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Locally-made oil and gas tank finds ready market

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HI-KLEEN Petrotank, Malaysia's first locally-produced fibre-reinforced plastic underground storage tank for the oil and gas industry, is headed for Indonesia, Vietnam and South Africa.

Its manufacturer, PJS Resources Sdn Bhd, said it can produce up to 450 tanks per year at its factory at the Bakar Arang Industrial area in Sungai Petani, Kedah.

PJS Resources, a subsidiary of PJS Industries Sdn Bhd, has appointed P.T. Origa Mulia FRP of Indonesia and S.A. Biotech of South Africa as marketing agents.

"Hi-Kleen Petrotank has gained international recognition from Underwriters Laboratories Inc of the US for its quality and safety," PJS Resources president Datuk Ahmad Johan said.

Shortly after the tank was approved by Sirim and UL, PJS Resources was awarded a RM1 million contract to replace Petronas' steel tanks at its service stations, he added.

"And recently, Petronas has given us a new contract worth about RM8.8 million," Ahmad said before the launch of the storage tank by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Dr Mahathir also witnessed the signing of a joint venture agreement between PJS Resources and US-based Hydrospin Inc to locally manufacture advanced composite products used in CNG (compressed natural gas) containers.

Hi-Kleen Petrotank uses corrosion-resistant materials and a unique filament-winding technology which improves the tank's toughness under extreme loading and use conditions.

This makes the product virtually impregnable, ensuring no leakage that could contaminate the surroundings, Ahmad said.

"Apart from being lighter and easier to install than the conventional steel tanks, Hi-Kleen Petrotank also comes with a service life of 30 years compared to 10 years for conventional tanks."

Besides producing Hi-Kleen Petrotank, PJS Resources' other core activities include the manufacturing, installation and maintenance of fibreglass reinforced plastic waste water treatment systems as well as manufacturing and assembly of mobile fibreglass reinforced plastic sanitary facilities.

On the joint venture with Hydrospin, Ahmad said both companies would produce several types of aluminium tanks for self-contained breathing apparatus, and liner for CNG and LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) tanks for the Asia Pacific markets.

Meanwhile, Dr Mahathir said the agreements signed yesterday proved that foreign investors, especially those in the manufacturing industry, continued to have faith in the Malaysian economy.

"The confidence in our economy from abroad is still evident.

"The number of joint venture and transfer of technology agreements concluded in the past was clearly evident of this.

"The signing of the joint venture clearly shows foreign companies involved in the manufacturing industry have faith in the Malaysian economy and companies," Dr Mahathir said.

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