

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## EMPOWERING SME RETAILERS THROUGH INNOVATIVE SUPPLY CHAIN & LOGISTIC SOLUTIONS

**SHAH ALAM, 3 May 2017 –** A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on research collaboration between SME Corp. Malaysia and Malaysia Institute for Supply Chain Innovation (MISI) was signed today at the MISI Campus, Bukit Jelutong, Shah Alam. The MoU covers joint collaboration in the field of supply chain and logistics. Through this MoU, the research aimed at gaining better insights on the challenges faced by Malaysian SME retailers in order to develop innovative supply chain and logistic solutions.

MISI is a research institute established in 2011 pursuant to a joint initiative between the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the Government of Malaysia. MISI is a part of the MIT Global SCALE (Supply Chain and Logistics Excellence) Network, an international alliance of leading edge research and educational organizations. Apart from being a degree granting academic institutions, MISI also conducts research and corporate outreach activities for global as well as local firms that operate in the region.

For the signing ceremony, SME Corp. Malaysia was represented by the Chief Executive Officer, YBhg. Datuk (Dr.) Hafsah Hashim, while MISI was represented by Prof. Dr. David Gonsalvez, who is the Chief Executive Officer and Rector of MISI.

The signing ceremony mark another research and academic collaboration for SME Corp. Malaysia. The research currently conducted by MISI is focusing on supply chain operations as well as the type of supply chain practices by Malaysian SME retailers. SME Corp. Malaysia undertake this joint effort and endeavor to support each other with the objective of assisting Malaysian SMEs to improve their supply chain management and productivity.

The MoU is also an important platform and forum for the exchange of information, experience, knowledge and best practices involving issues for the mutual benefit of both parties.

## #END#

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## About 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.