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CTRM's wings of desire

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WHEN you think of composites, Composites Technology Research (M) Sdn Bhd (CTRM) would immediately come to mind.

The company, which is based in Batu Berendam, is a leading manufacturer of composite products and world-class aircrafts.

CTRM, which was incorporated in 1990, has four subsidiary companies: Excelnet Sdn Bhd, Aero-Composites Technologies Sdn Bhd, Eagle Aircraft Sdn Bhd and the Lancair Company.

Excelnet provides aerospace engineering design solutions. Its customers included BAE Systems, Bombardier Aerospace, Eagle Aircraft, Royal Malaysian Air Force, Royal Jordanian Air Force, the Malaysian Defence Ministry and Airbus Industries.

Meanwhile, Aero-Composites Technologies manufactures advanced composite components, and with Excelnet and Eagle Aircraft, furnishes CTRM with a full design through to production, support and maintenance capability.

ACT is involved with the BAE Systems in building components for the Airbus A300 and Airbus A 320. The company also builds body armour and ballistic helmets, and builds components for the Nimrod MRA4 SUS Box and Airstairs Components.

In the near future, it will be involved in the designing of the Airbus A380 design and build packages with Airbus UK.

Eagle Aircraft is involved in the manufacturing of the Eagle 150B aircraft, which is produced and made in Malaysia.

The Eagle 150B has achieved accreditation from the United States' Federal Aviation Authority. It has also received validation from the Type Certificate Validation by aviation authorities in Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand and Thailand.

The company is getting certification from Europe and other countries.

The aircraft has a unique forward-wing design and is powered by the powerful and efficient 125 hp Teledyne Continental IO -240-B7B series engine.

Its cruise speed of 125 knots makes it highly suitable for military reconnaissance; the Malaysian Defence Ministry has bought several units for the Royal Air Force.

The Lancair Company is a joint venture between CTRM and the Ministry of Finance Malaysia and Lima Developments Inc in producing the all-composite four seater Lancair Columbia 300 aircraft.

Recently, CTRM signed a RM800 million deal with Europe-based giant aircraft maker Airbus to design and manufacture fixed leading-edge lower panels for its new range of A380 Super Jumbo commercial aircraft, which is the biggest aircraft in the world.

The event was witnessed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Oct 3.

The A380 aircraft can accommodate 555 passengers and crew.

Under the deal, CTRM will develop the component with Airbus UK to design these structural wing panels with the view of completing the design and engineering work early next year.

CTRM is expected to have this component ready for production by September.