

News Clips

US ~ Adidas-Solomon AG has agreed to acquire Reebok International Ltd for US\$3.8bn.

Adidas would buy the outstanding shares of Reebok for US\$59 per share in cash, a 34% premium to Reebok's closing share price on 2 August.

Reebok's strengths in US and American sports, where Adidas has been weak, complemented their strongholds in European and Asian markets said Adidas chief executive.

At the moment, Nike holds an estimated 36% share of US market, followed by Reebok at 12.2% and Adidas at 8.9%.

EU ~ Vodafone Group Plc.'s operation in southern Europe and its US joint venture posted strong growth in the 1Q05 ended 30 June.

Vodafone, the world's largest mobile-phone operator, added 6 million subscribers in 1Q05 following the company's acquisition of units from Czech Republic and Romania in May.

Vodafone's customer base grew to over 165 million in 1Q05.

China ~ Nanjing Automobile, China's oldest vehicle manufacturer, has approached some

of the failed bidders of MG Rover including Shanghai Automotive Industry Corp. (SAIC), to buy over majority stake it had won.

However, SAIC, still upset at the way Nanjing was picked, plans to use its ownership of the company's intellectual property rights (IPR) to block Nanjing from producing any Rover cars.

The deal has set the stage for a high-profile legal battle between the two state-owned manufacturers.

This is the first example of competition for foreign purchases by Chinese companies, which until recently were subject to central government of their bids.

China ~ Lenovo Group, the world's third largest personal computer (PC) maker, will become the first Chinese company to legally establish a subsidiary in Taiwan.

The Taiwanese government still bans mainland investments on the island for the fear that its politically hostile neighbor could take control of its economy.

However, after Lenovo's acquisition of IBM's PC business, the PC division of IBM Taiwan needed to be transferred to Lenovo.

SINGAPORE'S MANUFACTURING OUTPUT

- ⇒ Mfg output grew 11.1% YoY in June
- ⇒ Biomedical Mfg grew 40.8% YoY : pharmaceutical output grew 48.6% & medical technology grew 4.7%
- ⇒ Excluding biomedical sector, manufacturing output grew 5.5%, electronics industry grew 2%
- ⇒ Transport engineering grew 35.1% YoY: marine output grew 51.1% & aerospace segment grew 23.5%

Source: MTEN

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HIGHLIGHTS:

Malaysia needs to attract some of the high-end raw material suppliers such as substrates, multi-layer PC boards, burn-in boards, and PC bases to locate here, as they form an important part of the electronics industry's global supply chain.

Source: MAEI Annual Survey 2005

News Clips

Thailand ~ Thailand's fast growing textiles, fashion and leather industries are wooing lucrative Middle East markets as part of their expansion plans.

As many as 40 exhibitors, Thailand's biggest participation ever at an international fashion and trade event, have confirmed their participation at the upcoming Motexha Autumn 2005 expo to be held on 12-15 September, at the Dubai International Exhibition Centre (DIEC), UAE.

Beside UAE, Thailand is also eyeing potential market bases in Saudi, Qatar, Bahrain and Lebanon.

South Korea's R&D Budget for 2006

SEOUL, Aug. 29 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's research and development (R&D) budget for next year is expected to reach **8.77 trillion won (US\$8.52 billion)**, up 12.5 percent from this year, a presidential committee said Monday.

According to a R&D budget request finalized by the National Science and Technology Council, 785.5 billion won will be injected into the country's future growth engines next year, up 33.9 percent from this year.

Also, the country's investment in the development of creative human resources is expected to rise 131.3 percent to 173.9 billion won.

The council decided to expand the budgets for the regional R&D and basic research sectors to 36.3 percent and 23.5 percent, respectively. It also has plans to allocate 264 billion won for small and medium businesses, up 14.3 percent from this year.

Such decisions were based on the selection of 21 future-prospect technologies by a subcommittee within the council to boost Asia's fourth-largest economy to the world's top 10 developed nations within 10 to 20 years.

The selected technologies are grouped in three different categories -- marketable technologies, technologies for improvement of living standards and technologies for the development of the public sector.

Nanotechnology and technologies for medical regeneration, supercomputers, digital convergence, and super-effective logistics and management are grouped in the marketable category.

Preferential medical technology, along with technologies for bio-defense, ecosystem protection, cognition and robots and emotional contents fall in the category of improvement of living standards.

The category of the development of the public sphere includes technologies for next-generation nuclear power, nuclear fusion, information and intelligence, natural disaster prediction and management, satellites and marine territorial management. The Ministry of Science and Technology is planning to submit the council's decision to the Ministry of Planning and Budget to reflect it in next year's governmental budget.

