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Mimos, Oracle to collaborate on agriculture sensor grid

The tie-up could lead to further technical collaborations in other sectors between the two parties and other local companies

By ALFEAN HARDY

MIMOS Bhd and Oracle Corp Malaysia Sdn Bhd (Oracle Malaysia) are collaborating to develop a sensor grid pilot project for the agricultural industry that could lead to further technical collaborations in other sectors both locally and abroad between the two parties and other local companies.

The proposed agriculture grid project, part of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation's KnowledgeGRID Malaysia initiative, will see the integration of Oracle Fusion Middleware and Oracle Database technologies with Mimos-developed precision sensors to develop preventive and proactive solutions for the agricultural sector.

Mimos president and CEO Datuk Abdul Wahab Abdullah said the commercial potential for an agriculture grid solution is tremendous for Malaysia where the agricultural sector is a key generator



for economic growth.

This KnowledgeGRID Malaysia initiative will take agriculture in Malaysia to the next level.

"As part of this agreement with Oracle Malaysia, we plan to jointly develop a proof of concept for future commercialisation and service provisioning as a utility under the (initiative)," he said in his speech at the signing of a memorandum of understanding between Mimos and Oracle Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

The pilot project is being undertaken at Úniversiti Putra Malaysia and Mimos. The project is currently at the alpha testing phase.

Beta testing, which involves actual testing in the field, is slated for the second quarter of this year.

Speaking to reporters after the signing, Abdul Wahab said, "Oracle has good solutions for data warehouse. Taking that platform and (tailoring) it to precision farming will allow us to jump start and go far ahead.

"We want acquire technology from external (sources) to move and play in the market space. We are using the national innovation model to mitigate risks and one way of doing this is to work with multinationals companies (MNC) that play in the technology world." he added.

Oracle Malaysia managing director K Raman said, "This is the first time that such an agriculture grid has been done globally from an Oracle perspective.

"This gives us the opportunity to look at what's coming out and how we can promote this technology, working in tandem with local companies,

"What Mimos is doing today will be good for Oracle Málaysia to bring it outside local borders and introduce this solution to our peers globally and across the region," he added.