



# WORKFORCE *iCATS*

*Talent Development,  
Our Commitment*

The official newsletter of Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS)

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## PPKS Hosts Second Industry Engagement Symposium: *Propelling Industry Through Strategic Human Capital Development*

**T**rue to its mission to develop a qualified and competent workforce through continuous learning and development, PPKS hosted the second Industry Engagement Symposium in RH Hotel, Sibu on 31 July 2017. The first Industry Engagement Symposium was held in Kuching on 26 April 2017.

Aptly themed 'Propelling Industry Through Strategic Human Capital Development', a total of 160 participants, comprising representatives from the Government and Industry attended the symposium. As part of his welcoming remarks, PPKS Executive Director Mr. Hallman Sabri highlighted that the symposium was a platform for the Government, Industry and Academia to engage in lively discourse about the role of Strategic Human Capital Development in propelling the industry in an ever-changing and vibrant global environment. He also emphasized that the symposium would facilitate deliberations on various key industry-relevant issues such as the role of the Human Resources Development Fund in human capital development, the benefits of apprenticeship schemes, the importance of skills enhancement, and preparing tomorrow's workforce.

In his speech to launch the symposium, Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Michael Manyin Jawong, Minister of Education, Science and Technological Research who was represented by Yang Berhormat Dr. Hj. Annuar Rapae, Assistant Minister of Education, Science and Technological Research, emphasized, "As the state progresses towards the realization of various development objectives, industries across the length and breadth of Sarawak play a very important role in Human Capital Development."



Mr. Hallman bin Sabri, PPKS Executive Director (fourth from right) presenting a token of appreciation to YB Dr. Hj. Annuar Rapae, Assistant Minister of Education, Science and Technological Research Sarawak.

To support the various development initiatives spearheaded by the State Government, he highlighted that the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research would identify the relevant issues, challenges, needs and opportunities to formulate a comprehensive plan to improve the education system in Sarawak. He also urged the employers to accept more graduates or school leavers with skilled or semi-skilled qualifications. This would pave the way for the younger generation to hone industry-relevant skills. Together with the launch of the Industry Engagement Symposium, the highlight of the symposium was the presentation by speakers from Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF), Workforce Development Unit, Federation of JPK Accredited Centers Malaysia (FeMAC), KnowledgeCom Corporation and PPKS.

Indeed, the symposium reaffirmed the importance of all stakeholders working as one to foster advances in Human Capital Development for Sarawak and Malaysia as a whole.

*Integrity, Trust & Respect, Teamwork, Customer First, Innovative, Results-driven*



# Talent Development, Our Commitment

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We are pleased to release the July to September 2017 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:





**Hallman Haji Sabri**  
Executive Director  
Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak

For us at PPKS, the period from July to September 2017 presented us with the opportunity to shift into high gear, and implement various initiatives aimed at transforming PPKS into a leader in industrial education and training.

Indeed, as we progress along our voyage, a number of our initiatives will centre on the exploration and development of new frontiers in training and development. This will necessitate an important strategic shift from a focus on the present, to exploring uncharted waters and a whole new world filled with exciting opportunities for PPKS and its stakeholders.

As a stakeholder in the transformation of Sarawak's economic and digital landscape, our strategic ties with the Government and Industry has facilitated the development of future-ready talent for our State and Nation. With the importance of Industry 4.0 and the Digital Economy, there is an urgent need for the various sectors of industry in Sarawak to leapfrog from Industry 2.0 to Industry 4.0. In this respect, as a Centre of Excellence in Technology (CoET), PPKS has received approval to conduct the National Empowerment in Certification and Training for Next Generation Workers (NECT-Gen – Industry 4.0) Programme for HRDF levy-contributing companies.

The main objective of the programme is to certify and upskill the current and next generation workforce through high-valued technology certification and training programmes. The programme is sponsored by HRDF under a special grant and there will be no levy deduction or payment required.

To advance the noble cause of Human Capital Development, it was an honour for PPKS to host the second Industry Engagement Symposium during the quarter. Held on 31 July 2017 in Sibul, the symposium was a platform for the Government, Industry and Academia to engage in lively discourse about the role of Strategic Human Capital Development in propelling the industry in an ever-changing and vibrant global environment.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to our newly elected Management Council Members for the 2017 - 2020 term. Their combined breadth and depth of experience covering the broad canvas of government and industry will be invaluable as we explore smart partnerships with the industry, opportunities for workforce training and development, and new staff development initiatives across the PPKS Group.



