

Penang Investment Updates (July- September 2014)



Revitalisation and Rejuvenation of Bayan Lepas Industrial Park – Innoplex Complex

The Penang state government has been proactive in its focus on sustainability and spurring growth especially in industrial development. In line with the aim to revitalise and rejuvenate Bayan Lepas Industrial Park and Bandar Bayan Baru, PDC developed a RM62 million Innoplex Building to house Motorola’s R&D operations. This is the third building to rejuvenate and revitalise Bayan Lepas Industrial Park after Osram’s Skill Development Centre and SME Centre.

“The Innoplex building is the first step towards the convergence of talent, technology and tolerance which are the key elements of a creative cluster. With tolerance as one of the factors, people can come up with new ideas without fear” announced the Chief Minister of Penang, the Rt Honourable Mr. Lim Guan Eng, in a press conference on August 21 held in KOMTAR.

Completed in June 2014, the 7 storey high-tech building has a built up area of 193,795 square feet with 1,200 car parks. The Innoplex Building is meant to merge Motorola’s operations of its two previous sites in Penang. The building is leased over 10-years, a deal arranged with PDC, thereby reducing Motorola’s cost of operations and enhancing their operating efficiencies.

The Innoplex project is a sound example of Penang’s accommodating climate of its investors through assisting them to be asset light and provide the incentives for them to grow their operations in Penang in the long run.



Business Matching with Thailand Delegation

On 25 September, InvestPenang hosted in collaboration with Penang International Halal Hub and Penang Global Tourism, a 'Business Seminar and Business Matching Session with Thai Delegation' in Traders Hotel Penang. The delegates from Thailand and Penang were given a valuable opportunity to discuss ways to engage in economic and developmental cooperation to boost trade between Thailand and Penang. The event was attended by 47 Thai delegates and more than 100 local participants. The business seminar was officiated by Deputy Chief Minister 1, Datuk Mohd Rashid Hasnon who mentioned that the objective of the programme was to provide a platform for entrepreneurs from Penang and Thailand to develop business networks and to exploit vast business opportunities.

Akarapong Dipavajra, director of the Trade and Investment Cooperation Division of the Foreign Trade Department of Thailand Ministry of Commerce, in his speech mentioned the eagerness of Thailand to expand its trade relation with Penang, with a special focus on the construction and seafood sectors. He saw Penang as a very well-developed state, as evidenced by the various MNCs investing there.

The session includes presentation by InvestPenang, Penang International Halal Hub and Penang Global Tourism. The presentations convey the uniqueness of Penang to hold a heritage city within a modern and industrialized state and the vast investment attractions. InvestPenang included in their presentation, the investment incentives for investors, the key projects in Penang and along with the major infrastructure upgrading to allow Penang to become a knowledge intensive state.

The session was followed by a round table discussion for the government officials. The objectives of the roundtable meeting session was to discuss on opportunities and challenges for trade, investment, and tourism that Thailand-Malaysia can work together to increase value and facilitate on bilateral trade, investment, and tourism between the two regions.



International interns from Japan in Penang MNC and LLC

Penang hosted International interns from Japan via their attachment to several MNCs and LLCs here. Under Japan Education Ministry's program, the Japanese students were from the Asia University Junior College in Tokyo. The college's International Relations faculty professor, Takao Arai who were in Penang for the student's farewell said that this was their first time in conducting an internship programme at an international level. They have sent a total of 20 students around the world for the programme, 4 of them are in Penang while some are in China, Singapore, Hong Kong and South Korea.

A farewell ceremony was held to commemorate the Japanese interns who have completed their attachments. InvestPenang General Manager, Ms. Loo Lee Lian in her opening speech for the farewell ceremony addressed the crucial importance of retaining human talent in assuring the growth of Penang hence, The Penang Career Assistance and Talent (CAT) Centre were set up to help retain and pool human talent in Penang. In line with the aim to enhance the talents, the new generation of talents has to be equipped with 'international common sense', broadening of vision, cross-cultural adaptability and strong communication ability. Therefore the foreign internship program is a win-win for the world's talent pool.

The four interns were assigned to Globetronics, United BC Team Sdn Bhd and Jabil Circuit. In an interview with the Japanese interns, Ayumi Koike, 20, expressed that her dream of studying abroad had come true, adding that she truly enjoyed the month-long stay in Penang and the experience of the Malaysian culture.

Itsuke Ueda, 21, who was attached to United BC Team Sdn Bhd expressed his enjoyment in using the public transport to travel from Penang to Ipoh and Langkawi on his off-days. Itsuke and Ayumi are among the four Japanese students who completed their internship in September. The others were Hitomi Saito, 20, and Narumi Ijima, 21, both completed their internship at Jabil Circuit Sdn Bhd.

This program is also aimed to promote Penang as a great destination to live, learn, work and play as the returning interns can help to promote Penang to their country. Companies who are interested to recruit local or international interns are welcome to contact the Penang CAT Centre at pgcat@investpenang.gov.my.



**“Grow Your Business with International Partnership”
Supplier Day Event
December 8&9 2014
Equatorial Hotel Penang**

In the efforts to encourage Penang base MNCs to enhance localization of their supplier base to local players in Penang as well as to nurture the growth of local players and help them move up the value chain, InvestPenang together with our partnering organizations – Robert Bosch Power Tool, Motorola Solutions Malaysia, Keysight Technologies, Bose Systems Malaysia and Clarion Malaysia will be hosting a seminar and business matching event between the local and foreign suppliers in the Electrical and Electronics sector.



Local Penang companies will be invited to the event and it is a golden opportunity for your organization to explore the possibilities of a joint-venture or strategic technology partnership with the local and international invited participants.

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Upcoming Events

20 NOV 2014	Cyber security 101, The Local and International Framework of Cyber Law and Cyber Governance
NOV 2014	Smart Capability Building Workshop ' Leveraging IT for operational effectiveness and Excellence'
DEC 2014	Asian Economic Community
8 DEC 2014	Supplier Day

** Subject to changes. Please refer to our website for latest information*

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Talk to Us

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