## BERITA ONLINE NST TARIKH : 04 DISEMBER 2021 (SABTU) STRAITSTIMES

## **#TECH: NanoMalaysia launches autonomous vehicle system**

By Nur Zarina Othman - December 3, 2021 @ 11:05am



Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba at the NanoMalaysia's NAVi launch event in Technology Park Malaysia.

KUALA LUMPUR: NanoMalaysia, an incorporated company limited by guarantee under the initiative of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), has launched the NanoMalaysia autonomous vehicle (NAVi).

"We have started this effort to bring innovation and improvement of Level 4 Autonomy System technology for vehicle use since 2017. Looking at the available resources we have as well as the competition, we are happy with our achievement," said NanoMalaysia's chief executive officer, Rezal Khairi Ahmad in his speech during the launch event held at Technology Park Malaysia in Bukit Jalil.

Explaining about the NAVi system further, Rezal said the system is so flexible that it can be used in various sectors such as in ports and/or in healthcare facilities.

"The system is very flexible with the ability to meet requirements in various sectors depending on demands. The system can be easily modified to suit different

circumstances. This flexible business concept created by this autonomous delivery system creates opportunities in the postal sector, logistics in controlled areas such as in ports and hospitals, as well as delivery services," he said.

He further said that the technology can also be used on either vehicles or other platforms too such as parcel delivery systems, on cars and buses as well to bring the autonomous features to these modes of transport. He also said that the NanoMalaysia's NAVi system will give the advantage as the country embraces the digitalisation efforts ahead of Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR).

"For the long term, the passenger transport sector in Malaysia will also experience an increase in overall efficiency. It will create a more precise and orderly travel schedule, controlled traffic flow and reduction in accidents caused by human error.

"We are confident that systems based on autonomy for vehicles are able to take advantage of the market opportunities in the (4IR)," said Rezal.

Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba, who was also present at the event, in his speech, said that the ministry is committed in its efforts towards making Malaysia a high-technology nation by supporting more technology developments as well as making them available and experienced by everyone.

"NAVi is the first step as we prepare the transportation sector as well as the Malaysian automotive sector as we enter the autonomy era. This initiative was initiated to produce autonomous vehicles in Malaysia. MOSTI is committed to driving Malaysia as a high-tech nation by 2025.

"Currently in work with other related ministries, we are in the process of refining regulations for NAVi and to start conducting tests in controlled areas like on campus, ports and offices too," said Adham.

At the same event, NanoMalaysia also demonstrated its own NanoMalaysia autonomous delivery vehicle initiative (NAVi-D), a land based autonomous delivery system. Equipped with a system built for last mile delivery, the NAVi-D runs on a platform where the core technology architecture is made for parcels and food delivery.



NanoMalaysia autonomous delivery vehicle (NAVi-D) is a land based autonomous delivery system.

"Our NAVi-D runs on a similar NAVi system, modified to fit the concept of an autonomous food and package delivery system. It is developed with users as well as service providers' safety in mind. This technology significantly limits human interaction. An advantage especially in a pandemic situation we are in now.

"This technology will bring innovation to the way we work, the way we live and how we interact with each other. We are determined and passionate to push Malaysia forward as we enter the era of smart transportation and logistics. We will continue our effort to lead the country as we work towards the driverless revolution," said Rezal.