



MTC'S PLACEMENT PROGRAMME FOR ENGINEERS, INTERNS

KUALA LUMPUR (2 MARCH 2021): MTC launched its maiden Engineer Placement and Internship in Timber Industry Programme (EPIP) 2021 at the Zenith Hotel in Putrajaya, today.

The EPIP, which is the first for the timber industry, is held in collaboration with higher learning institutions and the timber associations in the country.

The programme was jointly launched by the Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities YB Dato' Dr Mohd Khairuddin Aman Razali and the Minister of Higher Education YB Datuk Seri Dr Noraini Ahmad.

Also present at the event were Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities Dato' Sri Dr Wee Jeck Seng, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities Datuk Ravi Muthayah, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Higher Education Datuk Seri Dr Mazlan Yusoff, Dato' Ahmad Nadzarudin Abdul Razak, who represented MTC Chairman, MTC Board of Trustees and MTC CEO Tuan Muhtar Suhaili.

The programme, which is divided into

two parts, will be a platform for engineers, wood technology graduates and undergraduates to be absorbed into timber-based companies for training and internship.

The engineer placement programme is a one-year programme where engineers will undergo on-the-job training under the guidance of a professional while the internship programme would involve undergraduates for industrial training.

Dato' Dr Mohd Khairuddin said the EPIP will boost graduates' marketability and strengthen the development of the timber industry. He said this after witnessing the signing of a Memorandum of

Understanding (MoU) between MTC, the timber associations and higher learning institutions.

MTC Chairman Tuan Haji Mazli Zakuan Mohd Noor said the EPIP was part of the Council's efforts to help the timber industry to embrace digitisation and automation in gearing the sector towards IR4.0. He said this in his speech which was read by Dato' Ahmad Nadzarudin Abdul Razak.

The universities involved in the programme are Universiti Malaya, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia, Universiti Putra Malaysia, International Islamic University Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi Mara, University Kuala Lumpur and Tunku Abdul Rahman University College as well as two polytechnics.

EPIP is part of MTC's Five-Plan which centres on building knowledge talent for the timber industry. MTC will absorb the training cost as well as provide allowances.

