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Issue

MIDA

INVEST **MALAYSIA** E-NEWSLETTER

A MONTHLY INDUSTRY UPDATE FOR GLOBAL INVESTORS AND MORE!



SPECIAL FEATURE

Caring through
Sustainability

HIGHLIGHTS

Trade and Investment Mission to the United
States of America Covering Washington DC,
San Francisco, Seattle and Los Angeles

SERVICES

Ramatex Leading by
Example in
Advocating ESG

From the CEO's Desk: Datuk Arham Abdul Rahman

To our esteemed partners and stakeholders,

I am excited to share MIDA's latest **INVEST MALAYSIA** edition with you!

The Government's Trade and Investment Missions (TIM) have been instrumental to our efforts in drawing potential investments into Malaysia and to achieving closer bilateral ties with several important trading nations. MITI's recently concluded TIM to The United States of America (US) – led by the Senior Minister and Minister of International Trade and Industry, YB. Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali gained new ground in economic and bilateral relationships as Malaysia looks forward to taking our economic relationship with the US to the next level.

Our recent TIM comes at a time when cooperation and collaboration to boost investment is more crucial than ever. Several American companies have conveyed deep interest in considering Malaysia as their next destination of business expansions. These companies have pledged an astounding RM16.52 billion worth of high-value, capital-intensive projects that will boost our local socio-economic development initiatives.

The TIM to the US acknowledged the thriving economic ties and partnership between our countries as American companies continue to invest in Malaysia's industrial growth. The mission was coincided with the US-ASEAN Special Summit 2022 in Washington DC which had the presence of The Right Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Ismail Sabri bin Yaakob.

The TIM delegates met several high-value companies, including Texas Instruments, Indium, Boston Scientific, Insulet, Ferrotec Corporation, Microsoft, Amazon Web Services (AWS), Space X, and Cue Health, covering (4) four major cities namely Washington DC, San Francisco, Seattle and Los Angeles.

The Government has revamped MIDA's outreach strategies and such transformation has been strategic to our efforts to draw new investments interest from companies based in the US. These companies have expressed their commitments to expanding their operations and footprint in Malaysia during this 10-day US TIM. The Government also acknowledges the importance of environmental, social and governance (ESG) as a sustainable business model, using alternatives sources for production to remain competitive as global manufacturers and to gain international market access.

Under the Highlights section, our editorial encompasses, updates on the Government's facilitation for research and development (R&D) activities and incentives to drive Malaysia's aspiration to become a sustainable, high-income economy between 2024 and 2028. This I believe will be of great interest to our readers.



Meanwhile, in the Industry section, we enlighten our readers with highlights of the growth of our palm oil industry. The section focuses on ESG implementation and its role in global food security.

In the Services section, readers will be inspired with the success story of Ramatex Textiles in championing ESG in the textiles sector. Such measures include Ramatex's effort to improve its operations and manufacturing process with sustainable features to protect its people and mitigate environmental impact. These features include using recycled textile waste and launching its biomass project.

The **Why Malaysia** section entices readers with news of the arrival of a British medical equipment manufacturer, Smith+Nephew, into Penang. This section highlights the achievement of the company's manufacturing plant in reaching its goal of Zero Waste-to-Landfill in such a short duration.

The **Going Global** column gives readers an insight into Smart Glove's R&D efforts to produce cutting-edge, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly protective gear solutions to meet the export demand for a global market.

Finally, the **Special Feature** column delves deeper into the Government and private sector initiatives to increase R&D activities and implement ESG policies in all their undertakings.

Sustainability has been a part of Malaysia's DNA and we must pursue a green strategy as we build a resilient nation for the future. As global trade picks up speed and investments ramp up, many investors – MNCs, SMEs, and even governments – are refocusing on smart R&D and ESG in their expansion projects.

My Dear Friends,

Keeping our eyes on the road of the new normal ahead, MIDA is optimistic that Malaysia is on the right trajectory towards sustainable recovery and greater growth.

We will remain consistent in our mandate to promote Malaysia as the pre-eminent preferred investment destination for investors, domestic and foreign alike.

Together, we build sustainable, digital and resilient Malaysia.

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

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HIGHLIGHTS

01



8 - 18 May 2022

Trade and Investment Mission to the United States of America Covering Washington DC, San Francisco, Seattle and Los Angeles

The Trade and Investment Mission (TIM) is one of the Government's main initiatives to attract investments into Malaysia. Over the years, these missions have attracted many investment projects. More than 5,000 companies from over 40 countries have made Malaysia as their preferred location for their manufacturing and related services operations in various sectors.

In 2021, the United States (U.S.) was Malaysia's third (3rd) largest trading partner and export destination, as well as the fourth (4th) largest source of imports ; where else Malaysia is the U.S.' 17th largest trading partner. In terms of investment, the country is Malaysia's fourth (4th) largest source of foreign direct investment based on immediate source of investment.

The TIM to the United States of America (USA) took place from 8 to 18 May 2022 and covering four (4) major cities – Washington DC, San Francisco, Seattle and Los Angeles. The mission was led by

YB. Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, Senior Minister and Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI), together with MIDA, which was represented by Datuk Arham Abdul Rahman the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), and other agencies. The TIM also involved visits to manufacturing facilities and one-on-one business meetings with prominent American companies.

In our continuous efforts to attract quality investments into the country and further improve trade performance, the TIM focused on finalising high-value investment and export opportunities as well as creating high-income jobs in various sectors, including electrical and electronics (E&E), medical devices, steel technology, telecommunications, data center services and furniture products.

The TIM to the USA was aimed to acknowledge the long-standing economic ties and partnership with American companies that have provided significant

impetus for Malaysia's industrial growth. During this mission, H.E. Brian McFeeters, the U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia, joined in one of a series of meetings with the U.S. Government counterpart as well as participated in the meetings held with some of the top US-based companies. This is an important testament that shows the importance of the U.S. Government in strengthening bilateral relations with Malaysia, especially in the economic sector.

The TIM was also organised in-conjunction with the US-ASEAN Special Summit 2022 which was attended by The Right Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Ismail Sabri bin Yaakob on the 12 and 13 May 2022.

Committed Investment in 2022

The TIM successfully secured a total of RM16.52 billion in committed investment for 2022. These companies have also expressed their commitment to not only injecting new investments in Malaysia, but also to ensuring the transfer of new technology, high-value job creation, training and upskilling opportunities, ecosystem creation and the involvement of local universities and industries, particularly among small and medium enterprises (SMEs) actively involved in the supply chain.

The TIM delegates met several high-value companies. To name few of the companies including:

Texas Instruments, a US-based global semiconductor company plans to increase its investment in Melaka.

Insulet, a medical device company that, among others, produces Omnipod, a high-tech device that enables diabetics to inject insulin automatically. During the first 5 years, it is anticipated that this project will generate employment opportunities for 2,000 people.

Boston Scientific is one of the world's leading manufacturers of medical devices, with headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts, and having a facility in Batu Kawan. The company is committed to continuing its expansion project to produce advanced medical devices for heart patients and making Malaysia a hub to produce such devices in the Southeast Asian region.

