

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 24 JUN 2014 (SELASA)**

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KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (BISNES) : MUKA SURAT 16
TARIKH: 24 JUN 2014 (SELASA)



DR. Abu Bakar (tengah) bersama Bradley Mulrone (kiri), Naib Presiden Lafarge, Shirley Low (kanan) menunjukkan tangan yang dicelup pada simen sempena pelancaran makmal CDL pertama syarikat itu di Petaling Jaya, semalam. - UTUSAN/AMIR HAFIZ ABD RAHMAN

Lafarge labur RM5 juta bina CDL pertama di Asia Tenggara

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PETALING JAYA 23 Jun - Lafarge Malaysia (Lafarge) memperuntukkan sejumlah RM5 juta bagi membina makmal pembangunan pembinaan (CDL) yang pertama di Asia Tenggara terletak di Petaling Jaya, Selangor, dalam usaha membuktikan kesungguhan syarikat ke arah membina bandar raya unggul di Malaysia.

Presiden dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Lafarge, Bradley Mulrone berkata, CDL tersebut merupakan yang keenam di dunia dan syarikat menyasarkan untuk

mempertingkatkan kecekapan pembinaan dengan menyediakan penyelesaian inovatif bagi memenuhi keperluan sektor pembinaan tempatan.

Menurutnya, CDL tersebut membolehkan pihaknya menguji, menyesuaikan serta mereka bentuk teknologi inovatif yang dibangunkan oleh pusat penyelidikan kumpulan.

Ujarnya, setiap tahun Kumpulan Lafarge memperuntukkan lebih daripada RM500 juta bagi tujuan penyelidikan dan pembangunan yang dijalankan di Lyon, Perancis.

"Makmal ini juga bertindak sebagai hab bagi syarikat untuk

bekerjasama dengan pihak-pihak berkepentingan bagi memahami keperluan dan cabaran industri pembinaan tempatan dengan lebih mendalam," katanya pada sidang akhbar selepas merasmikan CDL pertama di Asia Tenggara, di sini hari ini.

Yang turut hadir, Timbalan Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Datuk Dr. Abu Bakar Mohamad Diah.

Mulrone berkata, CDL berkenaan menempatkan tiga buah makmal iaitu makmal simen, konkrit dan agregat dengan peralatan pengujian tercanggih bagi kawalan dan jaminan mutu produk-produknya.

Lafarge Malaysia launches construction development lab

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PETALING JAYA: Lafarge Malaysia Bhd launched its construction development laboratory (CDL), the first in Southeast Asia, demonstrating the company's commitment to "building better cities" in Malaysia.

The CDL, the sixth in the world, is strategically located in the Klang Valley and aims to promote construction efficiency by adapting innovative solutions to better meet Malaysian construction and building needs.

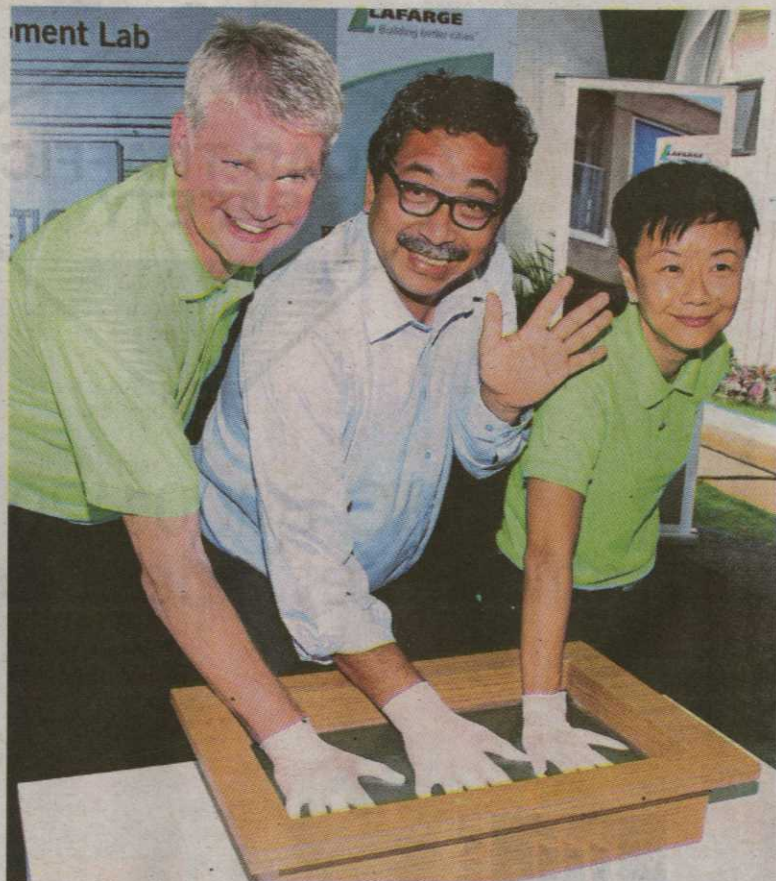
Lafarge Malaysia president and chief executive officer Bradley Mulroney said the company is committed to contributing towards sustainable construction by providing the Malaysian construction industry, with solutions that can help promote construction efficiency.

