

Headline	<b>Creating An Innovation Ecosystem</b>	Language	<b>ENGLISH</b>
Date	<b>23. May 2008</b>	Page No	<b>44</b>
Media Title	<b>The Sun</b>	Article Size	<b>230 cm2</b>
Section	<b>Entertainment</b>	Frequency	<b>Daily</b>
Circulation	<b>174179</b>	Color	<b>Full Color</b>
Readership	<b>171000</b>		



« Yasmin and Abdul Wahab at the document exchange ceremony at the World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) 2008, witnessed by Abdullah (centre) and (from left) Badlisham, Abdul Ghani, Ongkili, and Khoo.

**IF** you want to be a leader in the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Industry, you must innovate. But to encourage innovation, several key factors, such as infrastructure, manpower, access to information and software, must be present.

Which is why Microsoft Malaysia and Mimos, the premier applied research centre in frontier technologies, on Monday signed a Memorandum of Understanding to develop and establish a Microsoft Innovation Centre (MIC) at Mimos located at Technology Park Malaysia.

Under the terms of the MoU, Mimos will provide 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 R&D personnel.

“We believe innovation is the key to leadership in the ICT industry but we also know that innovation doesn’t stand on its own. In order for innovation to happen,

many contributing factors, i.e. infrastructure, human resource, tools and access to information, need to be in place. Without them, the industry will not be empowered and enabled to innovate,” Yasmin Mahmood, MD of Microsoft Malaysia, explained.

She added: “I am confident the infrastructure we have in place for the MIC, in partnership with Mimos, will create an environment that encourages innovation and grows the ‘innovation ecosystem’.”

“The collaboration with Microsoft is a huge boost to Mimos’ research infrastructure. Mimos is confident that the MIC will be the gateway to accelerating an innovation ecosystem,” said Datuk Abdul Wahab Abdullah, Mimos President and CEO.

The MoU signing was witnessed by the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Dr Maximus Ongkili, Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman, Multimedia Development Corporation CEO Datuk Badlisham Ghazali and Dan E. Khoo, CEO, World Congress of Information Technology (WCIT) 2008.