Ferrotec, a global supplier of materials, components, and precision system solutions and a Tier 1 company in the semiconductor machinery supply chain, plans to establish a new manufacturing facility in Kulim Hi-Tech Park, Kedah.



▲ YB Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, Senior Minister and Minister of MITI (2nd from right) and YBhg. Datuk Arham Abdul Rahman, CEO of MIDA (right) meeting with Ferrotec Corporation, a world leading manufacturer of advanced materials & precision system solutions. Present during the meeting were H.E. Brian McFeeters (US Ambassador to Malaysia), Ms. Anil Fahriza Adenan, Consul General of Malaysia in Los Angeles, and Siobhan Das, CEO of AMCHAM Malaysia.



▲ YB Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, Senior Minister and Minister of MITI (left) handing over a plaque as a token of appreciation to Mr. Christopher Neil (Principal Manager Program at Microsoft). Beside him is Mr. Mark Leveck (Principle Technical PM Manager of Azure Engineering and Sustainability), Mr. Sheikh Manzoor Ghani (General Manager, Public Sector of Microsoft Malaysia), and YBhg. Datuk Arham Abdul Rahman, CEO of MIDA (far right).

During the TIM, the delegation had the opportunity to visit the facilities of many established global players such as Microsoft, Amazon Web Services and Space Exploration Technologies:

Microsoft

Under the Microsoft's Bersama Malaysia Initiative announced on 22 April 2021, Microsoft commits to training up to 1 million Malaysians by the end of 2023. This initiative will propel the local digital workforce to drive the nation's digital economic growth.

Amazon Web Services (AWS)

Amazon Web Services (AWS) in Seattle is committed in playing a part towards Malaysia's aspiration to become a digital economy-oriented nation that relies on cloud computing services. The company is looking into potential locations to expand and establish data centres in Malaysia.

Space Exploration Technologies (SpaceX)

Space Exploration Technologies (SpaceX) is a global space launch provider with internal design and manufacturing capabilities. SpaceX has developed Starlink which is a satellite-based internet constellation project that provides high-speed satellite internet access in both speed and latency, even at rural areas at a very low cost. Starlink is currently in discussion with the Malaysian Government on digital communication regulations. If the project is successfully developed, the Starlink service in Malaysia will be one of the first SpaceX projects in the region.

Another significant highlights of the TIM, was the handover of the approval letter by MIDA to TF AMD

during a Meet and Greet Session with the Prime Minister during his visit to Washington DC. TF AMD Microelectronics (Penang) Sdn. Bhd., a collaboration between TongFu Microelectronics (TFME) and AMD is expanding into a new facility to produce Advanced Integrated Circuit Based On 28nm to 3nm Process Technology. The project involves investments worth close to RM2.0 billion and additional employment of more than 2,000 Malaysians.



▲ Datuk Arham Abdul Rahman, CEO of MIDA (left) is handing over a letter of approval to Dato' Devinder Kumar, Executive Vice President, CFO and Treasurer of AMD (right).

The TIM to the US has proven the Malaysian Government unwavering commitment to stimulating the nation's economy through strategic investments and international trade globally. MIDA is optimistic and foresee that the TIM will increase Malaysia's visibility as a preferred investment hub, create more strategic opportunities and attract significant spill over to the country.

Redefining Research and Development towards Sustainable Development and Growth



It has been found that innovation fueled by research and development (R&D) has a profound impact on economic growth. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) estimates that one per cent increase in R&D spending could elevate the economy by 0.61 per cent. As such, many countries around the world are positioning R&D as an important key to fostering sustainable development and growth.

With increased emphasis on this segment, greater synchronisation or standardisation for the methodology of collecting R&D data is required towards facilitating cross-country comparisons, which could be a valuable source of information for policy makers. Being cognisant on this matter, the OECD issued the Frascati Manual, a comprehensive and internationally accepted guideline for collecting and reporting data on R&D.

Its introduction has enabled countries across the globe to adopt an acceptable definition of R&D, which indirectly contributes to intergovernmental discussion pertaining to good practices for science and technology policies. To align with the requirements under the Frascati Manual, Malaysia

through the Finance Act 2018 has introduced a new R&D definition as follows:

Research and Development means any systematic, investigative and experimental study that involves novelty or technical risk carried out in the field of science or technology, with the objective of acquiring new knowledge or using the results of the study for the production or improvement of materials, devices, products, produce, or processes, but **does not include**:

- a) quality control or routine testing of materials, devices or products;
- b) research in the social sciences or the humanities;
- c) routine data collection;
- d) efficiency surveys or management studies;
- e) market research or sales promotion;
- f) routine modifications or changes to materials, devices, products, processes, or production methods; or
- g) cosmetic modifications or stylistic changes to materials, devices, products, processes, or production methods.

Subsequently, the Finance Bill 2021 which was tabled in Parliament and unanimously passed on 23 December 2021, proposed amendments to the Promotion of Investments Act 1986 (PIA). Effective from 1 January 2022, the definitions of “Contract Research and Development Company” and “Research and Development Company” under Section 2 of the PIA require companies to be approved as a research and development (R&D) status company by the Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

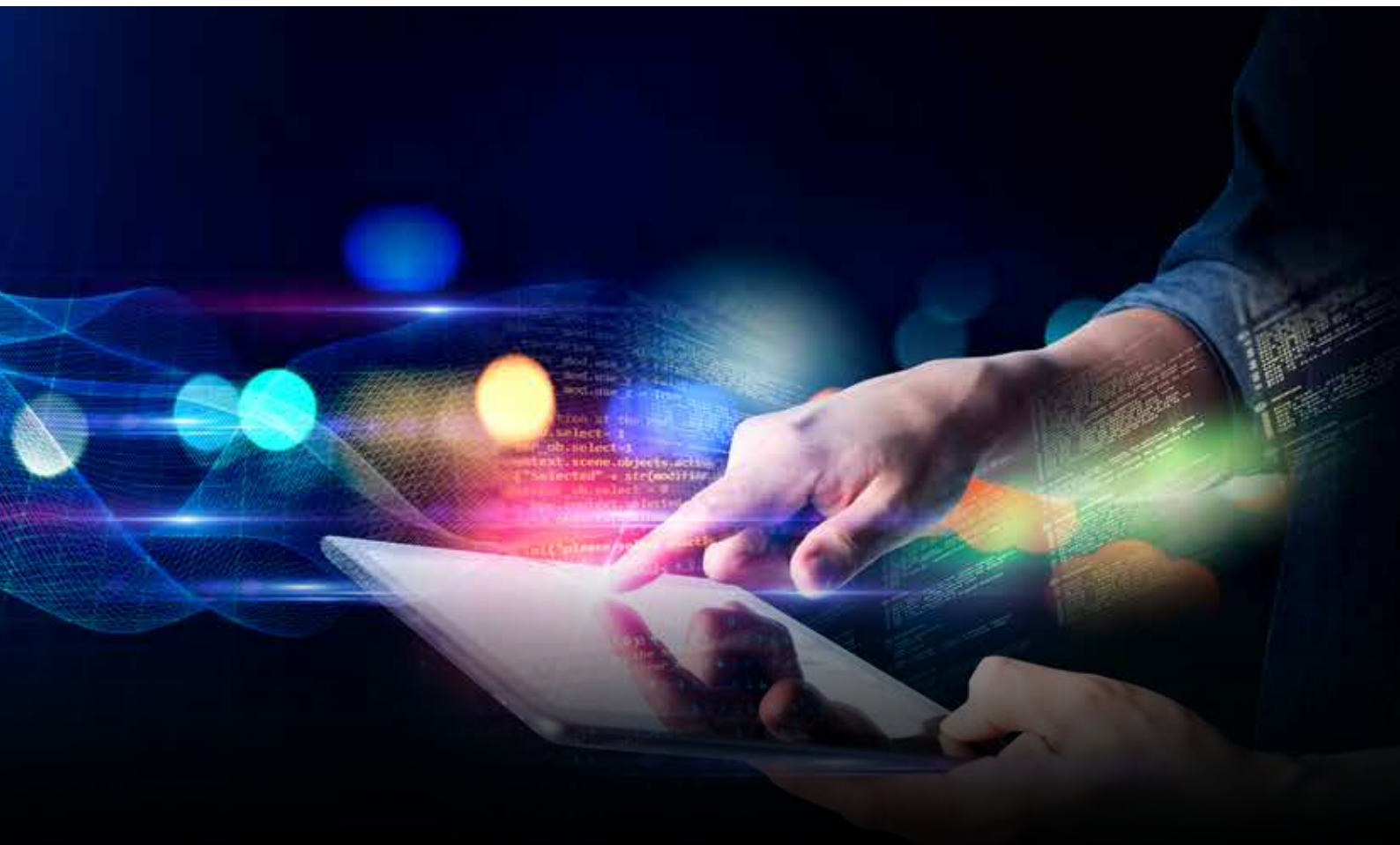
Companies in the business of providing R&D services namely, Contract R&D Companies and R&D Companies that wish to apply for R&D tax incentives will be granted R&D status (subject to MITI’s approval) for a period of five (5) years. Companies approved with this status may apply for extensions to the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA). However, the granting of the approval is subject to consideration by MITI and the Ministry of Finance.

