KCLA's greatest strengths is its team of experts. With experienced key personnel working on similar projects and a deep understanding of technical know-how in design and project management, the firm can fast-track projects and deliver results promptly and efficiently. A balanced team with skills in competitive cost structure and superior technical capabilities, allows the firm to utilise optimal expertise on government requirements, project and commercial management, as well as value engineering.

KCLA's commitment to excellence is not limited to the functional and technical aspects of the facilities; the firm's architects and engineers are also experts in creating high-performance and visually stunning sustainable spaces. From using high-end materials to incorporating green building concepts, KCLA's facilities are functional. sustainable, and visually impressive.

As decarbonisation efforts gain momentum globally, KCLA is deeply committed to incorporating and promoting sustainability in its project. The firm understands the importance of minimising the carbon footprint of its projects and incorporates sustainable elements such as rainwater harvesting, solar Photovoltaic (PV) technology, and green roofs into its designs. They are also known for designing green buildings, which helps reduce the facility's environmental impact and long-term operating costs for the client.

KCLA uses sustainable materials and construction techniques, incorporating energy-efficient systems and renewable energy sources and promoting the health and well-being of the building's occupants. By designing green buildings, KCLA is also helping to create a healthier, more efficient, and more cost-effective space for its clients. commitment to sustainability is not limited to the

# **GOING GLOBAL SERIES**

design and construction of its projects but extends to its ongoing operations and maintenance. The company works closely with its clients to ensure that its facilities are environmentally responsible and that energy-efficient practices are implemented.

One of KCLA's most recent projects was designing and constructing a state-of-the-art wafer fab facility in Kulim. The building envelope is designed to improve energy consumption by minimising solar heat gain through the building envelope by implementing an Energy Management Control System. The roof of the building is designed to implement a solar photovoltaic (PV) system, and the external wall cladding consists of an insulated panel that provides excellent fire resistance, and thermal insulation, reducing the Overall Thermal Transfer Value (OTTV). Materials and finishes that contain low volatile organic compounds (VOC) and formaldehyde were used throughout the building's internal floor, wall, and ceiling coating as well as the sealants to minimise detrimental impact occupants' health.

What sets KCLA apart from other firms in the industry, is its capability to deliver a complex and challenging high-tech project on an accelerated schedule. KCLA collaborates strategically with global companies and local experts to deliver high-quality projects in architecture, civil and structural engineering, mechanical engineering, as well as landscape and interior design. KCLA has maintained good relationships with government





agencies, especially with MIDA, the government's principal agency responsible for overseeing and driving investment into Malaysia's manufacturing and services sectors. MIDA has been a valuable mentor for KCLA, providing support and guidance throughout the authority permitting process to ensure that projects meet all regulatory requirements and adhere to the time schedules. The guidance has allowed KCLA to deliver projects effectively and promptly. KCLA has also leveraged MIDA's extensive network of industry experts and professionals to stay current on the latest trends and technologies in the manufacturing sector. This has enabled them to design and build functional and efficient facilities and incorporate the latest advancements in technology.

KCLA's successful architecture design engineering projects for numerous well-known manufacturing plants in Malaysia are a testament to the company's expertise and commitment to excellence. The firm's strong relationship with the government agencies including MIDA, have been a critical factor in their success, providing valuable support and resources to help them deliver projects that meet increasingly demanding expectations. With the continued support of MIDA, KCLA is well-positioned to continue delivering high-tech manufacturing facilities for companies in Malaysia and beyond borders. This is a prime example of how a collaboration between the private and public sectors can lead to the success of a business and the country.







On 14 February 2023, the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) and the Malaysia Automotive, Robotics and IoT Institute (MARii) successfully hosted the inaugural Electric Vehicle (EV) Conference 2023, with the primary objective of showcasing the government's efforts in developing the EV industry and its ecosystem. The event garnered over 300 attendees from diverse industrial Automotive, including Electrical Electronics, Chemical & Advanced Material and Technology. Machinery Metal representatives from the Charger Point Operators and Logistics and Transportation Technology sectors were also actively participated in the conference.

