

04 MAR 1996

KHTP'S MAIDEN PRODUCT MAKES A BREAKTHROUGH IN PHILIPPINES' MARKET

ALOR SETAR, March 4 (Bernama) -- Kedah-ISR Technology Sdn Bhd (KIT), a local-Australian joint venture company, has created history by being the first company to come out with products at the Kulim High Technology Park (KHTP).

KIT is not only the first information technology company in KHTP but is also the first Malaysian company to develop software computer aided design/computer aided manufacturer (CAD/CAM) known as KIT Modeller, KIT Architect, KIT Machinist and KIT Lite.

The products were developed using Australian technology as its base with changes made at the initial stages to suit local and Asean consumption needs.

The Philippines Department of Education, Culture and Sports, KIT's first customer, has given a contract to KIT to supply the department with software KIT Modeller CAD, training as well as backup services for use at institutes of higher learning in that country.

"KIT's success in coming out with such products and to penetrate markets in the Philippines, contributed to the state government's aim to turn KHTP into a leading technology, research and development centre in Asean," said Kedah Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Osman Aroff, who is also chairman of the Kedah State Development Corporation (PKNK), here today.

KIT was set up in April 1995 with a paid-up capital of RM1 million through an equal partnership between Kulim Technology Park Sdn Bhd (a subsidiary of PKNK which runs KHTP) and ISR Limited Australia, the inventor, developer and distributor of software CAD/CAM, which is well known in Australia.

Osman said with an initial contract cost of RM2 million, KIT would take about a year to develop the CAD technology in the Philippines and that further services would be provided from time to time.

The contract was sealed with the signing of a memorandum of understanding between KIT and the Philippines in Manila on Jan 17 and a memorandum of agreement on Feb 14.

Once the contract is fully completed, KIT together with Institute Technical Caset in Melbourne and the Philippines Department of Education, Culture and Sports, would be responsible for the development of CAD/CAM curriculum in schools, universities, and teachers training and technical centre in that country.

"This is a big success in term of international trade. With the contract, KIT would be transferring technology between two countries through the development of a training programme in Manila, which begins today, he added.

Two trainees from KIT are involved in the programme which aims to teach lecturers and teachers at the Philippines' institutes of higher learning on how to use KIT Modeller CAD.

Osman said the CAD product by KIT was of the same standard with that produced by international companies, adding that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to launch the products when he officiates KHTP on March 18.

"KIT intends to penetrate the international markets and that steps are being taken to market the products to Brunei and Indonesia apart from offering the products to the Malaysian Education Ministry to be used at the local institutes of higher learning," he added. -- BERNAMA

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