The Finance Bill 2021 further provides that existing Contract R&D Companies and R&D Companies, which have been approved prior to 1 January 2022, and which intend to fall within the new definitions, are required to notify MIDA within the grace period

(between 1 January and 30 June 2022) for consideration. For this purpose, the companies are required to provide documents to prove that they are undertaking activities relating to R&D as defined under the PIA, and that they are complying with conditions imposed previously in their approval letters. Failure to do so will cause the companies to cease possessing their status as approved companies fulfilling the new definitions.

Moving forward, the implementation of this initiative will contribute towards orderly development of R&D activities in Malaysia. This augurs well with the emphasis on research, development, commercialisation, and innovation (R&D&C&I) as stipulated under the Twelfth Malaysia Plan, 2021– 2025 (12MP), as well as the National Investment Aspirations (NIA) that seek to enhance Malaysia’s economic complexity through local R&D&C&I. Furthermore, this initiative will complement the country’s drive to transition to a high-income economy between 2024 and 2028, as forecasted by the World Bank.

For more information, please contact Advanced Technology and Research and Development Division, MIDA.





INDUSTRY

02

Sustainable Development Goals: The Miracles Of Oil Palm

There are many reasons why this crop is of global importance

Oil palm (*Elaeis guineensis*) is the most important global oil crop, accounting for around 40 per cent of all traded vegetable oil. This second largest source of global edible oil has attained the International Sustainability and Carbon Certification for bio-based feedstocks, and renewables catering to energy, food, feed, and chemicals sectors.

Oil palm remains a crucial plantation crop for Malaysia as the country holds 25 per cent of the world's palm oil production capacity. Having been cultivated since the 1960s through a scheme to eradicate poverty among the rural population, palm oil plantations today sprawl over 5.89 million hectares across both Peninsular and East Malaysia, according to the Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB).

Oil Palm – to the Sustainable Rescue

An oil palm tree begins producing fruits in bunches after 30 months of field planting, and has 20 to 30 years of economic life. Tenera, a mixed hybrid between dura and pisifera, is the common species planted here for its high ratio of palm oil and palm kernel oil yields.

Oil palm trees are highly productive for their natural, versatile, healthy, and cost-effective raw materials as well as abundance of supply. There are multiple uses for each tree part, from the fruits to processed palm oil residues in addition to possessing the ability to produce bioenergy/biofuels. The crux starts with the oil palm fruit, which produces palm oil (produced from the mesocarp), and palm kernel oil (produced from the kernel).

The Different Parts of Oil Palm Tree



Enriching Source in Food Based Products

The trans-fat-free and cholesterol-free palm oil boast a balanced ratio of unsaturated and saturated fatty acids. Its genetics contain 40 per cent oleic acid (monounsaturated fatty acid), 10 per cent linoleic acid (polyunsaturated fatty acid), 45 per cent palmitic acid, and five (5) per cent stearic acid (saturated fatty acids). This composition results in a cost-effective edible oil that is suitable for various food applications including being made into cooking/frying oil, shortening, margarine, and confectionery fats.

Its high resistance to oxidation results in a longer shelf life for products, raising its suitability for solid fat products and high demand from the liquid cooking oil segment, as well as industrial applications. Further downstream products that are blended with palm oil or palm kernel oil range from vegetable ghee (vanaspati), margarine and spreads, confectionery, and non-dairy products.

Malaysia accounted for 30 per cent or 15.6 million tonnes of global exports of palm oil and fats in 2021, with export revenue hitting RM106 billion due to the surge of global demand as economies recovered post-COVID-19.

A total of 451 companies are actively operating as oil palm millers, while 49 companies operate refineries to produce downstream oil palm products in Malaysia. Foreign investors include; Cargill, Unifuji, Wilmar, Rikevita, Adeka Foods, Golden Suntech, and Musim Mastika. These global players are increasing ventures into further development and formulating downstream palm oil food products.

In tandem with this, local palm oil producers such as Sime Plantation, IOI Corp, Kuala Lumpur Kepong, and Felda Global Ventures have ridden Malaysia's global leadership in the industry by becoming international suppliers and expanding their operations to other countries.

Government agencies such as MPOB continue to develop and market new niche applications, and palm oil enhancements. Its perfecter pilot plant and laboratory facilities are also rented out to manufacturers for preparation of new palm oil-based food product formulation and process optimisation. These include emulsion-based,

powdered and consumer foods such as pourable margarine, mayonnaise, soup-mixes, imitation cheese, and micro-encapsulated palm oil. In addition, new processes such as red palm oil or red palm olein have been infused into healthier cooking and salad oils.

Functional Derivatives in Oleo Chemical and Non-Food Products

Driving the growth of consumer products are the growing middle-income groups in Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America, especially in the cosmetics, and home and personal care markets. Basic oleochemicals (including fatty acids, fatty alcohols, methyl esters, and glycerine) constitute 99 per cent of the palm oil used in non-food downstream production.

The main raw materials used for basic oleochemicals in Malaysia are crude palm kernel oil (CPKO) and palm stearin; two (2) remarkable key ingredients in soaps, cosmetics, personal care products, candles, animal feed, and lubricating greases (for the processing of tinsplate and coating iron plates), as well as for use in the pharmaceutical industry and biofuels.

