



In September 2016, a delegation from Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS) paid a courtesy call on Sarawak Head of State, His Excellency Tun Pehin Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud, at the Astana Negeri. During the visit, PPKS Chairman Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain highlighted on the future developments of PPKS, the Centre of Excellence in Information Technology and the proposed establishment of the

Centre of Metallurgy in Mukah. His Excellency and the PPKS Management Team also discussed the importance of working together with relevant authorities to conduct outreach programmes to schools. This would be part of the ongoing effort to improve English and Mathematics at an early stage and prepare students for future endeavours. The Chairman of PPKS was accompanied by

the members of PPKS Management Council, namely Dato Hajah Maznah binti Haji Dasmi (Secretary), Tuan Haji Hilmy bin Haji Othman (Treasurer), Mr. Hallman bin Haji Sabri (PPKS's Executive Director), Mr. Mohamad Isham bin Fauzi (Chief Executive Officer of i-CATS), Mr. Mohd Asri bin Abdullah (PPKS's Chief Financial Officer) and Madam Linda John Tambie (PPKS's Corporate Communications Manager).



SKILLING THE NATION'S FUTURE

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We are pleased to release the January to September 2016 issue of WORKFORCE, the official newsletter of Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS). It features updates on events and happenings in PPKS.

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PPKS Group of Companies :



i-CATS

AWISAR
AWARDEE & WELL-KNOWN OF SARAWAK



KUCHING
PPKS GROUP OF COMPANIES

MUKAH
PPKS GROUP OF COMPANIES

MIRI
PPKS GROUP OF COMPANIES



At PPKS, we have long realized the importance of remaining steadfast in our mission to provide the very best of training and education. In today's vibrant global economy, the need to fly the flag of excellence in one's core business activities, has brought to the fore, the importance of innovation in creating business value. This has added an exciting dimension to the broad canvas of the economy.

In recent years, much has been written about the rise of the reputation economy. It is said that this "New Economy" beckons the modern-day entrepreneur to chart a course through a sea of uncertainty, not unlike the explorers of the past. In this respect, organisations around the world have been quick to see the all-important link between reputation-building and fostering a culture of professional integrity.

At PPKS, our close ties with many leading organisations have enabled us to keep abreast of advances in industry and facilitated the development of leading-edge course curricula. Our collaborations with partner universities from Malaysia and around the globe have also contributed immensely in advancing teaching and learning processes at PPKS. Indeed, our treasured collaborations as highlighted above, have led to the development of a broad spectrum of industry-relevant programmes.



Hallman Haji Sabri
Executive Director

Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak



**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
PERSPECTIVE**





OFFICIAL OPENING OF *i*-CATS WEST CAMPUS



14 July 2016 was indeed a Special Day as PPKS Chairman and *i*-CATS President Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain officiated at the Opening Ceremony of the International College of Advanced Technology Sarawak (*i*-CATS) West Campus at Jalan Stampin Timur, Kuching. The Multi-purpose Hall was renamed Tan Sri Aziz Multi-purpose Hall, a fitting tribute to



our Chairman for his many years of exemplary leadership in PPKS/*i*-CATS. The 1.4 hectare property of the former Inti College Sarawak was purchased by *i*-CATS following a share sale agreement in November 2013. The campus is able to accommodate around 3000 staff and students. It was indeed a significant milestone for the PPKS Group in its quest to produce competent graduates who contribute positively to advances in global industry.

Majlis Ramah Tamah Aidilfitri

“Employees and stakeholders ought to work closely with each other in order to achieve the organisation’s common goals including to support the state’s initiatives to produce a competent and skilled workforce, in line with the state’s development” said Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain, Chairman of Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak during the Management Council Members and staff gathering in conjunction with the Aidilfitri celebration.

Also present were PPKS Executive Director Mr. Hallman Sabri, *i*-CATS Chief Executive Officer Mr. Mohamad Isham Fauzi, PPKS Management Council Vice-Chairman Mr. Shamsur Taha, Secretary Datuk Hajah Maznah Dasmī, other council members, and staff members of the PPKS Group.



PPKS/i-CATS Technical Education

Exhibits at Borneo Post International Education Fair (BPIEF) 2016



Fifth from left: BPIEF 2016 Patron, Minister of Women, Welfare and Family Development YB Datuk Hajjah Fatimah Abdullah with staff of PPKS

The Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS) group of companies including the Intenational College of Advanced Technology Sarawak (i-CATS) and Automotive & Welding Institute of Sarawak (AWISAR) participated in the two-day Borneo Post International Education Fair (BPIEF) on 27 and 28 February 2016.