The conference theme "Gearing Up for EV Revolution: The Malaysia Story" underscored the nation's potential to be a significant player in the global EV market. YB Senator Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz, the Minister of

International Trade and Industry (MITI), graced the occasion as the esteemed guest of honour. In his keynote address, YB Senator Tengku Zafrul highlighted the government's commitment to developing the automotive industry, particularly the EV industry, as part of its zero Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction by 2050, as outlined in the Twelfth Malaysia Plan (12MP).

Dignitaries present at the conference included YB Liew Chin Tong, the Deputy Minister of MITI, and Dato' Ahmad Suhaimi Bin Endut, Undersecretary, Public Asset Management Division, Ministry of Finance Malaysia (MOF). YB Nik Nazmi Bin Nik Ahmad, the Minister of Natural Resources Environment and Climate Change (NRECC), was also present and stressed that the development of the EV industry requires the collective efforts of all stakeholders and spans beyond the government initiative.





The conference centered on critical topics related to the EV industry's development in Malaysia. The first panel discussion saw prominent industry players, including Volvo, Samsung, Proton, and Eclimo, deliberating on market competitiveness in the EV industry. Their insights provided invaluable knowledge to the attendees and offered a holistic view of the challenges and opportunities in the EV market.

In line with the National Investment Aspirations (NIA) and the New Investment Policy (NIP), Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman, the CEO of MIDA, reaffirmed MIDA's commitment to positioning Malaysia as a sustainable investment destination by attracting leading players in the global value chain thus elevating Malaysia's position as the preferred technology partner for EV. Datuk Phang Ah Tong, the Chairman of MARii, further supported the assertion by highlighting the specific initiatives and directives outlined in the National Automotive Policy 2020 (NAP), the Low Carbon Mobility Blueprint 2021–2030 (LCMB), and the National Energy Policy 2022–2040 (NEP). These policies will strengthen the ecosystem

for EVs and energy-efficient vehicles (EEVs), potentially spurring technology transfer, improving localisation, and developing know-how for the local automotive industry in Malaysia.

Highlighted throughout the conference was the importance of aligning the directions of EV development in Malaysia with the national directives laid forth in the NAP, LCMB, and NEP. In light of this, MITI with MIDA as a co-secretariat spearheaded the establishment of the National Electric Vehicle Task Force (NEVTF) to oversee the issues and challenges that industry players are facing and ease implementation towards electrification.

Overall, the conference was a success, providing a platform for stakeholders in the EV industry to share ideas, insights and best practices to develop a robust EV ecosystem in Malaysia. It highlighted the importance of collaboration among industry players, the government and other stakeholders to realise the vision of a sustainable and thriving EV industry in Malaysia.





#### 3 February 2023

On 3 February 2023, MIDA, led by the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Promotion and Facilitation), Mr. Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja (third from left), alongside MIDA Domestic Investment Division Director, Mr. Sukri Abu Bakar (centre) and MIDA Kedah Director, Mr. Mohd Rushdan Mohd Ghazali (third from right) visited Free The Seed Sdn. Bhd., a local homegrown company located in Gurun, Kedah.



#### 11-12 February 2023

On 11 to 12 February 2023, MIDA Singapore Director, Mr. Vinothan Tulisi Nathzan (left row, fourth), participated in one-on-one meetings with several international companies based in Singapore, which involved in the large-scale data centre, maritime and petrochemicals industry. MIDA and the High Commissioner of Malaysia to Singapore participated in dialogue session with Singapore Manufacturing Federation (SMF) members led by YAB Chief Minister of Johor.



#### 13-14 February 2023

On 13 to 14 February 2023, MIDA, led by the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Promotion and Facilitation), Mr. Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja (right row, second), held a working visit to India.

The working visit included two seminar sessions with business communities in Mumbai and Chennai, as well as one-to-one meetings with potential investors. MIDA welcomes more Indian companies to invest in Malaysia and make it a hub for high-end technology products and services, particularly in the digital space.



