

## Press Clipping

Port Klang Free Zone

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# Aker facility to double production capacity

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AKER Kvaerner, a Norwegian oil and gas services company, expects its newly-launched US\$100 million (RM343 million) high-technology subsea manufacturing centre in Malaysia to double the group's global production capacity.

Its president and chief executive officer Martinus Brandal said the facility was set up in Malaysia to meet growing demand for the company's subsea equipment from the South-East Asian region.

"The growth in production coming from deepwater is expected to triple by 2010 compared to 2005. That is why we have done this investment.

"The equipment manufactured here will be later



Petronas vice-president for oil business Datuk Anuar Ahmad (second from left) looks at a subsea model at Aker Kvaerner's newly-opened facility in Port Klang.

shipped to other areas, such as Africa and India, where deepwater discoveries are

located," he told reporters after the launch of the facility in Port Klang yesterday.

The facility will assemble subsea oil and gas production systems, which consist of equipment placed on the seabed and which is operated remotely, instead of drilling for petroleum from a traditional platform.

At the moment, Brandal said, the centre in Port Klang is working on projects for Japan's Modec and India's Reliance Industries, as well as equipment for Murphy Oil Corp's Kikeh oilfield, Malaysia's first deepwater oil discovery.

The new factory will double Aker Kvaerner's production of christmas trees from 60 to 120 a year.

In the oil and gas industry, a christmas tree refers to the assembly of fittings and valves on top of the casing which controls the production rate of oil.