Source: <http://www.wtanet.org/board/read.asp?table=board&code=eyeson&num=471>

News Clips

Singapore ~ Temasek Holdings, which has US\$54bn of assets, is reducing its stakes in Singaporean companies. It is bolstering its investments in countries like China and India in order to increase returns from the average of 3% a year posted over the past decade.

Indonesia ~ Toshiba Corp., the world's second-biggest maker of memory chips used in consumer electronics, will expand its plants in Indonesia to increase output by 10% to 2.2mn televisions a year, from 2mn currently.

PT Toshiba Consumer Products In-

donesia will spend about US\$5mn (Rupiah 48.9bn) to expand its plant in Bekasi, West Java province, making Indonesia as Toshiba's biggest producer of televisions in the world. Toshiba has invested about US\$100mn (Rupiah 979bn) in its Indonesian television plant since 1996.

Korea ~ Hyundai Auto Group, which includes Kia Motors, aims to be the fifth-biggest automaker producer by 2010, passing Volkswagen and DaimlerChrysler. It currently ranked seventh in the world.

Source: MTEN

Innovator Of the Year 2005 (8/29/2005)

Princeton, NJ – Gregory H. Olsen, chairman of the board of Sensors Unlimited, Inc. (SUI) has been named “Innovator of the Year 2005” by the Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce (New Jersey). The prestigious award will be presented at the annual Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce Leadership Awards Dinner on November 30, 2005.

Dr. Olsen, an advanced technology pioneer and renowned entrepreneur, was recently confirmed by Space Adventures, Ltd., as the world's third private space explorer and the first space tourist since the Columbia tragedy. He is scheduled to launch to the International Space Station this October 1, 2005 on the Soyuz TMA-7 orbital spaceflight mission from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. While in flight, Dr. Olsen plans to

conduct remote sensing and astronomy research projects incorporating his company's shortwave infrared (SWIR) imaging technology.

After graduating from the University of Virginia with a doctorate in materials science, Dr. Gregory H. Olsen began his career working at RCA Laboratories (now Sarnoff Corporation). In 1984, Dr. Olsen started his first company, Epitaxx, which sold six years later. In 1991, he co-founded Sensors Unlimited which was acquired by Finisar in 2000 and then reacquired in late 2002 as a result of a management buyback. Sensors Unlimited, Inc. began as a research and development startup and is now the leading global supplier of highly sensitive near-infrared detectors, cameras and systems made with indium gallium arsenide (InGaAs). The company manufactures photodiodes, focal plane arrays and cameras that image in

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Malaysian American Electronics Industry (MAEI) members are forecasting a 10.3% increase in total sales for 2005, with the semiconductor industry sales expected to jump by 17.6% from RM 29 billion in 2004

Source: MAEI Annual Survey, 2005



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the shortwave infrared wavelength. Applications for SUP's advanced SWIR imaging technology include machine vision, infrared spectroscopy, night vision and covert surveillance. Their imaging products are critical to a variety of industries, including biomedical, military, security, scientific, industrial, historical art inspection and telecommunications.

“I am honored to be named ‘Innovator of the Year 2005’ by the Princeton

Regional Chamber of Commerce and look forward to the November awards dinner upon my return from space,” notes Dr. Olsen. “It is with great pleasure that I join my distinguished colleagues, ‘Leader of the Year 2005’ Emily Mann, (McCarter Theater) and ‘Entrepreneur of the Year 2005’, Jessica Durrie, (Small World Coffee), in receiving this honor,” he adds.

Source: <http://www.photonicsonline.com/ecommccenters/sensorsunlimited.html>

This article will be archived in our website:
<http://www.investpenang.gov.my>

Forthcoming Events

Talk to us!



China Hi-Tech Fair 2005

Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center, Shenzhen, China

October 12 — 7, 2005

Delegation Organiser: investPenang

Companies which are interested to participate in the China Hi-Tech Fair 2005 please contact Mr TY Lim or Ms Noraini Haron (Tel: 604-646 8833, email: lty@investpenang.gov.my or noraini@investpenang.gov.my)

Medica 2005

37th International Trade Fair with Congress

World Forum for Medicine

Internet: <http://www.medica.de/>

parallel to:

ComPaMED 2005 (in Hall 8)

(16th - 18th November 2005)

14th International Trade Fair

Components, Parts and Raw Materials for Medical Manufacturing

16th – 19th November 2005 (Wednesday – Saturday)

Düsseldorf Trade Fair Centre

Messeplatz

40474 Düsseldorf

Companies which are interested to participate please contact Ms Choy Yin Wai (Tel: 604-646 8833, email: cyw@investpenang.gov.my)