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Pikom, Mimos join forces in ICT push

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PIKOM – the Association of the Computer and Multimedia Industry of Malaysia – and applied-research organisation Mimos Bhd have joined forces to speed up the development of locally developed products and services in the information and communications technology (ICT) industry.

Both recently signed an agreement that is designed to create an opportunity for the two parties to complement each other in the pursuit of strengthening the local ICT industry.

The agreement lays the groundwork for Pikom members to apply to Mimos for research information, which those companies can then develop for commercialisation. Pikom members will also be able to negotiate the specifics of commercialising those products with Mimos.

Pikom feels that it is a great opportunity to team up with Mimos, which is the country's premier applied-research and development centre for frontier technologies.

"This MoU (memorandum of understanding) will lead to an accelerated development and commercialisation of ICT technology by Malaysian companies," said Pikom

president C.J. Ang.

"It (the memorandum) opens up numerous possibilities in terms of development of new ICT solutions needed by local consumers."

Pikom also has a five-year plan to double the ICT industry's contribution to Malaysia's GDP – from RM40bil in 2007 to RM80bil in 2012.

The plan consists of enhancing the partnership between the Government and ICT industry players, as well as globalising the ICT industry.

President and chief executive of Mimos, Datuk Abdul Wahab Abdullah, said: "We hope that we will be the growth engine to bring Pikom (members) to the next level."

He said Mimos will work to provide new and relevant technologies for the industry to utilise. "Pikom knows the market and players well. We will work with the association to make Malaysian companies more global and competitive," he added.

Pikom chairman David Wong said the agreement is only the first step and finer details will have to be worked out in the near future. "The main focus now is to generate awareness of these opportunities" he said.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by a representative from the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation.