
For Immediate Release

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Sarawak Metro receives international award for KUTS Project

HAMBURG, GERMANY: Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro) achieved an important milestone when it received an award from UITP (*Union Internationale des Transports Publics*), the International Association of Public Transport, at a special ceremony here, recently.

The UITP Special Recognition Award presented to Sarawak Metro was in acknowledgement of its efforts to reduce carbon dioxide emissions through the implementation of the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS).

Sarawak Metro chief executive officer, Ts. Mazli Mustaffa was on hand to receive the award from UITP President, Renée Amilcar and UITP's Asia-Pacific Division Chairman, Jeremy Yap.

Apart from that, Sarawak Metro was also shortlisted as a finalist in the 'Climate and Health' category at the UITP Global Awards alongside Beijing Public Transport Holdings (Group) Co., Ltd. from China, Istanbul Electricity, Tram and Tunnel Establishments (İETT) from Turkey, and the Executive Council of Sustainable Urban Transport (CETUD) from Dakar, Senegal, which ended up winning the award.

More than 300 entries were received for the nine categories of this year's UITP Global Awards, from participants from 50 countries.

For Sarawak Metro's CEO, the fact that it was shortlisted as a finalist for the UITP Global Awards was already a victory.

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

Letitia Samuel, Media Senior Manager

+6(016) 800 4516

letitia.samuel@mysarawakmetro.com

www.mysarawakmetro.com



“Although I was optimistic about our entry, I felt deeply honoured to learn that Sarawak Metro had made it to the list of finalists for this year’s UITP Global Awards.

“And to now receive the UITP Special Recognition Award for the work that we are doing is indeed a great honour, while at the same time all of us at Sarawak Metro are humbled by this recognition from such an esteemed organisation as UITP,” said Mazli.

He added that this international award will further motivate the whole Sarawak Metro to achieve its goals in providing a modern public transport system for Kuching that is scheduled to start in 2026.

Sarawak Metro is a member of UITP, which was established in 1885, and with more than 140 years of history, UITP champions sustainable urban mobility.

It is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes.

The UITP Summit is the definitive public transport event for the sector, welcoming over 10,000 public transport professionals ranging from operators, authorities, industry suppliers, and policy makers from across the world.

Ends.

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Photo and caption:



Mazli (centre) receiving the award from Yap and Amilcar

About Sarawak Metro and KUTS project:

Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro), a wholly owned subsidiary of Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), 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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