## PPKS 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting: Election of PPKS Management Council Members (2017 - 2020)

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) of PPKS was held on 2 August 2017 in the Senate Room of the International College of Advanced Technology Sarawak (i-CATS), Jalan Stampin Timur, Kuching. The election of Management Council Members for the 2017 to 2020 term was held during the AGM. During the AGM, there was also a presentation of Certificate(s) of Membership to the following new PPKS Members: Press Metal Bintulu Sdn. Bhd. and Yunco Enterprise Sdn. Bhd.

Sharing his thoughts on the AGM and election of the Management Council Members, PPKS Executive Director Mr. Hallman Sabri highlighted that PPKS has strong support from the Industry with more than 60 members. He added that the Management Council Members' combined breadth and depth of experience covering the broad canvas of government and industry would be invaluable for PPKS to facilitate its ongoing strategic initiatives such as exploring smart partnerships with the industry (including opportunities for workforce training and development), and new staff development initiatives across the PPKS Group.

For the 2017 - 2020 term, the distinguished members of the Management Council are as follows:



PPKS Management Council Members (2017 - 2020)

**Chairman**  
Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain  
*Sarakoppes Sdn. Bhd.*

**Vice Chairmen**  
Mr. Shamsur bin Taha  
*Petronas Sarawak Regional Office*  
Tuan Haji Hashim bin Haji Bojet  
*Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC)*  
Mr. Petehi bin Hipli  
*Sarawak Energy Berhad*

**Treasurer**  
Tuan Haji Hilmi bin Haji Othman  
*HIZONE Sdn. Bhd.*

**Secretary**  
Dato Hajah Maznah binti Dismi

Exco Members				
Datu Haji Mohammad Abu Bakar bin Marzuki <i>State Planning Unit</i>	Prof. Dr. Wan Hashim bin Wan Ibrahim <i>Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)</i>	Haji Azmi bin Bujang <i>Yayasan Sarawak</i>	Mr. Jumaini bin Haili <i>Dewan Bandaraya Kuching Utara</i>	Datu Sudarsono bin Osman <i>Ministry of Education, Science &amp; Technological Research (MESTR)</i>
Tan Sri Dato' Koon Poh Keong <i>Press Metal Bintulu Sdn. Bhd.</i>	Datu Liaw Soon Eng <i>Ministry of Industrial and Entrepreneur Development Sarawak (MEITI)</i>	Dato' Vignaesvaran A/L Jeyandran <i>Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF)</i>	Puan Hajah Norhizan binti Sazali <i>Brooke Dockyard &amp; Engineering Works Corporation</i>	
Mr. Jonathan Liew <i>KKB Engineering Bhd</i>	Mr. Sie Ing Kuok <i>KTS Timber Industries Berhad</i>	Mr. Andrew Wee Chio Huat <i>Samling Strategic Corporation</i>	Puan Ardini Ana <i>PETRONAS MLNG</i>	
Puan Norasiah Ibrahim <i>The Sarawak Electronics and Supporting Industries Companies Association (SECA)</i>		Dr. Anderson Tiong Ing Heng <i>Sarawak Information Systems Sdn. Bhd. (SAINS)</i>		



## MoU Inked between PPKS and JKMS During PPKS AGM



Exchange of MoU Documents between Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr.) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain (middle) and Tuan Haji Abang Shamsudin bin Abang Seruji. Mr. Hallman Sabri is standing next to Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr.) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain.

