



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SMEs ~ Connecting the Dots

Significant Launch to Promote Business and Market Opportunities
at SME Annual Showcase (SMIDEX) 2014

Kuala Lumpur, 7 May 2014 - SME Corp. Malaysia achieved a 30% noteworthy potential increase in sales with negotiations valued at RM322.24 million with over 165 business-matching sessions, last year. This year the SME Annual Showcase (SMIDEX) 2014 will be back once again, marking yet another milestone with a strong global presence. YBhg Datuk Ir. (Dr.) Mohamed Al Amin Hj. Abdul Majid, Chairman of SME Corp. Malaysia announced today that the 17th SME Annual Showcase will be held on 4th to 6th June 2014 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC).

The event was organised by SME Corp. Malaysia, an agency under the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) the 17th SME Annual Showcase (SMIDEX) 2014 will be officiated by Y.A.B. Dato' Sri Mohd. Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia, The announcement of SMIDEX was made at the Media Networking Event: SMIDEX 2014 & SME Week 2014 at SME Corp. Malaysia today.

SMIDEX is an annual event which is designed to showcase the capabilities and capacities of Malaysian SMEs in producing products, services and technologies for the global market. It will also draw Multinational Corporations (MNCs) and large companies to participate to display parts and components that they would like to acquire from small and medium enterprises. With this year's theme "SMEs Connecting the Dots", SMIDEX 2014 will connect SMEs to all the available opportunities which include business enablers such as new business tools and business solution as well as information on policy, regulation related to business and SMEs development.

"This year, from the interests shown by the various international communities, including the presence of local large companies and MNCs, we are expecting a target exceeding that of SMIDEX 2013. Through systematic networking, backed by a strong international presence and a positive business climate, I am confident of a continuous success of the Event, with a significant increase expected in the value of negotiated sales this year.", said YBhg Datuk Ir. (Dr.) Mohamed Al Amin.

To date, 308 companies have confirmed their participation and out of these companies, 68 booths will be opened by Brunei, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Morocco, Oman, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey, and the United Kingdom combined which will be located at the International Pavilion. SME Corp. Malaysia is anticipating more than 10,000 visitors to converge at the SME Annual Showcase (SMIDEX) 2014.

Renowned organisations such as BAE Systems, Siemens, Post Malaysia, Boustead Naval Shipyard Sdn Bhd, Aeon Big and My Outlets Pte Ltd will also be participating in the showcase. With the support and sponsorship by TM Berhad, MIDF, RHB Bank, UEM, Malaysia SME, Touch n' Go, Maybank, SME Bank, MDV, Petronas, ABX, and AIBIM, the showcase is geared to be the best ever.

“In addition, I would also like to invite business owners and participating SMEs to grab the opportunity to take part in our pre-arranged business matching sessions, which will be conducted on-site during the Showcase. We will also be arranging for business meetings with our partners amongst MNCs, to explore potential outsourcing opportunities with the SME”, added YBhg Datuk Ir. (Dr.) Mohamed Al Amin .

As SMIDEX's primary focus is on enhancing innovation, the SME Innovation Award 2014 will also be presented to the top most innovative companies by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, during the event in June.

In recognising the significance of Malaysian SMEs as the backbone of the country's economy, the SME Week will also celebrate the active contributions and capabilities of our country's SME Community. As an institutionalised annual event platform organised in the fourth week of June, the SME Week secures support from all related ministries and agencies, who also align their SME programmes and activities throughout the week. Themed “Small Businesses, Big Ideas”, SME Week was first introduced in 2012 and aims to not only disseminate information for promoting SME products and services; but to also foster a culture of entrepreneurship in the country.

For more information about the SMIDEX 2014, please visit: <http://www.smidex.my>

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SME Corp. Malaysia

SME Corp. Malaysia is a Central Coordinating Agency that formulates overall policies and strategies for SMEs and coordinates the implementation of SME Development Programmes across all related Ministries and Agencies.

It acts as the central point of reference for research and data dissemination on SMEs, as well as, provides advisory services for SMEs in Malaysia. SME Corp. Malaysia also assumes the role of the Secretariat to the National SME Development Council (NSDC) which is chaired by YAB Prime Minister of Malaysia.