

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Sarawak Metro staff and apprentices take part in attachment programme with Prasarana**

**KUCHING:** Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd's staff members and apprentices recently participated in an attachment programme with Prasarana Malaysia Berhad, in Selangor.

A total of 18 of Sarawak Metro staff and Young Talent Programme (YTP) apprentices took part in the attachment programme with Prasarana's Learning and Culture Unit and Prasarana Bus Academy.

The YTP apprentices are part of Sarawak Metro's Socio-Economic Enhancement Development (SEED) Programme, which aimed to create a pool of local skilled manpower to operate and maintain the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS).

They undergo a 24-month apprenticeship before being engaged as full-time staff of Sarawak Metro.

The main objective of the recent 10-day attachment programme with Prasarana was to give the participants the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in preparation for the start of the KUTS operations this year.

Of the total number, 11 participants went on attachment with Prasarana's Rapid Rail Ampang Line team, to gain practical exposure in a 'Grade of Automation 2' operational environment.

The rest of the participants went on their attachment at the Prasarana Bus Academy, where they received structured training on best practices in bus fleet operations, preventive maintenance, depot management, and passenger service delivery.

For Sarawak Metro, the attachment programme succeeded in enhancing technical competencies, strengthening a culture of safety and reliability, and benchmarking operational processes against established public transport operators.

The attachment programme ended on 24 December 2025 and was marked with a closing ceremony held at Prasarana's headquarters in Ara Damansara.

During the ceremony, Prasarana's Head of Learning and Development, Zaki bin Mohamad, presented certificates of completion to the participants.

Sarawak Metro Chief Executive Officer, Ts. Mazli Mustafa, emphasised the importance of providing Sarawak Metro's young team with this type of exposure, especially with well-established public transport operators such as Prasarana.

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“As we gear towards the commencement of our Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) service, which is scheduled to begin operations in the fourth quarter of this year, it is crucial that our employees are fully prepared.

“Gaining hands-on operational experience is therefore an essential part of our readiness efforts,” he said, while expressing his gratitude and appreciation to Prasarana for providing the opportunity to Sarawak Metro’s team to gain the invaluable experience through the attachment programme.

Mazli explained that Sarawak Metro also aimed to collaborate with other established public transport operators within the region for similar attachment programmes.

“We will continue to prepare our staff and this also includes similar attachment programmes with other public transports operators within the region for greater exposure and to enhance the practical knowledge and operational experiences of our staff.”

ENDS

photos and captions:



ONE FOR THE ALBUM...The team from Sarawak Metro in a group photo with Zaki (seated, centre) at the closing ceremony

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Zaki receiving a memento from Sarawak Metro’s SEED programme and Bumiputera Relations Senior Manager, Idayati Alek



The team from Sarawak Metro in a group photo after a site visit

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The Sarawak Metro team at Prasarana Bus Academy

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#### About Sarawak Metro and KUTS project:

Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro), a State-owned enterprise, wholly-owned by the Sarawak State Financial Secretary, has been entrusted by the Sarawak Government to modernise public transport through the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project.

Sarawak Metro is the implementer, operator and maintainer of the 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.

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

The ART vehicles will be operated on dedicated lanes, meaning they will not share the lane with other road users. The ART hydrogen vehicles will run on rubber tires, and hence the dedicated lanes will be trackless. The lanes will mostly be at-grade (road level) while certain sections of the alignment will be elevated.

The ART operation will be supported by a network of feeder buses, which will also consist of hydrogen-powered vehicles to offer the 'first mile and last mile' connectivity for commuters.

The move to use hydrogen 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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