

JOINT PRESS STATEMENT
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SARAWAK METRO, SAINS AND SNT SIGN MOU FOR FINTECH DEVELOPMENT

KUCHING: Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro), Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd (SAINS) and Siliconnet Technologies Sdn Bhd (SNT) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish collaboration in the development of financial technology systems for the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project.

The signing ceremony signified the commitment of the State towards modernising the public transport sector and Premier of Sarawak Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Abang Haji Openg witnessed the exchange of the signed MoU. The exchange of the MoU documents was held during the opening of the 27th World Congress on Innovation & Technology and 6th International Digital Economy Conference Sarawak at Borneo Convention Centre Kuching today.

Chief Executive Officer Technologist Mazli Mustaffa signed on behalf of Sarawak Metro while SAINS was represented by its CEO, Busiai bin Seman, and SNT by its General Manager, Chin Zan Kiun.

The MoU was for the collaboration for the development of Automatic Fare Collection (AFC) System and other related financial technology systems for KUTS project.

Sarawak Metro, a wholly owned subsidiary of Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), has been entrusted by the Sarawak Government to develop, maintain and operate the KUTS project. The project which involved the introduction of zero-emission vehicles aimed at reducing traffic congestion into the Greater Kuching city.

The KUTS project will be developed in phases and Phase 1 will see the development of three lines namely, the Blue Line (from Rembus in Kota Samarahan to Kuching), the Red Line (from Kuching Sentral to Pending and the Green Line (from Pending to Damai Central).

All the three lines, totalling 70kms in distance) are scheduled to be in operation in stages started from end of 2025 right up to 2027. The main vehicle fleet use in this project is the Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) and supported by the feeder bus network. All the vehicles will be powered by hydrogen fuel cell, in support of the government's effort to decarbonise public transport and advancing the hydrogen economy.

Currently, Sarawak Metro's main contractor for System Package Contract 1- EMG JV Sdn Bhd, is coordinating the engineering run and the Stage 2 of the Proof-of-Concept (POC) exercise for the prototype unit of ART which has begun on 4 September.

The engineering run will be held for two months and will ends in October, and the route is a loop along Jalan Keruing passing Menara LCDA, Menara SEDC, Menara Sarawak Energy and Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCK).

Stage 2 of the POC exercise will be carried out in November, to gather data to evaluate the feasibility of the prototype for the final design of the ART vehicle.

SAINS, wholly owned by the Sarawak Government, is a leading ICT systems integrator and solution provider in the State, while SNT is a wholly owned subsidiary of SAINS. SNT is the operator of S Pay Global (also known as Sarawak Pay). S Pay Global is the government fintech mobile app platform that provides a convenient and secured e-wallet functionality.
ENDS.

Photo and caption:



OVER TO YOU...Busiai and Mazli (6th and 8th from right respectively) exchanging the MoU document and witnessed by the Premier. Chin is standing next to Mazli.

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