



NANOMALAYSIA™



PRESS RELEASE

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Nanotechnology poised to be new economic driver

Strategic collaborations set to boost nanotechnology commercialisation, with 20-30 pct growth expected in E&E exports by 2020

BUKIT JALIL, July 30, 2015: Four Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) in the field of nanotechnology were today sealed among one industry player, two government agencies and two universities; in a multiple-helix move that is expected to propel the electrical and electronics (E&E) sector to a new record level within five years. The MoU documents were exchanged in the presence of the Deputy Secretary-General (Science), Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Dr Zulkifli Mohamed Hashim.

The first MoU was for a technology partnership between nanotechnology commercialisation agency, NanoMalaysia Berhad (NMB) and national applied research and development agency for ICT, micro- and nanoelectronics, MIMOS. The two agencies will jointly undertake research, development and commercialisation of nanotechnology products.

The second MoU, which was a tripartite collaboration between NMB, MIMOS and Penchem Technologies Sdn Bhd, was for research, development and commercialisation of smart sensors and advanced materials applications for electronics products.

The third and fourth MoU, signed between MIMOS and the University of Malaya and Multimedia University, respectively, were for research, design and development of graphene, a carbon-based nanomaterial with superlative properties, which is set to positively affect various industries. The commercialisation of graphene applications is expected to be facilitated by NanoMalaysia under the National Graphene Action Plan 2020.

In his speech before witnessing the MoU exchange, Dr Zulkifli said that Malaysia's RM256 bln electrical and electronics (E&E) export in 2014 was due to the strong global demand for new semiconductor applications as well as the rapid emergence of Internet of Things (IoT).

"I am confident that this collaborative research between MIMOS and the universities as well as the industry will present golden opportunities to drive this field of technology as new source of economic growth in line with the 11th Malaysia Plan," he said.

“With new breakthrough discoveries in nanotechnology and the rise of IoT, I daresay that we can raise the E&E sector by 20-30 percent by 2020,” he said.

During the event, Dr Zulkifli also launched the **Nano Semiconductor Technology Centre**, which is a comprehensive shared service facility located at the MIMOS premises for small, medium and large enterprises in the E&E sector.

MIMOS Chief Executive Officer Datuk Abdul Wahab Abdullah said: “As the national applied research centre for ICT, micro- and nanoelectronics, we have been a key player in the development of the E&E sector. We have established a strong ecosystem through our shared facilities, and we are moving into nanotechnology as a key enabler. The Nano-Semiconductor Technology Centre will serve as a catalyst to thrust nanotechnology as a new growth engine.”

Chief Executive Officer of NanoMalaysia Berhad, Dr Rezal Khairi Ahmad, said that the collaborations would further strengthen the research, development and commercialisation of nanoelectronic devices and systems, and graphene as an emerging material for electronic devices. He said: “This collaborative development and commercialisation; which essentially focuses on commercialisable market-driven nanoelectronics, particularly graphene-based, is poised to elevate Malaysia’s E&E industry in terms of high-complexity products and high-value job creation through the National Graphene Action Plan 2020.”

The MoU exchange was held in conjunction with the one-day **NanoMalaysia Jumpstart Seminar Series: Electronics, Devices and Systems**, which saw participation by experts from the industry, universities and government agencies.

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About NanoMalaysia Berhad

NanoMalaysia Berhad was incorporated under the auspices of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation as the lead agency for nanotechnology development in aspects of intellectual property, commercialisation and industrial enablement. Leveraging on existing facilities and local nanotechnology experts dubbed as the National Nanotechnology Ecosystem, NanoMalaysia is looking at jumpstarting nanotechnology development via four key sectors namely Electronic Devices and Systems, Energy and Environment, Food and Agriculture, and Healthcare, Medicine and Wellness.

About MIMOS

MIMOS is Malaysia’s Premier Applied Research and Development Centre in Information and Communications Technology. As a strategic agency under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), MIMOS contributes to raising Malaysia's competitiveness by pioneering market creation for Malaysian technopreneurs through patentable technology platforms, products and solutions. Over the past 10 years, MIMOS has filed more than 900 Intellectual Properties in various technology domains and across key socio-economic areas.

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