

DRB-HICOM

tech arm to launch Linux-based PC

By SABRY TAHIR

DRB-HICOM Bhd's information technology arm, DH Info Tech Sdn Bhd, will launch a Linux-based personal computer (PC) later this month.

DRB-HICOM group chairman Tan Sri Saleh Sulong said the launch of the locally-made PC, scheduled for July 24 in Kuala Lumpur, would be graced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. The PCs will go on sale from July 25.

"We have devised an integrated package that offers customers the most comprehensive and easy to use system at an attractive price," he said at a strategic alliance signing ceremony between DH info and TM Net in Subang yesterday, witnessed by Energy, Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Amar Leo Moggie.

"Our aim is to bridge the digital divide and offer solutions for the public, particularly the low- to mid-income users," Saleh said.

The system introduced by DH Info, which combined hardware, software and Internet access, was one of the first in Asia to offer an integrated solution that was comprehensive, affordable and targeted for mass deployment in the household market, he added.

The complete solution is priced below RM2,000, and special financing schemes are being planned in some cases for individuals to own the solution for no more than RM50 a month over a specified period.

The scheme would be offered via 3 financial institutions, he said.

Monthly payments can also be made via salary deduction, particularly for government servants.

Under the alliance, TM Net will provide a pre-connected Internet account, which gives purchasers access to the Internet via an auto dialler set-up.