



For Immediate Release

MIMOS' FIRST BATCH OF CENTRE OF DOMAIN EXPERTISE ACCELERATION (CODE8) PROGRAMME GRADUATE

CODE8 programme designed to enhance employability for the information and communications technologies (ICT) sector

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 November 2010 – MIMOS, the premier applied research centre in frontier technologies, celebrated the graduation of the first batch of its Centre of Domain Expertise Acceleration (CODE8) programme at a glittering ceremony today.

CODE8 is a special apprenticeship initiative by MIMOS in partnership with the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) aimed at enhancing the employability for the information and communications technologies (ICT) sector. It was designed to harness fresh new talents which are industry-ready in the ICT field in line with the national aspiration of increasing the number of researchers, scientists and engineers (RSEs) from 18 per 10,000 workforce in 2008 to 50 RSEs for every 10,000 workforce by 2010.

“The challenge of employability and competency gaps especially in specific domain areas, technical knowledge and communication skills has been long standing issues. It is high time the academia and industry work hand-in-hand to ensure our graduates are employable. The curriculum includes what the ICT industry truly needs and looks for in fresh talent including soft skills and problem solving skills. The CODE8 programme has successfully bridged the competency gaps for current and future business needs,” said Dato’ Abdul Wahab Abdullah, President and CEO, MIMOS.

Based on the success of the pilot programme, CODE8 will soon be rolled out by Penang-based training provider Penang Skills Development Centre (PSDC) in partnership with multinational companies based in the Northern Zone such as Motorola, Agilent and Alterra.

“Industries and universities are encouraged to replicate the CODE8 programme to ensure Malaysia continues to increase RSEs and successfully addresses the dry talent market syndrome,” added Dato’ Wahab.

The Certificate of Accomplishment was presented by Minister of Higher Education, Dato’ Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin to 50 graduates in domain competencies within the ICT sector of the first batch of the CODE8 programme.

While all 50 competent RSEs have successfully received employment, about 86% of the apprentices were successfully placed in high-technology and high-income jobs at MIMOS and other local and multinational companies even before the end of the 12-month programme.

CODE8 Programme

CODE8 is part of MIMOS efforts in growing globally competitive indigenous industries which includes developing domain experts aimed at bridging the gaps between ICT key domain areas knowledge and industry-based experience.

“In recognition that the future growth of the country’s talent pool especially domain experts relies on a home-built supply chain, the CODE8 programme was designed to help seed the right talent and skills to be at the right place at the right time,” said Dato’ Abdul Wahab.

The one-year programme, in the fields of semantic technology, knowledge engineering, grid computing, wireless embedded system, software test and measurements, ontology, most up-to-date software programming technology in Java, Linux, C++ and share points; is a mixture of targeted classroom trainings, behavioural transformation and on-the-job training in specific live projects under the guidance of RSE at MIMOS. Of the total number of apprentices, 29 were involved in various real-life 9th Malaysia Plan projects which have led to potential Intellectual Property (IP) generation.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to formalize the partnership between MIMOS and the MoHE was signed in October last year. Under the agreement, MoHE provided the funding for CODE8, while MIMOS provided the technical expertise.

Note-to-Editor

MIMOS is known as MIMOS and not Malaysian Institute of Microelectronic Systems.

About MIMOS

MIMOS is the premier applied research centre in frontier technologies aimed at growing globally competitive indigenous industries. MIMOS pursues exploratory and industry-driven applied research through multi-stakeholder smart partnerships with local and international universities, research institutes and industries and the Malaysia Government with a focus on frontier technologies. MIMOS' applied research / technology areas are refined into six (6) technology clusters - Knowledge Grid, Knowledge Technology, Information Security, Wireless Communications, MEMS, and Advanced Informatics.

MIMOS' focus is on driving globally recognized Centres of Excellence to promote and license MIMOS technologies or IPs to qualified indigenous ICT companies to strengthen their abilities to compete globally and move Malaysian ICT industry higher up the value chain.

MIMOS is the recipient of two (2) National Intellectual Property Award 2009 under the 'Trademark' and 'Industrial Design Award' categories and three (3) Malaysia Good Design Mark Awards 2008 under the 'Media and Home Electronics' category. The organisation also won the Asia HRD Congress 2008 Award under the 'Contribution to the Organisation' category for outstanding contribution to the field of Human Resource Development and the Frost & Sullivan's Growth Excellence Award 2007 for Industry Innovation & Advancement (Precision Agriculture) for its application and development of Micro Electro Mechanical System (MEMS) in the field of precision agriculture.

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