Held at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCKC), more than 90 exhibitors (from Malaysia and overseas) participated in the 7th edition of the fair. At the PPKS booth, various interactive activities were organized for visitors (parents, working adults, students and school leavers). These included lucky draws, photo-taking booth, quizzes and games. During the official opening, Minister of Women, Welfare and Family Development, YB Datuk Hajjah Fatimah binti Abdullah visited the PPKS booth.



Activities during BPIEF 2016



PPKS PARTICIPATES IN SCaT FAIR 2016

The PPKS group of companies participated in the Sarawak Career & Training Fair (SCaT Fair) 2016, held at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching from 8 to 10 March 2016.

The three-day event attracted many students seeking to further studies in technical field(s). The SCaT Fair was indeed the ideal venue for one to explore the broad range of TVET programmes including upskilling programmes. Throughout the event, there were many exciting activities at the PPKS/i-CATS booth such as lucky draws, photo sessions, goodies give-away and many more.



i-CATS Success Story

ABDUL RAHMAN BIN JULAIHI

Class of 2014 : Diploma in Mechanical Engineering Programme



Abdul Rahman Julaihi, a graduate of the *i*-CATS Diploma in Mechanical Engineering programme, is an exemplar of the need to adopt a disciplined approach to studies and life. He graduated with a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.75, a testimony to his quest to fly the Flag of Excellence! Abdul Rahman is currently an Assistant Engineer of Mechanical, Electrical & Telecommunication at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Kota Samarahan. A proud alumnus of *i*-CATS, he shared the following details about his studies in the Diploma in Mechanical Engineering programme: “I consider my time in *i*-CATS as my most valuable experience. During my studies, I had the chance to sharpen my skills in my field of choice. There were many opportunities to improve my social and communication skills. For example, Project Management at *i*-CATS taught me many new aspects of Management and Communication; essential building blocks for the future!” His message to current students at *i*-CATS: “Go to class and don’t even think of skipping classes. Get involved in discussions during team assignments. Respect your lecturers and instructors. Participate in college activities regularly because trust me, it helps you a lot outside! Besides that, keep calm and enjoy the student life. Don’t forget Newton’s Third Law in anything you are about to do: For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.”



Induction Course 9 March 2016



Lawatan Yayasan Peneraju
12 Jan 2016



Perhimpunan dan Amanat Tahunan
22 Jan 2016



PPKS SRSC Dinner 30 Jan 2016



PTPK Board Member Visit 1 Feb 2016



TalentCorp Meeting 19 Feb 2016

RIALS



AHZA & YAMATAKE Visit
22 March 2016



Audit by FMSSDC 18 March 2016



Audit by MPC 22 March 2016



Borneo Post International Education Fair
27 Feb 2016



Gotong-royong 5S 18 March 2016



Majlis Penyerahan Sumbangan
Tabung Bencana Banjir
Rumah Amal Nur Murni 11 Mac 2016

i-CATS OFFERS BACHELOR'S DEGREE

PROGRAMMES IN COLLABORATION WITH

INFRASTRUCTURE UNIVERSITY KUALA LUMPUR



At the International College of Advanced Technology Sarawak (i-CATS), collaborations with partner universities from Malaysia and around the globe have contributed immensely to advances in teaching and learning processes. This year, i-CATS reached a significant milestone with the launching of two Bachelor's degree programmes offered in collaboration with Infrastructure University Kuala Lumpur.

The two programmes are:

1. Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons.) in E-Commerce; and
2. Bachelor of Software Engineering (Hons.)

This is a first for i-CATS (offering Bachelor's degree programme) and a leap forward, firmly establishing itself as an institution of choice, with a broad spectrum of programmes from certificate(s) to Bachelor's degree(s).

i-CATS SIGNS MoU

WITH SOUTH KOREAN UNIVERSITY

PROGRAMMES
& STUDIES



On 18 May 2016, the International College of Advanced Technology Sarawak (i-CATS) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Kangwon Tourism College, South Korea. The MoU was signed by Mr. Mohamad Isham bin Fauzi (i-CATS Chief Executive Officer) and Professor Lee Yeon-Hwa (the Chief Administrator of Kangwon Tourism College) in the presence of Mr. Hallman bin Haji Sabri (PPKS Executive Director) and Professor Kim Yung-Suk (from Kangwon Tourism College).

In his address, Mr. Hallman highlighted that the MoU was a springboard to explore opportunities in student and staff exchange programmes, joint research projects, and new course development, especially in Tourism related courses. He emphasized that, “this is in line with our objective to produce tourism graduates (through our Diploma in Environmental Tourism Management programme) who will be able to thrive in today’s ever-vibrant global environment.” These developments would add a new dimension to the tertiary education landscape in Sarawak.

