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KONSORTIUM-PARTNER

KONSORTIUM LOGISTIK APPOINTS DATAONE ASIA AS IT OUTSOURCING PARTNER

PETALING JAYA, Oct 29 (Bernama) -- Konsortium Logistik Bhd, a logistics solution provider, today appointed DataOne Asia as its information technology (IT) outsourcing partner to reduce consortium's operating overhead and eliminate depreciation costs.

Konsortium Logistik's executive chairman and president Mirzan Mahathir said that with the partnership, the big depreciation charge for its IT equipment would be erased.

Speaking after signing the partnership agreement here, he said DataOne Asia would manage the installation and upgrading of consortium's hardware and network infrastructure at all its branches and warehouse facilities in the country.

The deal, costing RM10 million over a five-year period, will also complement consortium's regional expansion plans. It will also help the consortium to concentrate on its customers by focusing their needs in the best way possible.

Mirzan said the consortium was currently experiencing a 20 percent drop in margin with the entry of new players in the haulage industry.

In the past 18 months, the government has liberalised the haulage industry by offering licenses to 50 companies to haul laden and empty containers.

The new players has offered discounted rates to compete with the original five players comprising Diperdana Holdings Bhd, Konsortium Logistik, Kontena Nasional Bhd, MISC Haulage Sdn Bhd and Multimodal Freight Sdn Bhd.

"Everybody is scrambling for a piece of a shrinking pie," said Mirzan.

He said things had been worse from the weaker electronics industry which had caused volume to come down from the early part of this year and this was aggravated by the Sept 11 attacks in the United States. -- BERNAMA

MAD MKO SHY