#### 14 February 2023

On 14 February 2023, MIDA Business Services and Regional Operations Division Director, Ms. Rosedalina Ramlan (third from left) was invited as one of the VIP guests of honour at the opening of Siemens Energy's Cyber Security Operations Center (CSOC) in Cyberjaya.

MIDA joined a panel discussion on "Navigating Digitalisation and Cybersecurity in the Asian Pacific's Energy Transition," along with four other speakers from Global Resilience Federation, MDEC, Cybersecurity Malaysia, and Amazon Web Services.



#### 15 February 2023

On 15 February 2023, MIDA Green Technology Division Deputy Director, Mr. Afzanil Md Anuar participated as a speaker for the Huawei Malaysia Digital Power Summit 2023. Over 400 attendees participated the event, which highlighted the latest digital green technologies and solutions from Huawei, along with keynote presentations from leading figures in the sustainable and green industry.



#### 15 February 2023

On 15 February 2023, MIDA Executive Director of Manufacturing Development (Resource), Ms. Umarani Muniandy (fifth from left) and the Food Technology and Resource Based Industry Division Director, Ms. Manjit Kaur Balkar Singh (third from left) led a stimulating session with bio composite researchers namely from Universiti Putra Malaysia, University of Bangor-Wales, University of Toronto Canada; start-up company, Fiberstrong Sdn. Bhd.; manufacturer, Parkside Flexible UK and material science consultant, Nextek, Australia.

The session explored bio-based activities in optimising agriculture waste and recycled materials with the successful patented technology developed by these researchers who are now seeking investors to take up the commercialisation of their prototypes.



#### 15 February 2023

On 15 February 2023, MIDA delegation, led by the Machinery and Metal Technology Division Director, Ms. Zakiah Sajidan (front) visited NS BlueScope Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. in Kapar, Selangor. NS BlueScope is a premium coated steel manufacturer that offers tested and genuinely long-lasting coated steel for the building and construction industry. The company is actively investing in various areas, including innovative technologies and line improvements, sustainability and green initiatives and digitalisation.



#### 15 February 2023

On 15 February 2023, MIDA Singapore Director, Mr. Vinothan Tulisi Nathzan (centre) participated as the speaker for the Dialogue session on "Sustainable Transportation for Future Cities: Linking Malaysia (Johor)-Singapore for Investment" organised by AMCHAM Singapore and Tropicana Industrial Park. He shared the benefits and importance of sustainable connectivity for both countries, Malaysia and Singapore, through Rapid Transit System (RTS) or Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) or any future public transport modes that will promote economic growth at the regional level.



#### 16 February 2023

On 16 February 2023, MIDA Executive Director of Investment Policy Advocacy (Services), Mr. Jeyasigan Nair (left) was invited as a speaker for the Knowledge Transfer Programme IQNet SR10 Social Responsibility Scheme organised by SIRIM QAS International. MIDA presented on the integration of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) in promoting investments in Malaysia which aligns well with the NIP and demonstrates MIDA's commitment to developing ESG practices in all investment activities towards achieving a carbon-neutral Malaysia by 2050.



#### 16 February 2023

On 16 February 2023, MIDA Chairman, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob (fourth from left) together with MIDA Istanbul held a briefing session with Al Hidayah Group. The meeting focused on exploring potential collaboration between Malaysia and Turkey in the manufacturing sector, with a particular emphasis on machinery, automotive, defense and oil and gas. The discussions were aimed at strengthening economic ties between the two countries and identifying areas where they can work together to promote mutual growth and prosperity.



#### 17 February 2023

On 17 February 2023, MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Promotion and Facilitation), Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja (first row, left) attended the Malaysian-German Business Roundtable to discuss supply chain diversification, free-trade agreements and Malaysia's sustainability efforts, in conjunction with a three-day visit by the German Federal President, H.E. Frank-Walter Steinmeier.

MIDA highlighted the importance of MIDA offices in Frankfurt and Munich in facilitating investments and promoting Malaysia's position as an alternative base for companies seeking to ensure the resilience of their supply chains.



