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AMONG extensive users of semantic technology is the government such as in profiling the human population or by its police unit.

Mimos, in this respect, has been tasked by the Government to develop this technology, he said.

To date, Dr Dickson said there are 60 Malaysian companies that are taking up Mimos technology. Out this, a dozen are already using Mimos as a platform to build prototypes.

"By end of 2009, we hope another 30 would be able to accomplish their prototypes and hopefully we double the figure by next year," he said.

Dr Dickson said Mimos is targeting that by 2010, the companies with their prototype products would already be able to generate income.

Mimos' role in this respect is to guide the companies concerned until they are ready and comfortable enough to be on their own. Even though semantic technology in Malaysia only started about two years ago, he said the country is not too behind Europe, Australia, UK, US and Canada, among others.

In fact, he said Malaysia has extensive knowledge in semantic technology that makes it on par with other nations.

This is proven with Mimos being the only certification body for companies using semantic technology in the Asia-Pacific region, he said.

Such is a huge honour for the organisation and Malaysia in general," he said.

Dr Dickson is also Head of the Knowledge Technology Cluster at Mimos Bhd as well as the Centre of Excellence in Semantic Technologies.

Prior to Mimos, he spent many years working in the financial services industry developing enterprise applications and has authored over 60 research papers and technical reports on the subject of artificial intelligence, knowledge acquisition and modeling for scientific journals and conference proceedings.