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Port Klang Free Zone

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4 SMI firms keen to set up shop in Port Klang Free Zone

AT LEAST four members of the Small and Medium Industry (SMI) Association of Malaysia are keen to set up their businesses in the Port Klang Free Zone (PKFZ) immediately with more expected to commit in 2008.

Of the four interested, two are listed companies, said the head of the SMI logistics committee for the SMI Association, Low Pooi Choon, in a statement issued in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

"PKFZ is reaching out to our members offering the opportunity to relocate or expand their businesses in the free zone which is well-equipped to cater to Malaysian manufacturers, trading companies and importers and exporters.

"There is a host of benefits and incentives for investors in this area," Low said.

Low, who is also managing director of Sunship Agency and a member of the International Shipping Association, added: "The free zone is not a new concept but it is essential for the growth of our ports.

"PKFZ is very well equipped to assist international logistic companies doing transshipments and a free zone like PKFZ is particularly crucial for companies doing re-exports."

Meanwhile, SMI Association president, Chua Tiam Wee, said PKFZ is very suitable for industries like food and beverage, light fabrication, assembly and trading and that more companies were expected to sign up next year.

PKFZ is aiming for an 80% occupancy by 2012 with 35 companies investing approximately RM725 million to date.

PKFZ said on its website that the zone represents an ideal investment for companies and corporations which intend to set up or expand their business operations in South-East Asia.

It said PKFZ has outstanding advantages including a strategic location, comprehensive connectivity, state-of-the-art facilities, efficient services and excellent incentives, making it a good business sense to invest in PKFZ.

PKFZ is an integrated 400ha international cargo distribution and consolidation centre situated in Port Klang, the world's 13th ranked port in 2005 in terms of throughput volume. PKFZ is gazetted as a free zone. — *Bernama*