Mr. Hallman also thanked Mr. John Kim for coordinating the visit by the Kangwon Tourism College entourage to i-CATS. He added that in recent years, global tourism had undergone numerous transformations with countries around the world implementing various initiatives to welcome business travellers and holidaymakers. Indeed, the quest to become the destination of choice has given birth to many innovations aimed at enhancing the experience of every traveller, whether on business or leisure.

INAUGURAL EMPLOYABILITY BOOT CAMP



Sarawak Skills Development Centre (PPKS) and TalentCorp Malaysia co-organised the Inaugural Employability Boot Camp at PPKS Headquarters, Tabuan Jaya, Kuching from 22 to 24 March 2016. The Boot Camp provides a platform for students to be well-prepared prior to entering the workforce.

One of the primary objectives of this programme is to improve fresh and unemployed graduates' communication and soft skills through an intensive series of activities specifically designed for the entire boot camp, such as CV Tailoring, Grooming Etiquette, Interview Skills as well as Discussing the Impact and Effect of Social Media with inspirational speakers and industry practitioners.

Through this boot camp, participants had the opportunity to develop their skill sets and participate in role-play workshops along with real-life interview sessions during the third day of the programme.

Prospective employers from various sectors like Oil and Gas, Electrical and Electronics, Telecommunications, Information and Communications Technology (ICT) as well as Small and Medium-sized Enterprises conducted interviews at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCKK) for the participants and offered successful candidates placement opportunities in their organisations. Graduates seeking employment were also channelled to the Graduate Employability Management Scheme (GEMS) which is funded by TalentCorp to enhance graduate employability and to reduce talent shortages in the key areas of the economy by 2020.

The exclusive boot camp was open to all Malaysian degree holders, final year or final semester students who are not more than 27 years of age.

PPKS TREATS UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN

TO AN IFTAR DINNER



PPKS hosted a ‘Majlis Berbuka Puasa & Khatamal Quran’ event for 57 children from Yayasan Kemajuan Insan Sarawak (YAKIN) and Baiturramah at its headquarters in Tabuan Jaya. The noble gesture was part of PPKS’s ongoing effort to foster closer ties with the community and to reach out to the underprivileged.

Prior to ‘iftar’, the children were given a motivational talk by an invited guest, Ustaz Adnan Zain. 15 children/students from PPKS Vocational College, YAKIN and Baiturramah performed the ‘Khatamal Quran’. PPKS Chairman, Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain handed out “duit raya” to the children and PPKS students. Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz was accompanied by Mr. Hallman bin Haji Sabri, Executive Director of PPKS.



PPKS OUTREACH TO RUMAH AMAL NUR MURNI

On 11 March 2016, thirty staff members of Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS) visited Rumah Amal Nur Murni and spent time with the kids. The residential institution for care and education of orphans, located at Batu Kawa, provides shelter to 35 orphans, aged from three to fifteen years old. The entourage, led by Puan Hajjah Hamdiah Sazali, PPKS Senior Manager Student Services was welcomed by the house head, Puan Siti Khadijah. The day spent with the kids was filled with joyous activities such as indoor games and quizzes. Due to a recent flash flood at the orphanage, the PPKS Corporate Communication Division organised a fund-raising activity, Tabung Bencana Banjir. The proceeds were handed over to Puan Siti Khadijah during the visit.



Group photo: PPKS Staff with Children of Rumah Amal Nur Murni



PERTANDINGAN KIMPALAN SARAWAK 2016



Pada 27 dan 28 September 2016, AWISAR telah menyertai Pertandingan Kimpalan Sarawak 2016 yang dianjurkan oleh LINDE EOX yang diadakan di Institut Latihan Perindustrian Sarawak (ILPS) di Kota Samarahan. Antara institusi yang menyertai pertandingan ini ialah Giat MARA, CENTEX, ADTEC Bintulu, AITC, ILPS dan AWISAR sendiri. AWISAR menghantar 4 orang peserta untuk bertanding dalam 2 kategori iaitu Projek Mini (Pressure Vessel) dan Projek Mini (6G SMAW). AWISAR telah meraih tempat ketiga dalam kategori Projek Mini (Pressure Vessel).



PPKS MEMETERAI MEMORANDUM PERSEFAHAMAN

(MOU) DENGAN UBP PRINTING SDN BHD

PPKS/i-CATS
MIRI

Miri, 12 Mei 2016 – PPKS menandatangani Memorandum Persefahaman (MoU) dengan UBP Printing Sdn. Bhd. bagi kerjasama khidmat kepakaran dan kebolehpasaran graduan dalam industri percetakan.