#### 18 February 2023

On 18 February 2023, MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Promotion and Facilitation), Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja (second from right) and MIDA Penang Director, Mr. Muhammad Ghaddaffi Sardar Mohamed (left) attended Elna PCB's groundbreaking ceremony in Seberang Perai Tengah, Penang.

Taiwan-based Elna PCB's latest reinvestment will enhance the transfer of technology and knowledge, as well as foster more local supply chain partnerships, leading to an even stronger industry ecosystem in Malaysia.



#### 21 February 2023

On 21 February 2023, MIDA Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman (fourth from left) witnessed the announcement of an exciting development of KL International Hospital (KLIH) within the mixed development of KL Wellness City. The new project will offer a fully comprehensive and integrated ecosystem of healthcare services including wellness and fitness facilities; and is set to be in operation in the first quarter of 2026, generating over 3,000 job opportunities.



#### 21 February 2023

On 21 February 2023, MIDA Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman (fourth from left) witnessed the launching of the Malaysia Semiconductor Industry Association's (MSIA) first-ever Electrical and Electronic (E&E) Survey for 2022.

The event was officiated by the Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI), YB Liew Chin Tong (centre), at MIDA Sentral. The MSIA 2022 E&E Survey was produced in collaboration with Deloitte Malaysia and provides valuable insights from industry experts aimed at enhancing Malaysia's position in the global semiconductor supply chain.



#### 21 February 2023

On 21 February 2023, MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Promotion and Facilitation), Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja (second) was invited to speak at Citi's Pan ASEAN Forum 2023: "Expanding and Investing in ASEAN", organised by Citigroup Global Markets Asia Limited.

MIDA provided a comprehensive overview of its role as the principal investment promotion and development agency in Malaysia, driving investments into the manufacturing and services sectors. The session was attended by 120 participants, including Citi Global Platinum Corporate Clients and institutional clients, all keen on expanding and doing business in ASEAN.



#### 21 February 2023

On 21 February 2023, MIDA Executive Director (Investment Promotion), Ms. Najihah Abas (second from right) received a courtesy visit from the Ambassador of Belgium to Malaysia, His Excellency Peter Van Acker. During the meeting, MIDA presented its roles and undertakings as Malaysia's principal investment promotion agency, and His Excellency shared insights from his engagements with Belgian investors who are interested in leveraging Malaysia to grow and expand their presence in the region. The meeting was a step towards fostering closer working ties with Belgian counterparts to attract more investments into Malaysia.



#### 22 February 2023

On 22 February 2023, MIDA Green Technology Division Director, Mr. Mohd Riduan Abd. Rahman (centre) and MIDA Melaka Director, Mr. Jaibalan Harirajan (left) jointly organised a Domestic Specific Project Mission (DSPM) in Melaka, where they met with Infineon Technologies (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd., Vishay Semiconductor Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. and Honda Logistics Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. These companies are actively seeking avenues to reduce their Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. Infineon Technologies, as a proud member of RE100, has pledged to procure 100% renewable electricity across its global operations by 2025.



#### 22 February 2023

On 22 February 2023, MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Development), Ms. Lim Bee Vian delivered the opening remarks at the "Teh Tarik Session on Investment Opportunities in Kedah Rubber City (KRC)", held at MIDA Sentral. The event aimed to update participants on the latest developments and investment prospects available at KRC, a one-stop center for rubber industry players. Over 130 participants, including the Kedah State Executive Councilor, YB Dato' Wira Dr. Ku Abd Rahman Ku Ismail attended the session.



#### 22 February 2023

On 22 February 2023, MIDA Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman delivered a speech at the launch of Oppstar's prospectus, a landmark occasion for one of Malaysia's most innovative semiconductor companies.

The Domestic Investment Coordination Platform (DICP) is a key initiative under the Domestic Investment Division to support SMEs seeking funding through various channels, including banks, alternative financing solutions and initial public offerings (IPO).



#### 22-23 February 2023

On 22 to 23 February 2023, MIDA Executive Director of Manufacturing Development (Resource), Ms. Umarani Muniandy (second from left) represented MIDA as a panelist on the EU-Indo Pacific Regional Energy Conference.