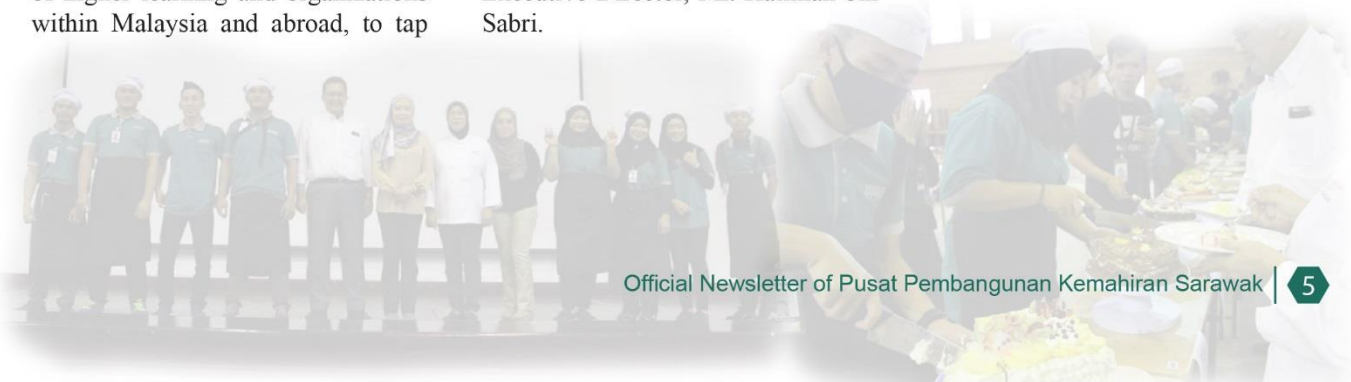
On 2 August 2017, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between PPKS and Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak (JKMS) during the PPKS Annual General Meeting which was held in the Senate Room of the International College of Advanced Technology Sarawak (i-CATS), Jalan Stampin Timur, Kuching. In his opening remarks, Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr.) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain, Chairman of Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran (PPKS) shared that PPKS had initiated a number of smart partnerships with various institutions of higher learning and organizations within Malaysia and abroad, to tap

into the latest technologies, and advances in teaching and learning.

The MoU between PPKS and JKMS covers skills and career development programmes for the youth. Under the pilot programme, 64 youths from underprivileged families will undergo 3-months' training in four skills programmes, namely Culinary Arts, Pastry Making, Computer Systems and Automotive at the PPKS Group of Institutions. During the signing ceremony, PPKS was represented by Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr.) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain and PPKS Executive Director, Mr. Hallman bin Sabri.

JKMS was represented by its Director, Tuan Haji Abang Shamsudin bin Abang Seruji, and Mr. Zainal bin Taram, Head, Division of Economic Development, Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak.

Indeed, the MoU with Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak would also pave the way for both organizations to explore various joint initiatives, especially in the development of future-ready talent for the industries in Sarawak and Malaysia as a whole.





**SMA Santo Paulus, Pontianak, Indonesia:  
5-day Study & Tour Programme at i-CATS  
(3 - 7 July 2017)**



**ISO 9001:2015 Document Review and Risk Identification  
Workshop  
(11 July 2017)**



**Campus Management Solution Workshop  
(14 July 2017)**



**Lawatan Pemantauan Program Peningkatan Kapasiti dan  
Kapabiliti Kumpulan Khusus (PPKKKK) Sarawak Bil. 1/2017  
(25 July 2017)**



**MoU Signing with State Planning Unit (SPU)  
at Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Kuching  
(23 August 2017)**



**Lawatan Kerja Jabatan Alam Sekitar Negeri Sarawak Ke PPKS  
Program Pertandingan Reka Cipta Bahan Baru Daripada Bahan Buangan  
(Creating New Out of Old)  
sempena Hari Alam Sekitar Negara (HASN) Peringkat Negeri Sarawak 2017  
(25 August 2017)**



Signing Ceremony between IDP Education Limited and PPKS Ilmu Sdn. Bhd. (*i*-CATS): Appointment of *i*-CATS as an Authorised Test Registration Centre for the IELTS Exams  
(28 August 2017)



Pertandingan Worldskills Malaysia Sarawak 2017 bagi Kategori HVAC (Refrigeration & Air-Conditioning) Peringkat Pra-kelayakan  
(29 August 2017)



Program Ibadah Korban 1438H Anjuran Surau Darul Ilmi PPKS dengan kerjasama Surau Nur Akmal, Kpg Belimbing, Krokong, Bau  
(3 September 2017)



Pameran dan Penilaian Projek Tahun Akhir Pelajar Mekatronik Tahap 4  
(7 September 2017)



