

Press Clipping

logistics look

Port Klang Free Zone a growth catalyst

The massive RM31.9 billion allocated to the transport sector under the Ninth Malaysia Plan is an indication of the government's intent to ensure the country remains an attractive global destination for trade and services. It is also an acknowledgment that with globalisation, Malaysia will not be caught standing still while competitors race ahead.

Indeed, with its widely acknowledged top-class talent pool, competitive costs and world-class environment, Malaysia has just been ranked by research firm Frost & Sullivan as the fourth most attractive global hub for the logistics industry.

With the country's ports continuing to improve

their efficiency and productivity and global logistics and courier firms increasing their presence here, the logistics industry is set to enjoy continued strong growth.

The setting up of the Port Klang Free Zone — Malaysia's first fully integrated free commercial and industrial zone — is yet another boost for the industry. Managed and designed by no less than acclaimed JAFZA International, the consulting and management division of Jebel Ali Free Zone Authority in Dubai, it shows that the players in the logistics value chain in Malaysia are keen to seek out the best available talent and expertise to deliver top-class services to customers.

cy and incentives, though localised to Malaysian laws and regulations," stresses Gulliver.

"In terms of efficiency, we will ensure that we deliver only the best to investors. For starters, power, which is an important consideration for investors, will be more than sufficient at PKFZ. We will have 60kva of power, which is double that of Shah Alam," he explains. (Kva or kilovolt ampere is the same as megawatts.)

In terms of sweeteners, tax exemptions, export and research and development incentives, 100% foreign equity and 100% repatriation of capital and profits are amongst those offered.

It is also the location that makes PKFZ so attractive. The free zone is easily accessible via road, railway, air and sea. Moreover, it has established trade links with 120 countries and is connected by major shipping lines to 500 ports around the world.

Apart from being highly accessible, there is excellent infrastructure with such facilities as:

- Four eight-storey office complexes, supported by multistorey car parks as well as a food court. Banks, a post office, legal firms, logistics companies and other service providers are expected to start up soon.
- The PKFZ office, which will ensure all operations run smoothly within the free zone and also

house the one-stop agency (OSA) — the main interface between relevant government agencies and investors.

- A Customs complex which will house Customs as well as other government departments such as health and veterinary services to provide easier coordination for products and services to be exported and imported between the free zone and Malaysia.
- Light industrial units (LIUs). Some 512 pre-constructed terraced and semi-detached units are available for investors to lease. (Each unit measures 5,487 sq ft and comes with 463 sq ft of office space at a rental rate of RM18 psf per annum.)

- Prepared industrial land: Prepared site for lease for investors to construct their own customised facility (rental is RM1.80 psf per annum inclusive of utilities on site, including electricity, sewerage, high-pressure water supply, broadband connection and telephone and data lines).

Overall, PKFZ will be a complete one-stop centre and a self-contained community that will be equipped with trade offices, forwarding agents and other government agencies to provide supporting services to tenants.

For more information, please call (603) 3101 5568 or visit www.pkfz.com

Two years in the making and perfectly timed to take advantage of the expected boom in logistics from the rollout of the Ninth Malaysia Plan (9MP), Port Klang Free Zone (PKFZ) — Malaysia's first fully integrated free commercial and industrial zone — is set to spur economic growth in the country with its opening.

A subsidiary company of the Port Klang Authority, the 1,000-acre development in Pulau Indah is a fully integrated free zone which allows both commercial and manufacturing activities to exist side by side.

That means that factories and logistics firms can be located in the same zone to promote easier coordination and smoother supply chain management, making it the first of its kind in Malaysia.

"PKFZ will be a boost for Port Klang, which is also the coun-

try's National Load Centre as it will grow overall entreport with its one stop facilities for processing and add value of goods and services, before being exported," says PKFZ general manager Noel Gulliver.