MIDA showcased Malaysia's innovative energy solutions that prioritise green energy, energy efficiency, and conservation measures. During the session, MIDA also emphasised the Malaysian government's commitment to promoting an energy mix that prioritises green energy, energy efficiency, and conservation measures.



#### 24 February 2023

On 24 February 2023, the President and Chief Executive Officer of J&T Recycling Corporation, Mr. Tetsuo Tsuyuguchi (fifth from left) met MIDA team led by its Executive Director (Services Development), Ms. Zuaida Abdullah (centre) to update the company's business plan for waste management in Japan and discuss future projects in Malaysia.

J&T Recycling Corporation (Japan) and JFE Engineering (Malaysia) have teamed up with Berjaya Enviro Holdings to develop an integrated facility for the treatment and management of Scheduled Waste in Malaysia. The collaboration has led to the establishment of J&T Berjaya Alam Murni Sdn. Bhd., which will spearhead the development of a Sustainable Scheduled Waste Treatment Center (SSWTC) at Bukit Tagar, Selangor.



#### 26-27 February 2023

On 26 to 27 February 2023, MIDA Singapore Director, Mr. Vinothan Tulisi Nathzan (fourth from right) participated in the factory visits and meeting with potential companies in the area of electrical and electronics, medical device and food and beverages.

MIDA Singapore also organised a round table session led by YB Loh Sze Hee, the Chairman of the Perak State Tourism, Industry, Investment and Corridor Development Committee with companies, Singapore Business Federation and Enterprise Singapore to promote Perak as an investment destination.



#### 28 February 2023

On 28 February 2023, MIDA Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment Development), Ms. Lim Bee Vian (second from left), Chief Minister of Penang, YAB Tuan Chow Kon Yeow (fourth from left), and Greatech Technology Berhad Top Management came together to celebrate a significant milestone in the expansion of Greatech's manufacturing capabilities. Greatech's new plant represents a positive development for Malaysia, as it has the capability to develop factory automation systems, modules, and components for electric vehicles (EV), solar energy, and medical devices.



# **NEWSLINKS**

#### MIDA IN THE NEWS

- MIDA: China Leads FDI Contribution With One-Third Of Total RM163b, While Johor The Biggest Beneficiary
- MIDA Has 249 Projects With Potential Investments Of RM14.6 Bln In Pipeline
- Zafrul: Malaysia Attracted RM264.6b Approved Investments In 2022, Second Largest Ever Recorded
- MIDA on track to secure RM70 bil target for digital investments
- MIDA: Malaysia poised to become major regional logistics hub
- MIDA-approved FDI at RM392.9b for 2018-2021, says deputy minister
- Malaysia's Approach towards Renewable Energy
- The Inaugural Electric Vehicle (EV) Conference In Malaysia Themed Gearing Up For EV Revolution: The Malaysia Story Is A Success
- Elna PCB Deepens Root In Penang With RM1 Billion Expansion Plan
- <u>Kuala Lumpur's Integrated Medical Wellness City to Welcome New KL International Hospital, Providing</u> Unmatched Healthcare Services
- Gaw Capital Partners and A3 Capital Jointly Form a JV Platform with the Launch of the first Infinaxis

  <u>Data Centre in Malaysia</u>
- Greatech Technology Berhad Marks Major Milestone with RM1.3 Billion Investment in Batu Kawan IV (BK IV)

