



SARAWAK METRO SDN BHD (201801007738)
A Member of the SEDC Group of Companies

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PRESS STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PENANG CM RIDES ON ART

KUCHING: Penang Chief Minister, the Right Honourable Chow Kon Yeow and his entourage, who are on a working visit to Sarawak, had the opportunity to test ride the prototype Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) hydrogen vehicle here, this afternoon.

During the test ride along the engineering run route at Jalan Keruing at the Isthmus, the Penang Chief Minister also had the opportunity to see first-hand the autonomous operations of the ART.

Chow and his delegation were also briefed on the technological components and functions of the zero-emission vehicle during the test ride.

Accompanying the delegation were Deputy Minister of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts, the Honourable Datuk Sebastian Ting, Deputy State Secretary, Datu Hii Chang Kee and other senior Sarawak government officials.

Prior to the ride, the delegates visited Sarawak Energy Bhd's hydrogen refuelling plant, where they took Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd's (Sarawak Metro) hydrogen buses to Menara SEDC for the ART test ride.

At Menara SEDC, they were welcomed by Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) chairman Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Hussain, SEDC General Manager, Datu Haji Abdul Hadi bin Datuk Haji Abdul Kadir and Chief Executive Officer of Sarawak Metro, Technologist Mazli Mustaffa.

Also present were the senior management of SEDC, Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd and EMG JV Sdn Bhd.

Sarawak Metro, a wholly owned subsidiary of SEDC has been entrusted to implement, operate and maintain the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project, while EMG JV is the main contractor for System Package 1 of the KUTS Project.

The zero-emission ART vehicle is the backbone of the KUTS Project, aimed to modernise the public transport system as well as to ease traffic congestion into the Greater Kuching.

For media enquiries, please contact the Sarawak Metro Corporate Communication team :

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The KUTS Project will be developed in phases and Phase 1 will see the development of three lines – the Blue Line, the Red Line and the Green Line.

Phase 1 of the KUTS Project is scheduled to start operation in stages, from the fourth quarter of 2025.

The Blue Line, covering a distance of 27.5km, is from Rembus in Kota Samarahan to Kuching city centre; the Red Line (12.3km) is from Kuching Sentral to Pending; and the Green Line (30km) from Pending to Damai Central.

The ART vehicles will be operated on dedicated lanes and will not share the road with other road users.

The lanes will either be at-grade (road level) or elevated.

The ART vehicles run on rubber tyres and hence the dedicated lanes will be trackless.

The ART operation will be supported by a feeder bus network, which will also use hydrogen-powered vehicles to offer the ‘first mile and last mile’ connectivity for commuters.

The move to use hydrogen is in support of the Sarawak Government’s aspirations to advance the hydrogen economy and to decarbonise public transport in Sarawak.

End.

Photo and caption:



THUMBS UP TO ART...Chow (6th right) posing for a group photo with Ting (5th right), Hii, Abdul Aziz (6th & 7th left) and other dignitaries in front of the prototype ART hydrogen vehicle.

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