The majority of the industry players producing oleochemical products are established Malaysian companies. At the same time, some major global players, namely Emery, Kao, Procter & Gamble, Oleon, Evyap, and IFFCO are here to enliven the industry. The existence of these global players in Malaysia enhances the prosperity and diversity of the industry.

In embracing the climate change and global sustainability agenda, global industries are progressing into further palm oil research and potentiality, including specialty oleochemicals with broad applications, excellent product performance, are value-added recycles. These are safe for human use, and are environmentally compatible and biodegradable.

Palm Oil Fractions and Their Applications



Source: Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB)

Palm Biomass - Expanding Opportunities into Renewable Energy

The oil palm harvesting produces an enormous quantity of lignocellulosic biomass in large leaves of a palm tree or oil palm fronds and oil palm trunks at plantation sites. In addition, the extraction of palm oil from fresh fruit bunches results in a large quantity of waste in the form of palm kernel shells, empty fruit bunches, palm kernel cake, mesocarp fibres and palm oil mill effluent.

In Malaysia's case, more than 95 million tonnes of oil palm biomass were generated across the country in 2021, leading to the advancement of the biomass industry along with the increasing global demand for bioenergy. Palm-biomass has also

expanded its applications to cover raw materials for animal feed, furniture parts, paperboard, biopolymer, bioethanol, and vitamin ingredients.

Further downstream, the evolution of new technology allows for more beneficial outcomes from palm-biomass, where the recovery of oils, fatty acids, and other derivatives are made possible.

Palm biomass is even gaining attention in the Climate Change agenda. Malaysia is working to increase the share of renewable energy to 31 per cent of Malaysia's total energy generation capacity by the end of 2025, as part of its efforts to achieve carbon-neutral status by 2050. Presently, the country has the capability to produce more than 2,400 megawatts (MW) of biomass and 410 MW of biogas, which are equivalent to produce 82 MW and 113 MW of electricity, respectively.

The global renewable energy mandates by North Asian markets have also triggered higher interest from Japan and South Korea to set up manufacturing facilities in Malaysia to produce biomass pellets, thus driving oil palm stakeholders to pursue further measures and processes.

Product investments in this segment have been increasing, including three biomass pellets projects of RM152.5 million approved in 2021. Results are also showing through incremental of Malaysia's palm biomass exports from RM77 million in 2015 to RM222 million in 2020.

Strong Facilitation Efforts from the Government

The Malaysian Government extends its full support to companies wanting to invest in technology intensive processes to produce high-value add

palm oil products, apart from the utilisation of biomass to produce value added products. Accordingly, the project is eligible for Pioneer Status with income tax exemption of 70 per cent of statutory income for five (5) years or an Investment Tax Allowance of 60 per cent on qualifying capital expenditure incurred within a period of five (5) years, to offset against 70 per cent of statutory income in years of assessment (see the table below).

Global players are also welcomed to explore innovations in the oil palm and biomass ecosystem, as Malaysia is strongly aligned with the mission of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil in cultivating a biodiverse ecosystem throughout the palm oil supply chain.

Incentives for Eligible Palm Oil-based Products

General List

- ▶ Manufacture of palm oil products and their derivatives such as:
 - Oleochemicals or oleochemical derivatives or preparations;
 - Palm-based food products and ingredients; and
 - Palm-based nutraceuticals, constituents of palm oil, or palm kernel oil.
- ▶ Processed products from palm kernel cake, palm oil mill effluent, and palm biomass.

Small Scale

- ▶ Manufacture of oil palm products and their derivatives such as:
 - Processed products from palm oil;
 - Processed products from palm biomass/ waste/ by-products

Reinvestments by Existing Company (Section 4F)

- ▶ Resource-Based
 - Oil palm
- ▶ Oil Palm Biomass
 - Utilisation of oil palm biomass to produce value added products

Second Round Incentives for Investment by Subsequent Company Formed by Existing Company

- ▶ Palm Oil-Based Products

Other Selective Industries:

Incentives for selected industries under PIA 1986 - to promote the usage of oil palm biomass

Source: MIDA



SERVICES

03

Ramatex Leading by Example in Advocating ESG

Textile manufacturing conglomerate introduces projects in efforts to embrace movement in line with 12MP

The COVID-19 pandemic has raised the pressure on businesses to adapt and become more resilient in the face of adversity; where they face an increasing need for flexibility and creativity to achieve long-term sustainability as well as being prepared for future risks. In identifying risks and taking advantage of opportunities, many businesses are factoring environmental, social, and governance (ESG) strategies into their operations, to strike a balance between environmental sustainability, socio-economic development, and organisational policy.

Fortuitously, this adoption of ESG is in line with the objectives of the Twelfth Malaysia Plan, 2021-2025 (12MP) – specifically, pertaining to Chapter 8 (Advancing Green Growth for Sustainability and Resilience) and Chapter 9 (Enhancing Energy

Sustainability and Transforming the Water Sector). 12MP highlights Malaysia's commitment to becoming a net-zero carbon emission country by 2050. The importance of adopting a sustainable circular economy has been reinforced and will be implemented by integrating the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), and ESG principles into the decision-making processes.

Having said that, while the pandemic has pushed ESG practices into the spotlight, the movement itself and its implementation is not new in Malaysia, as demonstrated by Ramatex Textiles Industrial Sdn. Bhd. (Ramatex Textiles), a textile manufacturing company located in Batu Pahat, Johor that has been adopting ESG principles since 2011.

Ramatex Manufacturing Facility



From Humble Beginnings to Exporting Globally

Ramatex Textiles is one of the subsidiaries of Ramatex Group (Ramatex) which started its business with a knitting factory in 1976 in Singapore. In 1983, the company went on to establish a business in Parit Raja, Johor by renting three units of a three-storey shop lot with only three knitting machines. They achieved their next milestone in 1990 with the establishment of both Ramatex Textiles (as a textile manufacturer), and Gimmill Industrial (M) Sdn. Bhd. (Gimmill, as a garment manufacturer) in Batu Pahat, Johor.

Today, Ramatex has successfully expanded to become a vertically integrated business that covers textile manufacturing (spinning, knitting, dyeing, printing, and finishing) and made-up garments for export markets including the USA, the European Union (EU), Canada, Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan, Jordan, and ASEAN countries (Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam).

It is one of the key global supply chain providers of textile and garment manufacturing for international brands such as NIKE, Under Armour, and Fast Retailing (GU and Uniqlo). Over the past 10 years, Ramatex Textiles has increased its turnover from RM350 million in 2010 to RM1.2

billion in 2020, in addition to creating employment opportunities from 1,800 workers in 2010 to 3,700 workers in 2021.

ESG From the Root: Responsible Raw Material Sourcing

In line with 12MP, Ramatex has introduced several projects in its efforts to embrace ESG for the development of sustainable manufacturing and eco-innovation. Driven by the goal of environmental sustainability, the textile yarn manufacturer uses raw materials that are made from organic cotton, recycled waste, or a mix of both for its finished products.