#### MALAYSIA RANKING

Malaysia is top Southeast Asian country in Drone Readiness Index 2023

#### FCONOMIC NEWS

- Labuan Corp outlines strategy to attract foreign investors
- Malaysia, Singapore reaffirm bilateral cooperation in 3 areas
- Malaysia, Thailand to ink four MoU on energy, digital economy
- Govt supports establishment of innovative, high-growth companies, says PM Anwar
- Malaysia's efforts to improve compliance with WTO bearing fruits: MITI
- NCER identifies six destinations to promote investment opportunities
- Onn Hafiz: Johor has potential to receive RM10 to RM15 bln investment from Singapore-based int'l companies
- Malaysia's economy can be revitalised through policies, national initiatives, says King
- Johor looking to woo more foreign investors
- Malaysia can achieve high-income nation status as early as 2026 if growth continues at 4%-5% Rafizi
- Dutch, Australian companies express interest to invest in Johor Onn Hafiz
- Anwar meeting with US trade rep centres on economic cooperation, quality investment
- Malaysia, US reaffirm commitment to strengthen bilateral economic ties MITI
- Sarawak welcomes Aussie firms to explore investment opportunities
- Malaysia an important location for German firms to diversify businesses: German President

## **NEWSLINKS**

- Selangor govt expects foreign investment in 2022 to hit RM12b
- Malaysia in negotiations to upgrade Asean-China Free Trade Area MITI
- Tengku Zafrul: Malaysia to continue focusing on managing external challenges this year
- Economic corridor authorities bag RM101.43b in committed investments in 2021-2022: Rafizi
- KKIP expected to have more investment and development
- Malaysia welcomes investment and trade in energy industry: Rafizi
- Kedah Rubber City targets RM2 billion new investment in 2023
- Sarawak's SCORE records investments worth RM102.36 bln as of 2022, says Hanifah
- Govt to improve procedures of doing business, accelerate investment efforts
- New Treasury sec-gen says incentives in Budget 2023 comprehensive and caters to all industries
- Australia committed to building strongest ties with Malaysia
- Sabah attracted investments worth RM33bil in 2022, says Hajiji

#### **INDUSTRY NEWS**

- Malaysia poised to become automotive hub for Asean market: Tengku Zafrul
- Airod, Indonesian partner eye MRO business
- Tech: US-China tensions open door to Simmtech's diversification to Malaysia
- Pharmaniaga successfully installs Malaysia's first pre-filled syringe filling line
- Top German RV industry companies visit ECER
- Vitrox to bolster ops amid semiconductor downturn in preparation for strong rebound
- GUH ventures into EV business to expand revenue base
- Hong Seng Consolidated acquires Alliance EV to capture EV adoption in Malaysia
- Al tech like ChatGPT to spur semiconductor makers
- Tengku Zafrul: Govt looking into strong policies to ramp up Malaysia's EV sector
- Malaysia's automotive sales to remain resilient in 2023: Tengku Zafrul
- Malaysia commits to attracting investments in EV
- AME Elite to build Bucher Emhart Glass's RM108 mil manufacturing facility in Johor
- Elna PCB expands operations with new RM1b manufacturing facility
- MITI wants more affordable electric vehicles brought into the country
- Opening of US-based company in Johor will boost investments, job opportunities, says exco member
- Tengku Zafrul: RM14.7 bln investments approved in EV ecosystem from 2018 to Sept 2022
- Tengku Zafrul: MITI in talks with Proton, Perodua to expedite production of national EVs
- Malaysia can be top regional MRO service provider, says Zahid
- MITI reviewing New Industrial Master Plan 2030 to boost industrial development
- Greatech Technology invests RM1.3b in fourth manufacturing plant in Batu Kawan

# **NEWSLINKS**

#### >>> SFRVICES NEWS

- Strengthening skills supply is key to build resilience for IR4.0 Ideas
- Cypark gets nod to operate SMART waste-to-energy plant in Port Dickson
- 5G connectivity enables seamless technology in drone ecosystem Aerodyne
- Malaysia looking to explore next gen technology with the US
- Malaysia well placed for tech-driven growth: Juwai IQI CEO
- Malaysia to develop a sustainable digital economy ecosystem
- Cypark signs MOU to operate specialist hospital in Johor
- Sarawak's commitment to sustainable green city
- Langkawi Development Authority targets RM1b investment this year
- Malaysia's drone industry can reach up to RM12.13 bil in market value this year Ahmad Maslan
- Malaysia targets to have 4,000 EV charging points this year: MITI
- Artificial intelligence set to be the next tech pillar of investments
- All sectors should adopt digitalisation to grow and stay competitive
- Penang back as a magnet for healthcare travellers
- Sunview ventures into biogas renewable energy industry
- Govt to announce soon major digital investments in Malaysia: Rafizi
- Private hospital with investment of RM860 mil to be built in KL Wellness City
- AWS: Skilled digital workers contribute US\$105b to Malaysia's annual GDP
- Gaw Capital Partners, A3 Capital to invest jointly in internet data centres
- MGTC expects Gita, Gite incentive period extension to spur green investment, EV sector
- PT Resources inks MOU to jointly develop RM1 bil supply chain park in Kuantan

