

For Immediate Release

Press Release

17 April 2024

Sarawak Metro staff and apprentices complete SEED Programme industrial attachment in China

KUCHING – Five of Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd’s young engineers and apprentices have recently returned from a successful month-long industrial attachment in China.

The initiative was part of Sarawak Metro’s Socio-Economic Enhancement Development (SEED) Programme, which aims to enhance the procurement value of the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project.

The industrial attachment was made possible through the close collaboration with Sarawak Metro’s Systems Package 1 Contractor – EPR Mobilus Global Rail JV Sdn Bhd (EMGJV).

Sarawak Metro’s engineers, Muhammad Azri bin Abdul Wahed and Qhalief bin Sapawi from the System Assurance & Requirement Department, and three apprentices, Syammil Bin Mohd. Ishak, Farid Hamizan bin Roslan and Nur Nafisa binti Abdullah from Sarawak Metro’s Young Talent Programme (YTP) – completed their industrial attachment at Fangda InnoTech Co. Ltd, Shenzhen on 7 April 2024.

During the industrial attachment, they were briefed on the overview of the Automated Platform Gate (APG) project and gained hands-on assembly experience.

Additionally, they were introduced to testing procedures, including the electro magnetic compatibility (EMC) test, weather tightness test, structural test, maintenance demonstration test, functional test and one-million cycle test.

This comprehensive training equipped them with practical skills, exposed them to industry-standard practices and familiarised them with the stages of testing and commissioning, empowering them to excel in their roles in assisting with the operation of the KUTS project.

Sarawak Metro’s Chief Executive Officer, Ts. Mazli Mustaffa said the industrial attachment marked another milestone in creating a pool of skilled manpower to manage the KUTS project.

“The SEED Programme is our initiative to prepare our young local talent for the needs of this new industry.

“This is our commitment to ensuring the success of this noble project, which aims to modernise public transport and ease traffic congestion in Greater Kuching,” he said, adding that more industrial attachments are in the pipeline.

EMGJV’s Project Director, Mohd Asmadi bin Abdul Manaf highlighted that the joint venture company was proud to play a major role in this transfer of knowledge throughout the one-month attachment, which he considered as a continuous process in collaboration with Sarawak Metro and EMGJV’s overseas suppliers.

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“Definitely a milestone achieved, this was a continuation of the attachment program that followed last year's attachment with Global Rail in Selangor and marked the second attachment organised in China, the first being with CRRC MRT Holding Group Co Ltd's facilities in Changsha last year, and most recently in Shenzhen, China.

“By cultivating their skills in this field, these young talents played a pivotal role in the testing and operating the prototype APG system for KUTS,” said Mohd Asmadi.

This year, Sarawak Metro is recruiting another 20 more YTP apprentices, bringing the total number to 60 since its introduction three years.

The YTP is a sub-programme introduced under the SEED Programme, as part of Sarawak Metro's readiness efforts.

About Sarawak Metro and the KUTS Project:

Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), has been entrusted by the Sarawak Government to modernise public transport, starting with the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project.

The project is being developed in phases, and Phase 1 includes the development of three lines: the Blue Line from Rembus in Kota Samarahan to Hikmah Exchange in the city centre; the Red Line, from Kuching Sentral to Pending; and the Green Line, from Pending to Damai.

Phase 1 of the KUTS Project is scheduled to start operations in the fourth quarter of 2025.

The backbone of the KUTS project is the introduction of the zero-emission Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) hydrogen vehicles.

The ART hydrogen vehicles will operate on dedicated lanes, meaning they will not share the road with other road users.

The ART hydrogen vehicles will run on rubber tires, and hence the dedicated lanes will be trackless.

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

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 for the operation of the KUTS is in line with the Sarawak Government's aspirations to advance the hydrogen economy and to decarbonise public transport in Sarawak.

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Photos and Captions:



EMBARKING ON A NEW JOURNEY... Five of our young engineers flew off to China for a month-long attachment with one of our key suppliers in China.



HANDS ON LEARNING... Engineers and technicians are conducting a thorough inspection of a local control panel following the completion of a dust resistance test.



Sarawak Metro and Fangda team poised after the APG Function and 1M Cycle Test.

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A moment of achievement...Proud recipients display their certificates upon the successful completion of the attachment in China.

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