In a sign of confidence in its ability to deliver outstanding service, PKFZ has attracted its first investor — Aker Kvaerner — which signed on even before the zone began operations last week. Aker Kvaerner, a Norwegian oil and gas engineering group, has since then taken up 69 acres of land, which is more than 10% of the prepared industrial land available.

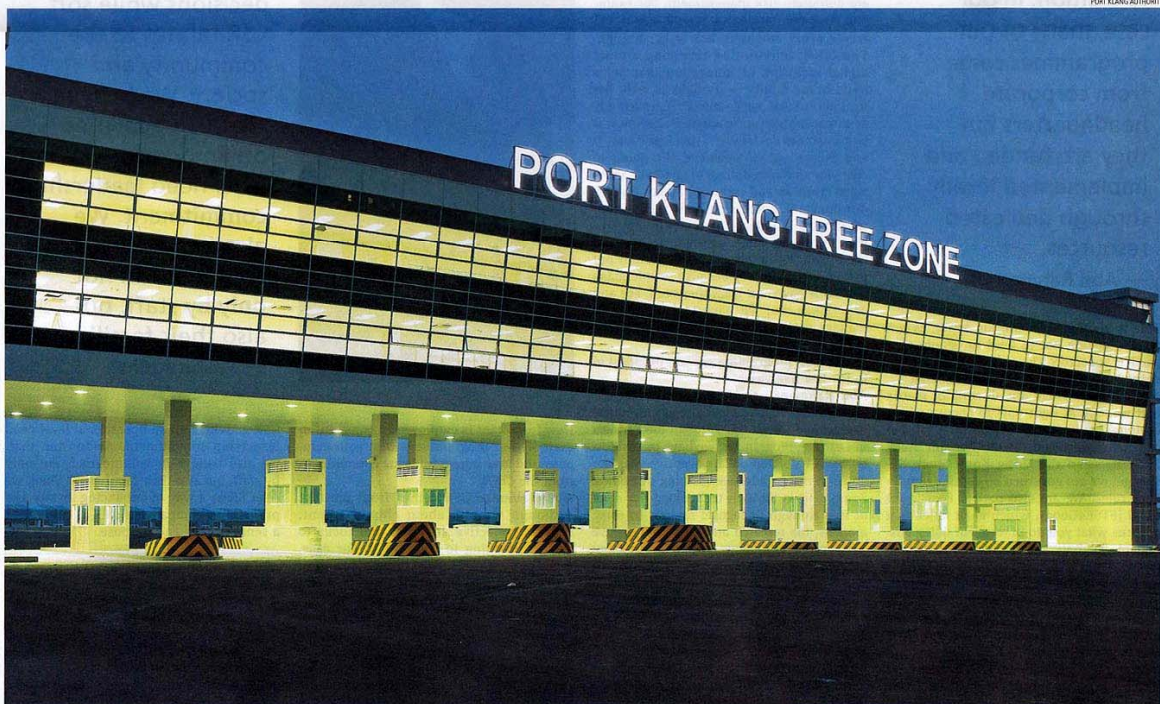
"Confident of PKFZ's capabilities, Aker Kvaerner will be investing up to RM400 million to build a manufacturing centre, which will play a pivotal role in supporting its oil and gas exploration in Asia-Pacific," explains Gulliver.

He adds that PKFZ is also in final discussions with five investors keen to take up another 70 acres of prepared industrial land and 10 more that want to rent a total of 14 light industrial units. Four other companies have indicated interest to take up space at the office complex.

PKFZ is designed and managed by internationally acclaimed JAFZA International, the consulting and management division of Jebel Ali Free Zone Authority (JAFZA) in Dubai.

PKFZ is the first free zone in Asia-Pacific to be managed by JAFZA International, which has over 20 years of experience in port and free zone management. JAFZA International has helped governments develop free zones in Morocco and Djibouti, with many more projects in the pipeline.

"PKFZ will certainly emulate Jebel Ali Free Zone in all its efficien-



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