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RM50,000 boost for MyPC project

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - The Microsoft-New Straits Times Young Programmers Club today received a sponsorship of RM50,000 from RHB Bank Berhad as part of the bank's support for information technology development in the young.

Representing RHB at a ceremony at Balai Berita was the bank's chief executive officer Yvonne Chia who handed the cheque to New Straits Times Press (M) Berhad chief operating officer Faiz Ishak.

RHB is the first corporate sponsor to the Club launched on March 18 by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Microsoft chairman and chief executive officer Bill Gates.

The Club, an initiative of New Straits Times Sdn Bhd, Microsoft (M) Sdn Bhd and Brave and Bold Sdn Bhd, is a virtual club of 50 young people aged between 10 and 15 and is led by mentors who are professional software developers.

Besides RHB, Microsoft and Hewlett Packard Sales (M) Sdn Bhd are also sponsors, providing software, equipment and expertise.

Chia said despite the current economic scenario, RHB was committed to ensuring that a well developed and competitive workforce existed as the country moved towards liberalisation and the opening of markets.

"Our financial services business is becoming increasingly technology-driven and the future growth of our industry and its development lay in the hands of the next generation."

Chia also said RHB was investing heavily in technology to become more efficient as technology played a vital role in offering services, allowing the bank to remain competitive now and in the future.

Speaking on behalf of NSTP, its group editor-in-chief Datuk A. Kadir Jasin said he felt honoured that RHB had decided to contribute to MyPC for the development of computer knowledge among teenagers of the country.

"These exceptionally brilliant young people (MyPC members) will be the ones who will allow us to leap-frog into the information age. It is on these brilliant minds that your contribution is going to be used," said Kadir.

Also present were NSTSB group editor Ahmad A. Talib, Microsoft Malaysia general manager Benedict Lee and Hewlett Packard Sales Malaysia managing director Badlisham Ghazali.

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