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Port Klang Free Zone Ready For Business

PORT KLANG, Oct 31 (Bernama) -- The RM2.2 billion Port Klang Free Zone (PKFZ), modelled after the successful Jebel Ali Free Zone in Dubai, is now opened for business.

The 400-hectare free trade and commercial zone has already signed up its first investor, Aker Kvaerner, a Norwegian oil and gas engineering group, which has taken up 27.6-ha of prepared industrial land.

Aker Kvaerner will be investing RM400 million to build a manufacturing centre which will play a pivotal role in supporting their oil and gas exploration in Asia Pacific.

"We are in the midst of finalising discussions with five other investors," said its general manager, Noel Gulliver during a media tour of the PKFZ, here Tuesday.

PKFZ, said to be country's first fully integrated free industrial and commercial zone, is expected to camp about 20,000 business population in five years' time.

Gulliver said other investors have also made enquiries to take up a total of 14 light industrial units in the zone while four companies were keen to take up space at the office complex.

Located next to Westports in Pulau Indah, PKFZ is a gazetted free zone which allows both commercial and manufacturing activities to exist side by side.

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

Malaysia has 29 free zone areas.



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Gulliver said PKFZ will be a boost for Port Klang in terms of container volume in less than two years.

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 wholly owned by the Port Klang Authority (PKA).

Meanwhile, chairman of PKFZ, Datin Paduka O.C. Phang said the free zone's incentives included tax exemptions, export incentives, research & development (R&D) incentives, 100 percent foreign equity and 100 percent repatriation of capital and profits.

Facilities at the PKPZ include 500,000 sq ft-four eight-storey office complexes, 512-Light Industrial Units and 256-ha-prepared industrial land with RM1.80 per sq ft rental rate per annum.

"Our goal is to attract 70 percent of our tenants from overseas with local businesses and infrastructure securing the benefits of servicing those companies and their customers and staff," Phang said. -- BERNAMA