Under the Responsible Sourcing Network (RSN) programme, the purchase of raw cotton is certified by the Better Cotton Initiative as part of efforts to help cotton farming communities survive and thrive while protecting and restoring the environment. One of RSN's most important initiatives is Yarn Ethically & Sustainably Sourced (YESS), which aims to examine and eliminate modern slavery from the cotton production and apparel supply chain.



▲ Biomass plant (left) and natural gas station (right)

Ramatex is recognised as YESS-aligned, as the company strives to only purchase cotton materials from sources that have been verified and are not involved in unethical cotton production practices. In addition, Ramatex is also certified by the Control Union with the Certification of Organic Content Standard, an international, voluntary standard that sets requirements for third party certification of certified organic input and chain of custody to increase organic agriculture production.

Focus on Recycled Textiles and Biomass

Other ESG initiatives by Ramatex include using raw materials from recycled textile waste such as recycled cotton, recycled polyester, PET chips, and fabric waste. Recycled textile waste can be generally defined as converting any waste into recycled products that can be reused in the manufacturing of textile products. This reuse helps to minimise the usage of new raw materials and reduces unnecessary waste generation to the environment, in line with Ramatex's circular economy investment plans.

The company also aims to increase its buyers' global sourcing of sustainable manufacturing, and has planned a major investment worth RM450 million by 2025. This is expected to contribute towards making Malaysia an eco-textiles and apparel manufacturing hub in Southeast Asia.

In line with improving and certifying its products, Ramatex places great emphasis on the utilities and services used in its production processes and their impact on the society and environment. In 2011, Ramatex invested RM100 million in a biomass project (Phase 1) as a total replacement for fossil fuels (coal and fuel oil) used in the production. This project has produced steam with approximately 958.7207 terajoules of thermal energy per annum, and targets to replace 22.9 million litres per year of fuel oil consumption. The biomass project helps to reduce adverse impact on the environment and achieve significant reduction of greenhouse gas of 74,204.98 total carbon dioxide (tCO₂) per year.

This biomass installation project and consumption resulted in a 39.43 per cent internal rate of return with the investment being fully regained within a mere two years. The energy cost savings on fuel is about RM39.4 million annually from switching fossil fuels to biomass. The ash by products from the combustion of biomass are sold to a third party to reprocess as raw materials for biofertiliser in the agriculture industry.

To combat the dust emissions polluting the environment caused by the burning of biomass waste, Ramatex installed an Air Pollution Control System which produces a quarterly Chimney Gas Emission Monitoring Report as their sustainability initiative.



▲ Awards and credentials received by Ramatex



Industry Recognition and Awards

Notably, in 2021, the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources announced Ramatex as the winner of the National Energy Awards 2021 under Category 2 Renewable Energy Off Grid (Thermal) and winner of ASEAN Energy Awards (AEA 2021) by ASEAN Centre of Energy under Renewable Energy Off Grid Category (Thermal).

Energy Efficient Efforts

Ramatex has reengineered its manufacturing process by installing Energy Efficient (EE) equipment that reduced its electricity usage by 53.74 per cent – equivalent to a reduction of 34,235.147 megawatt hours (MWh), and saving the company RM13 million per year.

Ramatex has also started to use natural gas, investing RM22 million in a biomass steam boiler to enhance the energy efficiency of steam production for the textiles dyeing and finishing process. The EE project will be enhanced with the installation of a co-generation (cogen) with a capacity of 9,330 kilowatt-electric (kWe) per hour, 25.6 metric tonnes of steam per hour, and 75.2 metric tonnes of hot water per hour for its existing production lines, all of which is estimated to reduce up to 18,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year.

When it comes to managing water usage, the company has introduced a zero-discharge policy by investing RM250 million in a wastewater treatment plan. This system collects or harvests all water streams, from the Industrial Effluent Treatment System, rainwater and domestic wastewater into one centralised collection pond system before being treated with a Reverse Osmosis System. The wastewater treatment plant has been recognised as a World Class Industrial Wastewater Recycling System and ranked first in Nike's Global Water Programme.

Ramatex is targeting to use 60 per cent of renewable energy (RE) by 2030, in order to fulfill its goal of being a future-ready sustainability manufacturing plant that facilitates ESG practices. The company plans to install solar systems with a total capacity of 39 MW for six factories in Batu Pahat which will generate up to 49,727 MW per

year of green energy; this will reduce an equivalent of 31,776 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions in the first year, and more than 635,520 tonnes of carbon dioxide over the next 20 years. This solar system is also expected to reduce the company's electricity bills by up to RM17 million per annum, thus contributing to a lowering of its carbon emission footprint.

Commitment to CSR

Additionally, Ramatex has emphasised the importance of the welfare of its employees by frequently launching Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Programmes. The company provides spacious dormitories – a total of 43 blocks of hostels as at 2021 – for employees who are working away from their home countries, and ensures that all workers live in a healthy and comfortable environment.

Ramatex also provides training and awareness programmes to various parties, including their stakeholders such as ministries, government agencies (MITI/ MIDA/ MATRADE/ Plan Malaysia/ DOE/ Local Authorities), academic institutions (YPHS/ School of Design and Media/ MATAC), and business communities (MTMA/ ACCIMBP/ MKMA), to create awareness, share knowledge, and technical know-how on all aspects of the textile industry.

During the pandemic in 2020, Ramatex donated 2.49 million pieces of disposable masks and 483,200 pieces of reusable face masks to all schools in Batu Pahat, Johor. The company also set up a Vaccination Centre, namely the PPV in Ramatex Batu Pahat under the Public-Private Partnership Industrial COVID-19 Immunisation Programme (PIKAS) for employees, and all industries within Batu Pahat, Kluang and Muar in Johor with 30,000 vaccine recipients (VR doses 1 and 2).

Additionally, Ramatex also prepared the National COVID-19 Immunisation Programme for 10,000 secondary and primary school students to speed up the national goal of achieving herd immunity. In both programmes, all the venues and facilities were provided by Ramatex without any charge.

With high technology advancement, increasing social awareness, and growing commitments to robust development strategies in green technology,

Malaysian companies such as Ramatex gives a clear indication that ESG adoption is the way forward to achieving the country's green goals.

MIDA continues to welcome strategic investments and collaborations in the green technology industry to further strengthen Malaysia's green ecosystem,

and concurrently build climate resilience, reduce global emissions by 45 per cent by 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

For more information, please contact the Green Technology Division of MIDA or visit www.mida.gov.my.



▲ Vaccination Centre



WHY MALAYSIA SERIES

04



Smith+Nephew

Advancing Sustainable Practices Locally For Global Results

Medical giant's Penang plant hits ESG goals four years ahead of schedule

British multinational company Smith+Nephew has long been known as a medical equipment manufacturing company, having been established in Hull, UK in 1856. With a presence in more than 100 countries, the company is focused on helping to restore people's bodies and their self-belief by using technology to take the limits off living, as attested by its corporate motto: "Life Unlimited".

Smith+Nephew aims to make a positive difference to patients' lives through its innovative product portfolio, as well as the invention and application of new medical technologies. In Orthopaedics its products are used to mend broken bones and replace worn or damaged hip and knee joints, in

Sports Medicine & ENT its technologies are used to repair soft tissue injuries, and in Advanced Wound Management its products treat hard to heal and chronic wounds.

