

German firms keen to invest in Malaysia: Envoy

By NICK LEONG

MORE small and medium-sized German companies will be interested to invest in Malaysia if they know more about the country, according to the German ambassador to Malaysia.

Juergen A.R. Staks said yesterday that Malaysia had the facilities and

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power to attract more German investment.

Staks told reporters this after attending a meeting with Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Putrajaya. Malaysian-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MGCC) executive director Dr Rainer Herret was also present.

According to Herret, the prime

minister has urged the chamber to further promote trade and cultural ties between the two countries.

He said Germany was now Malaysia's 2nd largest European investor but the biggest problem is promoting Malaysia among the Germans as many of them thought Malaysia to be part of Indonesia.

"But with the Formula 1 grand

prix and the Petronas Twin Towers, more Germans now know where Malaysia is," Herret said.

He said MGCC members did not share the "too critical" views of the foreign press on the government.

He said Dr Mahathir had agreed to visit Germany from Sept 18 to 20 and was scheduled to meet Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder in Berlin.