Timbalan Pengarah Eksekutif (Pendidikan dan Latihan) PPKS, Encik Zakri Md. Salleh berkata, jalinan kerjasama dengan pihak UBP berkenaan dilihat mampu memberi ruang berkongsi pendapat antara institusi pendidikan ini dengan pihak industri.

“Melalui usahasama yang dijalinkan ini, pihak UBP dapat berkongsi kepakaran mereka kepada PPKS untuk menambahbaik silibus pengajaran beberapa kursus dan diselaraskan dengan kehendak industri semasa. Kita memerlukan idea dan kepakaran pihak industri untuk menyumbang pendapat mereka dalam bidang pendidikan Teknikal dan Vokasional (TVET), apabila keluar daripada PPKS nanti, para pelajar akan lebih berkemahiran kekok dengan perubahan di industri kelak”, katanya. Perjanjian itu ditandatangani antara Encik Zakri Md. Salleh yang mewakili Pengarah Eksekutif PPKS, Encik Hallman Haji Sabri dan Pengarah Urusan UBP, Encik Sim Yong Liang. Turut hadir dalam majlis tersebut ialah Pengarah Kampus Miri, Encik John Rizal Biki.



PPKS/i-CATS MIRI ADAKAN SAMBUTAN HARI GURU 2016

MMiri, 19 Mei 2016 – PPKS/i-CATS Miri melalui Kelab Sosial dan Rekreasi Staf (SRSC) telah mengadakan Sambutan Hari Guru buat julung kalinya bagi kampus ini. Menurut Pengerusi SRSC Miri, Encik Mohd Aliff Idzwan Abdullah, berkata aktiviti buat julung kali ini diadakan bagi mengenang jasa pensyarah dan pengajar PPKS/i-CATS Miri.

“Ini merupakan salah satu aktiviti yang dirancang khas oleh Kelab SRSC Miri pada tahun ini dengan menghargai para kakitangan yang memberikan ilmu terbaik untuk pelajar kita. Saya juga berharap aktiviti ini akan diadakan lagi pada tahun hadapan” katanya. Majlis yang sederhana tetapi meriah ini disambut baik oleh semua kakitangan cawangan ini.

PPKS/i-CATS Miri Mengadakan

Hari Pilihanraya Bagi JPP Sesi 2016/2017

Miri, 4 Mei 2016 – PPKS/i-CATS Miri melalui Unit Hal-Ehwal Pelajar (HEP) telah mengadakan hari mengundi bagi memilih Jawatankuasa Perwakilan Pelajar (JPP) yang baharu bagi sesi 2016/2017. Bagi pengundian kali ini, sebanyak 82 peratus pelajar telah menjalankan tanggungjawab masing-masing sebagai pengundi bagi memilih wakil pelajar mereka. Seramai 18 orang pelajar telah menjadi calon bagi pilihanraya JPP kali ini, dan seramai 14 orang calon telah terpilih yang terdiri daripada 7 orang pelajar masing-masing mewakili i-CATS dan juga PPKS. Calon bernama Deryana binti Morhos menjadi Pengerusi JPP sesi 2016/2017 pada kali ini.



PPKS/i-CATS MIRI AGIH 300 BUNGKUS BUBUR LAMBUK KEPADA ORANG AWAM

Miri, 22 Jun 2016 – Sempena bulan Ramadhan, PPKS/i-CATS Miri buat julung kalinya menganjurkan program pengagihan bubur lambuk pandu lalu kepada orang awam. Penganjuran program yang dikelola oleh Kelab Sosial dan Rekreasi Staf (SRSC) Miri berminat mengimarahkan bulan Ramadhan dan mengeratkan persaudaraan dikalangan staf.

Pengerusi SRSC PPKS/i-CATS Miri, Encik Mohd Aliff Idzwan Abdullah berkata, program pengagihan bubur lambuk ini adalah satu daripada tanggungjawab sosial korporat (CSR) kepada komuniti sempena Ramadhan. “300 bekas bubur lambuk disediakan dan diagihkan sempena Program Pengagihan Bubur Lambuk PPKS/i-CATS Miri kepada komuniti setempat sekitar Lutong. Program memasak bubur lambuk yang diadakan di perkarangan PPKS/i-CATS Miri itu dibuat secara bergotong-royong oleh kakitangan kolej. Program berjalan dengan lancar dengan sokongan daripada semua kakitangan yang saling membantu daripada awal penyediaan bahan sehingga proses mengagihnya”, katanya.



Cik Azimah Abdul Rahim menyediakan bahan untuk kuih popia basah



En Tuah Basir sedang mengagihkan bubur lambuk kepada pengguna kenderaan di hadapan PPKS Miri