Courtesy Visit to YBhg. Datu Sudarsono Osman, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research, Sarawak  
(8 September 2017)



PPKS Courtesy Visit to Sarawak Timber Association (STA)  
(15 September 2017)

## Happenings: Training & Consultancy Department



**Training Title :** AutoCAD Application Level 2  
**Client :** Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR)  
**Date :** 8 - 10 August 2017  
**Venue :** Computer Lab, PPKS Kuching



**Training Title :** Industry 4.0 Big Data Analytics  
Training Course  
**Date :** 14 - 16 August 2017  
**Venue :** Computer Lab, PPKS Kuching



**Training Title :** Industry 4.0 Big Data Training  
**Date :** 29 August 2017  
**Venue :** Computer Lab, PPKS Kuching



**Training Title :** AutoCAD Advanced Application - 3D  
**Client :** Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR)  
**Date :** 12 - 14 September 2017  
**Venue :** Computer Lab, PPKS Kuching



**Program Title :** Program Kemahiran dan Pemandaran Kerja Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak  
(Bidang Sistem Maklumat, Automotif, Kulinari dan Pastri)  
**Training Date :** 17 July - 1 December 2017  
**Venue :** PPKS Kuching



## *i*-CATS Hosts Study Tour for Students and Officials from Institut Pemerintahan Dalam Negeri (IPDN), Pontianak



During the first week of August 2017, the International College of Advanced Technology Sarawak (*i*-CATS) hosted a group of students and officials from Institut Pemerintahan Dalam Negeri (IPDN), Pontianak.

The delegation, led by Bapak Dedy Suhendi, Head of Academic Administration at IPDN Pontianak, comprised 7 officials and 17 cadets/students. Commenting on the Study Tour, Bapak Dedy shared that the purpose of the Study Tour was to enable them to experience first-hand, *i*-CATS's teaching and support facilities and the range of academic programmes. The Study Tour would also facilitate the sharing of knowledge and experience between both institutions.

When welcoming the visitors, Mr. Mohamad Isham bin Fauzi, CEO of *i*-CATS highlighted that the Study Tour would also enable both institutions to explore opportunities for collaboration, for example, Student and Staff Exchange Programmes, and joint research projects.

During the course of the five-day Study Tour, various activities were planned for the visitors such as a presentation by Dr. Leo Sing Lim, *i*-CATS Academic Director, and briefings on the Bachelor's degree programmes offered in collaboration with Infrastructure University Kuala Lumpur, namely the Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons.) in E-Commerce and Bachelor of Software Engineering (Hons.).



Visit to PPKS Tabuan Jaya. Madam Diana Ramping, PPKS Student Recruitment and Marketing Manager (seated, third from right) with Bapak Dedy Suhendi, Head of Academic Administration, IPDN Pontianak (seated, third from left) and the entourage.

During the Study Tour, the visitors also attended two sessions on Presentation and Communication Skills, conducted by Mr. Stanley Gona, Senior Manager of Corporate Services, Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS). Conducted in English, the participants gained an appreciation of the importance of good public speaking skills, and the nuts and bolts of effective speech organization and delivery. The participants had the opportunity to deliver prepared speeches to an audience comprising fellow participants and staff members of *i*-CATS.

In addition to a campus tour of *i*-CATS, the visitors also visited the PPKS campus at Tabuan Jaya and the Automotive and Welding Institute of Sarawak (AWISAR). At PPKS Tabuan Jaya and AWISAR, the visitors were briefed on the ongoing effort by the PPKS Group to develop the state's and nation's human capital, especially in the area of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). At part of the Study Tour, the visitors also visited various places of interest and tourist attractions in Kuching.



At *i*-CATS West Campus. Mr. Mohamad Isham bin Fauzi, CEO of *i*-CATS (back row, eighth from right) with Bapak Dedy Suhendi (eighth from left) with the entourage.

## PPKS Instructors Attend Technical English Programme

In line with the ongoing initiative to enhance teaching and learning across the PPKS Group of Institutions, twenty staff members (Instructors) from various PPKS campuses attended a Technical English Programme during the quarter.