#### **SCHOBAL NEWS**

• Factories in SE Asia are firing up as China reopens

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#### **OUR COMMUNICATION TOOLS**



#### **MIDA WEBSITE**

With more than 59,000 average visits per month, our website provides useful and relevant information, serving as a reference for potential investors in doing business in Malaysia.

Homepage: RM1,500 per week

#### **E-NEWSLETTER**

With more than 36,000 registered subscribers and growing, our monthly English e-Newsletter contains the latest industry and services updates, as well as activities held throughout the month.

Back cover RM10,000 per issue Full page: RM8,000 per issue Half page: RM6,000 per issue Quarter page: RM3,500 per issue





## **DIGITAL SIGNAGES**

Our digital signages are situated within our HQ building. Located in the heart of Kuala Lumpur, MIDA's headquarters sees hundreds of visitors through its lobby every day.

#### LCD TV: RM3,000 per month

#### Location

- 1. MIDA Lobby, Ground Floor
- 2. Business Information Centre (BIC), Level 2
- 3. Corporate Reception Floor, Level 18
- 4. CEO's Office, Level 30

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HALL TYPES		GOVERNMENT	PRIVATE	ROOM TYPES	
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BANQUET HALL (230 PAX)	Inclusive of:  •Basic AV System	RM3,000	RM3,500	USA ROOM (25 PAX)	Inc
PERDANA + BANQUET HALL	Inclusive of:  •VIP Holding Room  •PC Room  •Basic AV System	RM7,500	RM9,000	JAPAN ROOM (50PAX)	Inc
F&B PACKAGES		GOVERNMENT	PRIVATE	F&B PACKAGES	
Α	Inclusive of: •Refreshment •Tea Break •Lunch •Hi-Tea	From RM	100 / Pax	Α	Inc
В	Inclusive of: •Refreshment •Tea Break •Hi-Tea	From RM80 / Pax		В	Inc
С	Inclusive of: •Refreshment •Tea Break/Hi-Tea	From RM	150 / Pax	С	Inc

PRIVATE MEETING ROOM				
ROOM TYPES		GOVERNMENT	PRIVATE	
BOARD ROOM (30 PAX)	Inclusive of:  •VIP Holding Room  •VIP Lounge  •AV System	RM2,000	RM2,500	
USA ROOM (25 PAX)	Inclusive of:  •Basic AV System	RM1,500	RM1,850	
JAPAN ROOM (50PAX)	Inclusive of: •Basic AV System	RM1,500	RM1,850	
F&B PACKAGES		GOVERNMENT	PRIVATE	
Α	Inclusive of: •Refreshment •Tea Break •Lunch •Hi-Tea	From RM100 / Pax		
В	Inclusive of: •Refreshment •Tea Break •Hi-Tea	From RM80 / Pax		
С	Inclusive of: •Refreshment •Tea Break/Hi-Tea	From RM50 / Pax		

TRAINING ROOM			
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\*F&B by MIDA's panel caterers

#### **VISIT US NOW**



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# ABOUT MIDA



MIDA is the government's principal investment promotion and development agency under the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) to oversee and drive investments into the manufacturing and services sectors in Malaysia. Headquartered in Kuala Lumpur Sentral, MIDA has 12 regional and 21 overseas offices. MIDA continues to be the strategic partner to businesses in seizing the opportunities arising from the technology revolution of this era. For more information, please visit www.mida.gov.my and follow us on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, LinkedIn, Youtube and TikTok.

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