In recognising Asia Pacific as a high growth region, the company decided to establish a manufacturing facility in Penang as part of its strategic decision to ensure a close proximity to its customers. Construction of the 250,000 square foot plant began in early 2020, where it is expected to ship its first production batches for Orthopaedic products before the end of 2022.

Zero waste goal achieved with zero time wasted

Since the completion of the construction, the Smith+Nephew Penang manufacturing plant has achieved the goal of Zero Waste-to-Landfill, whereby all waste produced are diverted from landfill disposal four years ahead of its corporate sustainability target. This is part of its effort to continually explore opportunities to create positive impacts to benefit the planet, the communities in which it operates in, and the products it produces. Among the targets it hopes to achieve are 100 per cent renewable electricity by the end of 2022, and Net Zero Carbon Emissions by 2045.

Achieving such an important goal at such speed was the result of Smith+Nephew's appointment of a local Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) team to develop a strategy and framework. Not only did the team achieve multiple objectives, including identifying waste streams, waste minimisation (refuse and reduce), and waste management (waste recycling, recovery, and waste-to-energy). It partnered with a local integrated waste management facility, allowing it to access the latest technologies and eco-friendly solutions to achieve sustainable waste management.

In December 2021, the United Nations Global Compact Network Malaysia and Brunei recognised Smith+Nephew Penang for being the first manufacturing company in Malaysia to achieve this ambitious goal. Smith+Nephew Penang's Managing Director, Mr. Mark Arthun attended the ceremony in Kuala Lumpur to receive the award in the category of SDG Benchmark 4: Zero Waste to Landfill and Incineration.

Caring for the Communities

The Smith+Nephew team is also taking the lead in sustainability and community activities by encouraging more industry players to act and commit to net zero carbon emission goals. Last year, they facilitated "Malaysia's Climate Action Week: Race to Net Zero Supply Chains", which was organised by the British Malaysian Chamber of Commerce, and the British High Commission. The team also received an AMCHAM CARES award from

the American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) for "Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)" for creating long term economic and social values between business operations and society.

In a more direct show of caring for these communities, the Smith+Nephew team also financially sponsored students from the Penang Skills Development Centre to be employed as trainee machinists upon graduation while contributing to the development of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) via the Penang Science Cluster with sponsorship arrangements in science fairs for primary and secondary students.

Additionally, in recognising the devastating impacts of the flood in Grik, Kedah and the COVID-19 pandemic, the team collaborated with charities, including Moment of PEACE and The Hope Branch to help affected families with pre-loved clothes and food bags.

Arthun who is also the Site Leader for Smith+Nephew Penang commented: "I am so proud of our team and especially our ESG team for their care, passion and dedication. They have worked tirelessly to achieve zero waste-to-landfill years ahead of schedule, and have always been quick to help our communities in need. We continue to explore new opportunities and collaborations to contribute to society while minimising our impacts on the environment."

Life Unlimited and the Three Cs: Care, Collaboration, and Courage

Smith+Nephew's sustainability strategy is built on its purpose of Life Unlimited, its strategic imperatives, and its culture pillars of Care, Collaboration and Courage. For this globe-spanning industry leader, Life Unlimited extends to the communities where its employees live and work.

Smith+Nephew says it demonstrates **Care** by respecting its global resources, minimising its impact on the environment, and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its employees.

Collaboration is achieved through a culture of teamwork based on mutual trust and respect; through transparent and respectful communication, and through the encouragement of different perspectives and leveraging of its global experiences to achieve the best outcomes.

Finally, **Courage** is demonstrated by the company setting ambitious goals to increase its volunteerism, reduce waste and CO2 emissions, as well as minimising its ecological footprint by operating responsibly and sustainably, so much so that in 2021, the company is committed to becoming net zero by 2045.

With a clear goal to minimise its waste streams at all of its sites around the world, and especially at its manufacturing locations, Smith+Nephew aims for best practices in waste management, where emphasis is placed on waste generated in-house and downstream, and throughout the life cycle of its products. This spans the raw materials purchased, the waste generated in its

manufacturing facilities, and the final destination of its products, with the company continuously identifying and implementing waste reduction measures at source through reuse and recycling opportunities, and finding ways to divert waste from landfill.

Smith+Nephew's 2021 growth has not had a material impact on its environmental footprint for waste. In fact, its total waste generated was two per cent lower than the previous year. In 2021, 79 per cent of the company's total waste was recycled, including waste diverted to energy recovery. This is in line with its aim to exceed 80 per cent recycling, where it is vigilantly looking for opportunities to eliminate landfill waste at key manufacturing locations (with the Penang manufacturing site being one of the first).

More information about Smith+Nephew's Sustainability Approach, please visit www.smith-nephew.com/sustainability.

Smith+Nephew





GOING GLOBAL SERIES

05



Where Quality Goes Hand In Hand With Innovation

Smart Glove's innovative products keep it at the top of the game

Ever since its establishment in 1995, glove manufacturer Smart Glove Holdings Berhad has gone on to become a globally-recognised leading innovator armed with a wealth of experience and expertise, whose products cater to various industries including medical, dental, surgical, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), cleanroom, and food and beverage (F&B).

Smart Glove's team of experts led by Founder and Executive Chairman, Mr. Foo Khon Pu has pioneered several patented, first-of-their-kind

gloves for the global industry, including the production of nitrile medical gloves in Malaysia.

The company constantly pushes the boundaries of research and innovation in order to provide hand care solutions and products that are cutting edge, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly, and which also exceed quality expectations.

Mr. Foo Khon Pu, ▶
Founder and Executive Chairman,
Smart Glove



FROST & SULLIVAN BEST PRACTICES AWARD



The industry leader has dedicated itself in the past decade to providing sustainable products. In 2017, Smart Glove was the first to produce extraordinarily light and soft synthetic nitrile gloves, the lightest and thinnest available nitrile glove available in the global market today. That same year, it launched its C-Series line of synthetic hybrid polychloroprene gloves that proved to be lighter, thinner, and more durable than other chloroprene models.

In 2019, Smart Glove also invented the nitrile "Metal-Detectable Gloves", which are used in food processing to ensure that any food contamination due to torn glove pieces is detectable at the production level. A year later, Smart Glove invented the biodegradable gloves which are specially formulated to shorten the time taken to biodegrade in landfills (in an anaerobic environment).

These innovative offerings of hybrid polychloroprene, ultra-lightweight, and electrostatic dissipative gloves has their own brand of products across different industry segments, including iChef; Gen-X; iDental; SmartMedic; SmartClean; Metalman; and iSafe.

In 2021, Smart Glove started a new chapter by expanding its capacity to cater to the growing market for disposable synthetic gloves, where the company expects to increase by more than two-fold its current capacity of 20 billion pieces per annum by the year 2025.

Smart Glove Group currently operates with modern purpose-built facilities in Malaysia and Indonesia, with Singapore acting as the group's supply chain hub. Smart Glove has a close relationship with its broad customer base in more than 70 countries, and effectively supplies healthcare protection globally.