Commencing 12 July 2017, the training sessions were held on Wednesday mornings over thirteen weeks. The programme was facilitated by Ms. Christina Lau, an Executive Trainer from the English Language Centre in Kuching. Ms. Lau has more than thirty-seven years' experience, teaching English to students and working adults. Over the years, she has also conducted numerous workshops (Corporate Training) across Sarawak.



Ms. Christina Lau conducting the programme.

The programme covered a wide range of topics such as Business Writing (Letters, Proposals and Reports), Communication and Presentation Skills. Indeed, the participants had many opportunities to hone essential skills, to enhance teaching delivery and overall classroom management.

Before the end of the programme, the staff members participated in exciting role-play exercises and sat for a final examination.



Mr. Mohamad Isham bin Fauzi, CEO i-CATS (seated centre) with members of PPKS Management and participants. Ms. Christina Lau, (Trainer) is seated second from right.



## HRDF Apprenticeship Scheme a Gateway to Exciting Careers: AWISAR Welcomes Inaugural Batch of Apprentices for the Welding Technician Programme

PPKS, as a registered training provider with the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF), relishes its role in developing future-ready talent to facilitate the transformation of Malaysia's vibrant economic landscape.

As an approved training provider to conduct HRDF's Apprenticeship Scheme (for Welding Technician, Electrical Technician, IT Technician and Mechatronics), PPKS is able to provide a wider range of industry-relevant courses to the nation's youths. The scheme prepares apprentices for exciting careers within Malaysia and abroad.

Recently, the Automotive and Welding Institute of Sarawak (AWISAR), a subsidiary company of PPKS, welcomed the inaugural batch comprising eighteen (18) apprentices for the Welding Technician programme. The training provided under the scheme is a combination of theory and practical sessions at AWISAR for six (6) months, followed by six (6) months of on-the-job training at the premises of sponsoring employers.

Trainees under the scheme are paid an allowance of RM500 per month. The eligibility for full payment of the allowance depends on the apprentice's attendance (minimum 80 percent attendance). The allowance during the off-the-job component at AWISAR is borne by HRDF whereas the allowance during the on-the-job component is borne by the sponsoring employer (through levy deduction or direct payment to the apprentice).

Upon successful completion of the training, apprentices will be awarded the Malaysian Skills Certificate Level 3 by the Department of Skills Development (DSD) and Apprenticeship Certificate issued by HRDF.

At AWISAR, apprentices have the option of joining the PETRONAS Vocational Institution Sponsorship and Training Assistance (VISTA) programme, an initiative targeted to enhance technical and vocational capabilities for Malaysian talents in the oil and gas industry. The 3-month programme prepares trainees for the certification test (6G Welding Certification).

With the successful launch of the Welding Technician programme, PPKS will also be reaching out to students (Penilaian Menengah Rendah (PMR)/Pentaksiran Tingkatan 3 (PT3) or Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) school leavers) to join the Apprentice Scheme for the Electrical Technician, IT Technician and Mechatronics programmes.



Safety Course for Apprenticeship Students



Mr. Jaidil bin Yakob (right), General Manager of AWISAR with Mr. Jong of Chiat Feng Mechanical Works Sdn. Bhd. (Sponsoring Employer)



Briefing before Welder Qualification Test

## Peningkatan Kebolehan-Kapasiti melalui Kursus Kejenteraan Ladang anjuran Jabatan Pertanian Miri



**S**AVTI (*Sarawak Agriculture Vocational Training Institute*) telah menyertai kursus Kejenteraan Ladang anjuran Jabatan Pertanian Miri. Kursus ini berlangsung selama dua hari iaitu pada 26 dan 27 Julai 2017, bertempat di Bengkel Pertanian, Pusat Penyelidikan Pertanian Wilayah Utara. SAVTI telah diwakili oleh 6 orang tenaga pengajar dan 35 orang pelatih manakala Jabatan Pertanian Wilayah Sarawak telah diwakili oleh 20 orang pegawai.

Matlamat utama kursus adalah untuk memberi pendedahan kepada peserta mengenai cara-cara pengendalian serta penggunaan mesin-mesin ladang dengan betul. Di antara pengisian kursus berkenaan adalah penerangan secara teori pada hari pertama dan seterusnya penerangan secara praktikal pada hari kedua kursus tersebut diadakan.