"The CDL will enable us to test, adapt and tailor innovative solutions developed by the group's research centre in Lyon, France. This will accelerate the development and delivery of offerings to better meet local construction needs.

"Lafarge Malaysia expects to host experts from Lyon on a regular basis, who will be instrumental in technology transfer to Malaysia.

"Through the CDL, Lafarge is able to tap into its group's global experience and technical know-how for the benefit of the local construction industry," Mulroney said at the CDL launch, here, yesterday.

He said the CDL will also serve as a collaboration hub for Lafarge Malaysia to work closely with stake-



(From left) Lafarge Malaysia president and chief executive officer **Bradley Mulroney**, Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation **Datuk Dr Abu Bakar Mohamad Diah** and Lafarge vice-president of marketing **Shirley Low** at the CDL launch yesterday. Pic by Saddam Yusoff

holders to further understand local needs and challenges.

"Architects, developers, engineers and others can come together to participate in the development and

testing of new ideas and solutions. The company plans to partner local universities to allow students to use its CDL in boosting concrete technology."

KERATAN AKHBAR
NEW STRAITS TIMES (PRIME NEWS) : MUKA SURAT 13
TARIKH: 24 JUN 2014 (SELASA)



A hazy view of Kuala Lumpur, which recorded an Air Pollutant Index reading of 82 at 11am yesterday. Pic by Sairien Nafis

'Good' API readings

KUALA LUMPUR: Despite the haze, most areas nationwide recorded "good" Air Pollutant Index (API) readings, with the exception of Port Klang.

In Port Klang, the API as of 11am was an "unhealthy" 104.

Meanwhile, good and moderate readings were seen in other areas in Klang Valley and nationwide.

Meteorological Department commercial and corporate services division director Dr Mohd Hisham Mohd Anip said the haze was because of local pollution and low rainfall, which contributed to a thin layer of haze occurring in certain areas.

"The haze is likely because of local activities, such as smoke emitted from factories, vehicles and airborne dust.

"The situation is still under control and is not too serious at present.

The wind has been quite strong, greater than 10 knots per hour for the past couple of weeks since the dry spell began early this month," said Hisham.

He said the strong wind helped disperse the haze, but warned if the wind weakened, the haze became stagnant.

"However, the bad haze we experienced yesterday morning was because of slower wind speeds. The situation gradually improved as the wind speed picked up.

"We will continue to monitor the situation and measures will be taken if API readings continue recording unhealthy conditions after 72 hours."

He said the nation would not be expecting rainfall until next week, except for isolated showers in inland areas because of the southwest monsoon season.

Meanwhile, the department is monitoring the El Nino phenomenon by getting information from international research centres, such as the Japan Meteorological Agency, United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Climate Prediction Centre and the Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

"Any developments will be announced to the authorities for further action," said Hisham.

"Malaysia would be experiencing less rainfall during the southwest monsoon.

"During this season, we will experience a low rainfall of between 75mm and 150mm this month in the peninsula, which is 20-40 per cent lower than normal."

The southwest monsoon season, which began late May, will continue till early September.

