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## Sapura in futsal support for AIDS cause

SAPURA Group has lent its support to Malaysian AIDS Foundation's latest event under its "In The Name of Love" campaign - the Red Ribbon Futsal Challenge 2003 - to be held next month at Sports Unlimited in Petaling Jaya.

As the official sponsor, Sapura is contributing RM150,000 for organising the matches, cash prizes and trophies for the first-prize winners.

The two-day futsal challenge, to be held on Oct 4 and 5, is aimed at raising RM200,000 for the foundation's HIV/AIDS programmes, such as the Pediatric AIDS Fund and the People Living with HIV/AIDS Drug Assistance Scheme.

The challenge, which was officially launched last month, will see teams vying for prizes worth a total of RM20,000 in cash and trophies.

At a Press briefing at Sapura@Mines in Seri Kembangan, Selangor recently, Sapura Telecommunications Berhad chief operating officer Rodzlan Akib Abu Bakar said the company was thrilled to join the foundation in this campaign.

Rodzlan Akib said futsal was a growing sport globally.

"So far we have received 12 entries for the challenge," he said.

The futsal challenge is the fourth event organised under the foundation's "In the Name of Love" campaign launched last October.

Previous events included the "Riding for Life 2003", "The Vienna Boys' Choir Concert" and "Red Ribbon Gala 2002".

Foundation chairman and Malaysian AIDS Council president Datin Paduka Marina Mahathir said: "We are glad Sapura Group has become the event sponsor.

"There is a need to be vigilant about tackling issues concerning HIV and AIDS in the country.

"It is through collaborations such as this that will help increase awareness and educate the masses about the HIV/AIDS epidemic."

Marina said many activities would be running concurrently with the futsal matches at Sports Unlimited at Jalan 13/4.

Among them are auctions, appearance by celebrities and football legends, celebrity DJ session, foosball competition, face-painting, infotainment screenings, games booths, and education and photography exhibitions.

There will be three categories under the futsal challenge - Premier (aged 25 and above), Star (between 17 and 24 years) and Junior (16 years old and below).

Sapura will also be sponsoring a team to participate in the Futsal Premier category. Team Sapura will comprise five Sapura employees.

Participation fees in the challenge are RM3,000 for the Premier category, RM1,000 (Star) and RM200 (Junior).

To participate, call the AIDS foundation at 03-40451033 or visit [www.mac.org.my/LOVE/FUTSAL](http://www.mac.org.my/LOVE/FUTSAL).