As a strategic partner to foreign and domestic businesses, MIDA helps investors discover the potential of Malaysia with relevant government initiatives. **Please contact Life Sciences and Medical Technology Division of MIDA or visit www.mida.gov.my.**





**SPECIAL
FEATURE**

06



Caring Through Sustainability

Why ESG is increasingly becoming the strategy to adopt?

Why ESG

The global crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 has intensified discussion across the globe around sustainability. It has shown consequences and revealed the need for deep thinking on the impact of our actions and choices on the environment and society. Today, ESG — Environmental, Social, and Governance is the buzzword in business and is on track to become mainstream in the post-pandemic period. Therefore, it is time to rethink ESG commitments and practices to drive improvements over the long term.

For many years, ESG practices in the manufacturing sector in Malaysia had been focused mainly on the environmental (“E”) aspect of ESG. Many initiatives were put in place to encourage the country’s manufacturing sector to go ‘green’ and reduce environmental impact.

The National Green Technology Policy introduced in 2009 is the Malaysian government’s effort to provide a conducive environment for green technology development. Various incentives are made available to targeted industry players to intensify potential producers and users of green technology, especially eligible companies that participated in activities related to green technology in the manufacturing sector. These activities include the utilisation of renewable energy; energy conservation/energy efficiency; the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; waste recycling; environmental protection; and the treatment and disposal of toxic/hazardous waste. In return for these efforts, the government offers financial and incentive support in terms of soft loans, tax incentives, and import duty exemptions to drive this green agenda.

On governance (“G”), Malaysia has put in place a range of governance regulatory frameworks and

initiatives that have been strengthened over the years. The Companies Act 2016 was an overdue major overhaul of the old Act that governs the regulatory framework of companies set up in Malaysia, while various other initiatives – such as the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) (Amendments) Act 2018, Guidelines on Adequate Procedures 2018, and the National Anti-Corruption Plan (NACP) 2019-2023 – delivered the key message that strong corporate governance is fundamental for the sustainability of the Malaysian economy.

Of late, the “S” aspect of ESG has been moved to the forefront by COVID-19, where labour standards and human capital management were key highlights as companies with poor working conditions suffered most from the pandemic outbreaks. In addition, the rise of social considerations will become more pronounced as the pandemic continues to unearth social imbalances in the community.



When ESG Makes Dollars and Sense

Apart from ESG as a moral or ethical obligation, there are fundamental economic reasons to take ESG seriously. Globally, corporations are prioritising ESG in their operations and are being selective on who they choose to do business with. For instance, some companies in manufacturing sectors were issued with Withhold Release Orders (WRO) which prohibits the import of their goods into the US due to alleged use of forced labour.

Similarly, the European Union (EU) will soon enact the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism on imports, which makes imported products with a high carbon footprint less competitive in the EU. To remain competitive, Malaysia as the 27th world's largest trading nation has no choice but to be aligned with this sustainability agenda.

Responsible investment is also gaining momentum. Many global banks have signed up for the UN Principles for Responsible Banking, pledging to fund only sustainable projects and businesses by 2040 or 2050. This means that projects/companies with no ESG strategies will risk not getting any funding and insurance coverage for their businesses.

The embrace of ESG also corresponds to consumer preferences. Consumers today are very particular about the products they buy, and consume only products and services from companies that practise sustainability. In fact they are even willing to pay more for environmentally and socially responsible products.

Finally, ESG concerns are now higher on the list of priorities for young talent when evaluating their prospective employers. Younger employees now want to know the stance of the companies they work for, and are increasingly looking for evidence that prospective employers incorporate ESG factors into their operational strategy as much as the pursuit of profit, as shown by numerous surveys. As such, commitment to ESG issues such as the Green agenda, Diversity, and Inclusivity could give a company a competitive advantage in recruiting the best talent.

In a nutshell, a company's commitment to ESG will be scrutinised by every single party involved, namely investors, regulators, customers, and employees and will determine how attractive the company is to various stakeholders. While change might mean companies have to endure short-term pain to comply with ESG strategies, it is a necessary process to avoid a much greater loss in the future.



EVENTS

07



1 April 2022

MIDA Investment Promotion and Facilitation Deputy CEO, Mr. Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja (third from left) paid a working visit to Straits Orthopaedics, NationGate, and Smith+Nephew in Penang, to discuss recent developments at the companies, their expansion plans, and how MIDA can better support and facilitate them on the talent front.



5 April 2022

MIDA Selangor and the Digital Investment Office (DIO) held a fruitful engagement with Invest Selangor to discuss the alignment of the state's digital focus areas with Malaysia's Digital Investment Strategy. This is part of the DIO's efforts to intensify the promotion of Malaysia as a digital hub based on a one-nation approach.



5 April 2022

MIDA Sabah Director, Mr. Wong Tiang Sing (second from right), received a courtesy call from Invest Sabah CEO, Datuk Madiyem Layapan (second from left) to exchange ideas and insights to explore potential collaboration and cooperation in attracting investments into Sabah.



5 April 2022

SIA Engineering Co Ltd (SIAEC) signed a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Impeccable Vintage Properties Sdn. Bhd. (IVP) – Khazanah Nasional Bhd. owned subsidiary to potentially lease two hangars at Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport.

MIDA CEO, Datuk Arham Abdul Rahman welcomed the MoU collaboration, stating that the formalisation of this MoU between SIAEC and IVP represents a positive step towards facilitating the expansion of a renowned aerospace company such as SIAEC.


5 April 2022

MIDA Stockholm Director, Ms. Navena Thambirajah, hosted a business reception together with the Embassy of Malaysia in Stockholm for the Danish Foreign Ministry as well as Danish businesses, chambers, and associations.

The reception began with remarks by the Ambassador of Malaysia to Sweden, H.E. Nur Ashikin Mohd. Taib, who emphasised the long and positive relationship between Malaysia and Denmark, as well as the importance of networking in order to strengthen the ongoing business ties between the two countries.


6 April 2022

MIDA Advanced Technology and Research and Development Division Deputy Director, Ms. Sarojini Ganesan was invited to speak at the Webinar on Tax Incentives Related to Research and Development (R&D), organised by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), in collaboration with MIDA and the Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia (IRB). More than 150 participants from various companies and organisations tuned in to learn more about incentives related to R&D activities.


7 April 2022

MIDA Healthcare, Education and Hospitality Division Director, Ms. Wahida Abd Rahman (third from right) hosted a meeting on Tourism Planning with the team from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), led by Prof. Dr. Amran Hamzah (centre). The discussion aimed to exchange views and insights on tourism growth strategy in Malaysia.


25 March - 5 April 2022

MIDA Senior Executive Director, Ms. Roeslina Abbas (centre) led a working visit to Italy and Switzerland, together with MIDA Investment Policy Advocacy (Manufacturing) Executive Director, Ms. Masni Muhammad (second from left), MIDA Milan Director, Mr. Awangku Fiarulnazri Awang Tajudin (left) and MIDA Foreign Investment Division Deputy Director, Ms. Nurullydia Ahmad (right).

The visit served as a knowledge sharing exercise on best practices of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) components implemented by industrialised nations in the European Union.



