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WORLD CLASS COMPOSITES MANUFACTURING PLANT IN KEDAH

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 14 (Bernama) -- Conglomerate Sime Darby Berhad and Malaysia Helicopters Services Bhd (MHS) today signed a joint venture agreement with US partners, Boeing and Hexcel Corporation, to set up a world class composite parts manufacturing plant at the Bukit Kayu Hitam Industrial Park in Kedah.

The signing of the landmark agreement was held at the Prime Minister's Department and witnessed by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Under the agreement, a joint venture company to be known as Asian Composites Manufacturing Sdn Bhd would be set up to manufacture, sell and distribute composite parts for secondary structures for Boeing commercial aircraft and to other customers worldwide.

All four partners will hold equal equity interest in the plant that will be established with a total capital investment of RM153 million on a 12.4 hectare site.

Boeing is the world's largest military and commercial aircraft maker while Hexcel is a leading manufacturer of composite parts.

MHS, which operates chartered helicopter services, owns 32 per cent of national carrier, Malaysia Airlines.

A composite is a tough lightweight material made up of fibre and resin and used in high-tech manufacturing. It is mainly used as the body material for aircraft fuselage and racing cars.--BERNAMA

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