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CYBERJAYA: Mimos Bhd's ment here Monday.

KnowledgeGRID Malaysia aims to provide a national infrastructure that maximises the use of high-performance computing resources to accelerate research and industrial development.

Its president/chief executive officer, Datuk Abdul Wahab Abdullah, said the grid would be the next knowledge infrastructure for the nation to increase its competitiveness in technology advancement regionally and globally.

"KnowledgeGRID Malaysia will provide computing resources and data capabilities to the nation's weather modelling, earthquake simulation and protein folding, DNA and drug design research.

"This will accelerate Malaysia's advancement in biotechnology, forecasting of natural disasters and animation content initiatives at significantly lower cost," he said in a state-

The KnowledgeGRID Malaysia was launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi here Monday.

Wahab said KnowledgeGRID Malaysia would put the country on a higher pedestal on the world map, especially in information and communication technology in line with more advanced countries like US, Europe, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Thailand and Singapore.

He said the development of the grid would be undertaken in three phases.

Phase one, which is expected to be completed by year-end, will focus on the development of grid framework based on service-oriented architecture as well as establishing research collaborations with local universities.

To-date, Mimos has forged collaborations with 13 local universities which would serve as its virtual research centres to undertake basic research in frontier technology to complement Mimos' applied research.

Mimos has also partnered multinational companies such as IBM, Altair Engineering, SGI and Sisco to provide affordable tools and resources for local researchers and industry players to jump-start the knowledge-economy.

Phase two, scheduled to begin next year, involves enhancing further KnowledgeGRID infrastructure and increasing research collaborations with local and foreign institutions and local industries. The final phase will involve rolling out the KnowledgeGRID Malaysia nationwide.

As a strategic agency under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Information, Mimos is mandated to spearhead the KnowledgeGRID Malaysia initiatives under the Nine Malaysia Plan. - AFP