

For Immediate Release

Press Release

12 December 2024

Sarawak Metro celebrates graduation of its Young Talent Programme apprentices

KUCHING: Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro) reached another milestone today with the graduation of 14 apprentices from its Young Talent Programme (YTP).

These apprentices, the second batch of trainees under Sarawak Metro's YTP, have also now joined Sarawak Metro as full-time staff upon successfully completing their two-year apprenticeship.

Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) Chairman Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain officiated at the graduation ceremony, where he congratulated all the apprentices and reminded them to continue to give their best in ensuring the successful implementation of the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project.

"My hope is for you to give your best towards the implementation of this noble KUTS project which will be a game changer for the city's development.

"All the knowledge and skills that you acquired during your apprenticeship will be a solid foundation for you to thrive in the next chapter of your career. So, fully utilise and exercise all these skills and contribute significantly to this project," he said.

He also lauded Sarawak Metro's initiative in developing a pool of competent and skilled manpower by introducing the YTP initiative under the company's Socio-Economic Enhancement and Development (SEED) Programme.

Earlier, Sarawak Metro Chief Executive Officer, Ts. Mazli Mustaffa called on the graduating apprentices to use the knowledge and skills acquired during their apprenticeship to make a lasting impact on the project, the organisation as well as to the society.

"Let's work together in making the KUTS project a reality and with the highest level of professionalism and integrity and be the pride of Sarawak Metro and Sarawak," he said.

Mazli also thanked the industry partners who participated in the SEED Programme, especially for providing the hands-on opportunity for the apprentices to learn first-hand from the original equipment manufacturers involved in the KUTS project.

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“We are fortunate that our apprentices were able to undergo their industrial attachments at Global Rail Sdn Bhd in Cheras, Selangor; CRRC Holding Group Co. Ltd in Changsa, China; Fangda Innotech Co. Ltd in Shenzhen, China and Tangshan Baichuan Intelligent Machine Co. Ltd in Tangshan, China.”

This year’s YTP graduates were Muhammad Razi bin Yunus, Jordie Jara anak Julian, Chairmain Joanna anak Stephen Cornet, Dayangku Aisyah Ahmad binti Awang Basuandi, Fa’ezad bin Resat, Muhammad Afio Rudi, Muhammad Firdaus bin Aslan, Syammil Mohd Ishak, Alistar Junior anak Jikim, Addery Ingka anak Andok, Farid Hamizan bin Roslan, Nur Muhammad bin Mohamad Toni, Shahrul Shazwan bin Saribudin and Dylan Kyle Laga anak Nelson Jugah.

For this year’s YTP graduation, the Best Apprentice Award went to Jordie Jara anak Julian, with the Best Mentor Award going to Mohd Samsir Saudah.

The YTP is one of the initiatives under Sarawak Metro’s SEED Programme; designed to develop a pool of skilled talent for the KUTS project, with the aim of producing a total of 60 graduates from the programme by 2027.

Since the YTP’s introduction in 2021, Sarawak Metro has trained a total of 24 apprentices including those graduating today and another 33 apprentices are currently undergoing their apprenticeship.

Sarawak Metro remains committed to creating value through the KUTS project by equipping young talents with mentoring, training and real-world exposure through local and international industrial attachments.

Ends

Photos & Captions:

Photo 1:



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Caption: The 14 graduating apprentices posing a group photograph with Tan Sri Datuk Amar Haji Abdul Aziz (6th from left), Mazli (5th from right) and Director of Corporate Communication, SEED Programme and Bumiputera Relations Alexius Barieng (5th left).

Photo 2:



Caption: Abdul Aziz presented the Best Apprentice Award to Jordie Jara anak Julian (2nd left). Also in the photo (from right): Ts. Mazli and Alexius Barieng, Director of Corporate Communication, SEED Programme and Bumiputera Relations.

Photo 3:



The trainees who are still undergoing their apprenticeship showing their talent by performing the Dikir Barat to kick start the graduation ceremony programme.

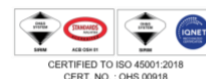
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About Sarawak Metro and KUTS project:

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 has been entrusted to implement, operate and maintain 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.

Construction of the first package for the Blue Line is expected to complete by the fourth quarter of 2025 and all three lines are scheduled to be fully completed by the end of 2027.

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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