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Microsoft and Mimos sign MoU

MICROSOFT Malaysia and Mimos, the premier applied research centre in frontier technologies, yesterday signed a Memorandum of Understanding at the World Congress of Information Technology (WCIT) 2008 in Kuala Lumpur.

The MoU was signed with the aim of developing and establishing a Microsoft Innovation Centre (MIC) at Mimos at Technology Park Malaysia.

Under the terms of the memorandum, Mimos will be providing the physical infrastructure and human capital to develop technologies based on applied research undertaken at Mimos. Meanwhile, Microsoft Malaysia will provide the software, tools and access to know-how, locally and abroad, to further accelerate and catalyse innovation done at the centre by Mimos research and development personnel.

"We believe innovation is the key to leadership in the ICT (information and communication technology) industry but we also know that innovation



BRIGHT FUTURE: Yasmin (second from left) shaking hands with Abdul Wahab as Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi looks on

doesn't stand on its own. In order for innovation to happen, many contributing factors need to be in place. These can come in the form of infrastructure, human resource, tools and access to information, to name a few.

"Without these factors, the industry will not be empowered and enabled to innovate," said Microsoft Malaysia managing director Yasmin Mahmood.

"The MIC is another investment by Microsoft in Malaysia. I am confident the infrastructure we have in place for the MIC, in partnership with Mimos, will create an environment that encour-

ages innovation and grow the ecosystem.

"This is inline with Microsoft's aspirations to play an active role in creating an ICT ecosystem that will enhance and spur further growth in Malaysia's knowledge-based economy and society."

Mimos president and CEO Datuk Abdul Wahab Abdullah described the collaboration as a huge boost to Mimos' research infrastructure.

"Collaboration is the key to bringing ideas to life and, with the combined capabilities and resources, the MIC will be the key driver in making ideas happen."