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MSC-OFFICIALS

SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS VISIT MSC FLAGSHIP CENTRE AND CHIME

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 27 (Bernama) -- Multimedia Development Corporation (MDC) today hosted more than 20 senior officials and 30 officials from various Government ministries in their visit to the MSC Flagship Centre and Centre for Health Innovation and Medical Enterprises (CHIME).

The visit would help MDC and the various Government ministries to explore the possibilities offered by these centres in areas such as tourism, education, defence and healthcare, MDC said in a statement here today.

The senior officials, led by the Chief Secretary to the Government, Tan Sri Samsuddin Osman visited these centres following the visit of Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and the Malaysian Cabinet Ministers on Oct 21, 2002.

These state-of-the-art facilities can be fully utilised by both the Government and private sectors to enhance their performance especially where research and development (R&D) are involved, it said.

Funded under the 8th Malaysia Plan, the MSC Flagship Centre and CHIME are established as centres of excellence with a unique environment to catalyse the growth and diversification of creative applications, facilitate the Cross Flagship Applications integration and inter-operability and spur the growth of telehealth enterprises and industry in Malaysia.

The two major components of the MSC Flagship Centre are the MSC Lab and Creative Applications Development Centre (CADC), it said.

By leveraging on creativity and technology, it is envisioned that the MSC Labs will achieve the following objectives:

- *Platform to market MSC solutions such as MSC Flagship Applications;
- *Facilitate e-Innovation and change management programmes;
- *Platform to undertake solution assessment and test interoperability;

and

*Facilitate the creation of Malaysian Intellectual Properties (IPs) especially in the areas of Flagship Applications.

The CADC, a collaborative effort with Silicon Graphics Incorporated provides three world-class sophisticated integrating services to the industry with full interaction capabilities: High Performance Computing, Visualisation Area Network (VAN) and Rendering facilities, it said.

The showpiece in the CADC facility is the MSC Virtual Reality Centre.

It is a data fusion environment where computer graphics and alpha-numeric elements can be integrated to allow its users a better comprehension of their engineering design, simulation studies, complex modelling and a host for other scientific educational and entertainment related applications.

CHIME is a centre of excellence in the MSC which will further enhance the telehealth initiative in innovation, R&D and enterprise incubation that in turn deliver improved healthcare, promote people's health and oversee health issues from "womb to tomb", it said.

Building on the foundation of telehealth concept, CHIME's key role is to accelerate the telehealth industry to the next stage of development, and to ensure that the developments in the public healthcare sector are mirrored in the private healthcare sector, it said.

CHIME offers the following benefits to any healthcare enterprise wishing to develop its technologies or ideas at the centre:

* Professional advice and mentoring programmes by CHIME management and industry professionals;

*Access to infrastructure and common services including telecommunications, office space and services;

*Collaborative networks with universities, medical profession and other organisations;

*Leverage off the MSC brand for local and international marketing; and

*Attractive financial incentives including subsidised rent, joint project financing and MSC-status benefits

Both centres were launched by the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad during the 6th MSC IAP Meeting on Sept 6, 2002. -- BERNAMA
MSL KTC