

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

27 October 2025

### **Sarawak Metro leads development of Malaysia's first TVET Module for ART Systems**

**KUCHING, 27 October 2025** – Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd aims to formulate the first Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) module for Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) systems; towards creating a pool of talents for the skilled manpower needs of the future.

To kick-start this initiative, Sarawak Metro recently collaborated with the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) Project's System Package 1 contractor – EMG JV (a joint venture between EPR (Kuching) Sdn Bhd, Mobilus Sdn Bhd and Global Rail Sdn Bhd) – in holding the inaugural 'TVET Module Workshop 2025'.

The workshop, themed 'Powering Malaysia's First MRO TVET Module for ART Systems – Together, We Build the Future' was organised under Sarawak Metro's Socio-Economic Enhancement Development (SEED) Programme.

The workshop marked a key milestone in the development of Malaysia's first Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) TVET module for the ART system.

In a statement, Sarawak Metro chief executive officer Ts. Mazli Mustaffa emphasised on the workshop's significance in building Sarawak's future-ready workforce for the state's urban mobility transformation.

"Sarawak Metro's journey towards sustainable urban mobility through the ART system represents not only a technological milestone but also a human capital mission.

"To operate and maintain this system successfully, we must have a skilled, competent, and future-ready local workforce," said Mazli.

He added that the workshop brought together industry experts and training institutions to co-develop a structured, industry-aligned TVET module tailored for the KUTS project's ART systems.

The objectives of the workshop included identifying core module titles and learning outcomes for ART maintenance and repair, aligning the curriculum with international industry and safety standards, and integrating hydrogen technology knowledge relevant to the system.

Mazli highlighted that the initiative demonstrates cross-sector collaboration at its best – combining technical expertise, educational insight, and local knowledge to ensure Sarawak's workforce is well-equipped to support the state's sustainable transport ecosystem.

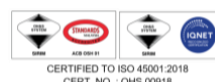
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“Together, we are not just creating a module, but we are allso building capability, creating opportunities, and shaping the next generation of Sarawak’s transportation industry professionals,” he said.

In his opening remarks, Sarawak Metro’s Project Director Zafrin Zakaria expressed his appreciation for the collaborative efforts between Sarawak Metro and its contractors, in jointly developing training modules aimed at cultivating a skilled talent pool to support the organisation’s future needs.

He added, “I look forward to seeing more of such meaningful collaborations in the future, as they are instrumental in nurturing young talents who will help sustain our projects and operations in the years to come.”

The TVET Module Workshop 2025 serves as a platform for industry and education partners to share knowledge and develop practical outcomes that will contribute to the successful implementation and long-term operation of the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS).

Among those attending the workshop were Sarawak Metro SEED Programme Advisor, Dato’ Dr Zailani Safari; EMG JV Project Director, Mohd Asmadi Abdul Manaf; Sarawak Skills Chief Strategy Officer, Mohamad Isham Fauzi; and ADTEC JTM Kota Samarahan Head of Corporate & Employment Support Service (CESS) Division, Ts. Abdul Aswaridzal Abdullah.

ENDS

Photos and captions:



Attendees of the workshop having group discussion

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Attendees taking group photo after the opening ceremony of the workshop.

## About Sarawak Metro and KUTS project:

Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro) 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.

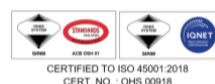
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