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Logistics firm to set up offices in 2 Asean nations

By DALJIT DHESI

KONSORTIUM Logistik Bhd will set up offices in Thailand and the Philippines probably by the year-end in an effort to become a regional logistics service provider and as preparation to face the challenges arising from the advent of the Asean free trade area (Afta).

Its executive chairman and president Mirzan Mahathir said the company had embarked on this imperative move as it expected intra-regional trade volume to rise with the advent of Afta.

"Many multinational companies are also manufacturing in different parts of this region and they are not only supplying the products to their principal markets but to the rest of the Asean countries. We have to make sure the company will be able to offer the same kind of services efficiently to our customers in an enlarged market. Therefore, we want to become a regional service provider and one of the ways is to set up offices abroad," he said.

Mirzan told reporters this after the company AGM in Petaling Jaya yesterday.

Mirzan said that logistics services provided in the two countries would be an extension of what the company was currently focusing on, namely in the automobile, oil and gas sectors as well as in industrial and consumer products distribution.

The company to date has logistics service office in India and now undertakes component services such as warehousing and depot operation there.

Mirzan pointed out that India and China had great potential markets for logistics and the company was interested in establishing a logistic services office in China.

For the financial year ended Dec 31, 2001, the group achieved sales of RM252.3mil and profit before tax of RM22.9mil against RM247.4mil turnover and RM28.4mil pre-tax profit in the previous corresponding period.