13 April 2022

MIDA Investment Promotion and Facilitation Deputy CEO, Mr. Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja (third from left) officiated the Groundbreaking Ceremony of Siemens Energy's Managed Detection Response (MDR) Operational Technology (OT) Cyber security Operations Center (cSOC) in Cyberjaya, Selangor.

The centre will be the first of its kind in the Asia Pacific region, and is set to begin operation by the end of 2022.



14 April 2022

MIDA Investment Promotion and Facilitation Deputy CEO, Mr. Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja attended Enza Zaden Asia Sdn. Bhd.'s Official Inauguration of its Research and Development (R&D) Facility in Perak, Malaysia.

Enza Zaden, the Netherlands' leading vegetable breeding company, has announced the completion of its first Southeast Asia R&D infrastructure facility. The new facility will expand its network in vegetable seeds research and agricultural development through its 45 subsidiaries and three joint ventures in 25 countries.



15 April 2022

MIDA CEO, Datuk Arham Abdul Rahman (right) received a courtesy call from Sumitomo Corporation President and CEO, Mr. Masayuki Hyodo. Sumitomo Corporation is a Fortune 500 company that operates in a variety of industries, including automobiles, insurance, steel, machinery, and chemicals.



15 April 2022

MIDA Manufacturing Development (Resource) Executive Director, Ms. Umarani Muniandy (sixth from left) along with MIDA's Chemical and Advanced Materials Division, met with The Malaysian Plastic Manufacturers Association (MPMA). MIDA briefed the current investment climate and Government facilitation initiatives that are available through MIDA.



15 April 2022

MIDA Investment Promotion and Facilitation Deputy CEO, Mr. Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja (centre) met with Camfil Malaysia to discuss the company's expansion project in producing commercial and industrial systems for air filtration and air pollution control. The project is expected to begin in the second quarter of 2022.



15 April 2022

MIDA Information Technology System Development Division Director, Mr. Norhizam Ibrahim (left) had a discussion with Outsystems (Malaysia) to explore a collaboration to accelerate the adoption and talent development of the country's Digital Economy, as well as strategies to realise MIDA's digital transformation aspirations.



22 April 2022

MIDA Investment Development Deputy CEO, Ms. Lim Bee Vian (sixth from left) chaired a meeting with the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (ACCCIM). The discussion centred on the long-standing partnership between MIDA and ACCCIM in promoting and facilitating Malaysian companies and suppliers as vital players in the global supply chain.



23 April 2022

MIDA Domestic Investment Division Director, Mr. Sukri Abu Bakar (centre) briefed 20 delegates from the Young Entrepreneurs Committee of the Malacca Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCCI). The engagement was organised to provide MCCCI with an update on the current investment policies and incentives for the manufacturing and services sectors, as well as on MIDA's assistance and facilitation initiatives for industry players.


25 April 2022

MIDA Food Technology and Resource Based Industries Division Director, Ms. Manjit Kaur Balkar Singh (fourth from right) had a meeting with Hotpack Packaging Industries LLC. from Dubai, the United Arab Emirates. Hotpack is a leading manufacturer of disposable food packaging products in the Middle East.

The discussion centred on potential investment facilitation for the company following its proposed strategic partnership with Free The Seed Sdn. Bhd. to produce biodegradable packaging products from agricultural waste in Gurun, Kedah.


25 April 2022

Penang Chief Minister Mr. Chow Kon Yeow (fourth from left) officiated the Groundbreaking Ceremony of a new manufacturing plant for TTM Technologies, Inc. in Penang. Also in attendance were Penang Exco for Trade, Industry, and Entrepreneurial Development Dato' Abdul Halim Hussain (fourth from right), MIDA Investment Development Deputy CEO Ms. Lim Bee Vian (third from left), InvestPenang CEO Dato' Loo Lee Lian (third from right), and TTM President and CEO Thomas Edman (second from left).

TTM is a leading United States based global manufacturer of printed circuit boards (PCBs), radio frequency (RF) components and RF microwave/ microelectronic assemblies.



26-27 April 2022

MIDA CEO, Datuk Arham Abdul Rahman (third from left) led a working visit to Murata Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Osaka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (OCCI), Osaka Business Development Association (OBDA), Shimano and Daihatsu in Japan. The purpose of the visit was to discuss business goals and future plans.



29 April 2022

Menteri Besar of Johor, YAB Datuk Onn Hafiz Ghazi (second row, centre), officiated the groundbreaking ceremony of GDS Holding's hyperscale data centre campus in Nusajaya Tech Park, Johor. The ceremony was hosted by GDS Chairmain and CEO, Mr. William Huang (second row, left). Also in attendance were the High Commissioners of Malaysia to Singapore, His Excellency Dato' Dr. Azfar Mohamad Mustafar.

MIDA delegation were led by the Investment Development Deputy CEO, Ms. Lim Bee Vian (eighth from left), the BRO Division representing DIO, MIDA Johor and MIDA Singapore.

GDS Ltd is a leading developer and operator of high-performance data centres in China announced the start of construction of its hyperscale data centre campus in Nusajaya, Johor. This project is supported by the Digital Investments Office (DIO), a collaborative platform between MIDA and Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC).



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08



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One of our video wall at MIDA lobby



Some of our LCD TVs at MIDA lobby

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C	Inclusive of: • Refreshment • Tea Break/Hi-Tea	From RM50 / Pax	

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F&B PACKAGES		GOVERNMENT	PRIVATE
A	Inclusive of: • Refreshment • Tea Break • Lunch • Hi-Tea	From RM100 / Pax	
B	Inclusive of: • Refreshment • Tea Break • Hi-Tea	From RM80 / Pax	
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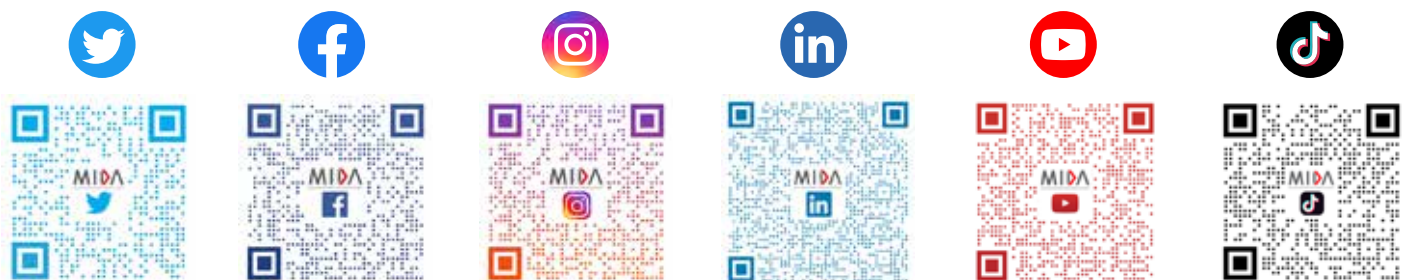
MIDA is the government's principal investment promotion and development agency under the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) to oversee and drive investments into the manufacturing and services sectors in Malaysia. Headquartered in Kuala Lumpur Sentral, MIDA has 12 regional and 20 overseas 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.

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

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