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TRACTORS-CENTRE
TRACTORS PLANS FOR DETAILED DISCUSSION WITH BMW

KUALA LUMPUR, March 22 (Bernama) -- Tractors Malaysia Holdings Bhd plans to have detailed discussions with Bavaria Motor Works (BMW) to understand the roles that both the company and BMW will play in Malaysia and the region.

"We will make the necessary announcements at the appropriate time when these discussion have taken place and are finalised," the company said in a statement to the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange here today.

The statement was made in reference to an article entitled "BMW Picks Malaysia as Regional Centre for Operations in Asia" in the New Straits Times today.

Malaysia's Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had said yesterday that the renowned German car maker had confirmed that it would shift its regional operations to Malaysia.

The centre in the country would be one of BMW's regional centres, others being one in Munich and another in the United States.

The article said BMW would set up its operations in Cyberjaya and the Port of Tanjung Pelepas for the entire Asia region.

Meanwhile, in a separate statement from Singapore today, BMW said it would hold discussions with its local partners in Malaysia and the relevant government authorities to determine the next step.

It added that there were no plans to close the BMW regional office in Singapore nor reduce the number of local BMW employees, as there would still be regional centre services operating from Singapore.

At this stage, BMW said it was too early to disclose further details on BMW's plans in Malaysia.

In the statement today, Tractors said it welcomed BMW's move to chose Malaysia as its regional centre for its operations in Asia.

Auto Bavaria Sdn Bhd which imports BMW cars into Malaysia is a division of Tractors Malaysia Sdn Bhd. -- BERNAMA

FAY/NN SD