

## SapuraCrest Eyes Expansion in Key Markets

In the next two years, SapuraCrest Petroleum Bhd, whose merger with Kencana Petroleum Bhd is well underway, will spend between RM1.4 billion and RM1.6 billion to expand its business in key markets, which include Brazil, Australia, India, and the Middle East. SapuraCrest would also bid for more risk service contracts (RSCs) from Petronas to develop Malaysia's marginal oilfields. Datuk Seri Shahril Shamsuddin, its executive Vice-Chairman, said the merged entity, to be called Sapura Kencana Petroleum Bhd, would have a combined order book of RM13 billion, of which half would be from overseas. He added that Sapura Kencana Petroleum would streamline its operations that overlap into single business units and make them run efficiently before cross-selling each other's services. The merged entity, which will be Malaysia's largest oilfield services provider by assets and one of the world's top five, is looking to add some 15% to 20% to its workforce at the management and engineering level. Sapura Kencana Petroleum would have the capabilities to service an oilfield from start to finish and be one of the few EPCIC (engineering, procurement, construction, installation and commissioning) contractors in the world.

*(Sourced from The Star)*

## Cutting the Cost of Biofuel

United Kingdom could transform the biofuels industry by refining the process of converting the *Jatropha curcas* plant, a common shrub, into oil. Farizul Kasim, who is completing his PhD in Chemical Engineering, is working on a new technique to develop a way of getting biodiesel directly from the seed of the plant by creating a chemical reaction with methanol in the seeds. He said that this could potentially make the production of *Jatropha* fuel much cheaper as, thus far, the cost of preparing the seed to undergo the refining process has been prohibitive in the development of the technology.

*(Sourced from The Star)*

## MJIT Project to be Partially Financed by Japan

The Japanese government, through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), will partially finance the development of the RM793.9 million Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIT) project. According to Ministry of Higher Education Secretary-General Datuk Abdul Rahim Mohamad Noor, JICA will finance the project through a loan provided by the Japanese government. He said that 6,697 million Yen (RM252 million) will be disbursed by JICA to MJIT over a period of seven years beginning 2011 to 2017, while the rest will be borne by the Malaysian government.

MJIT is an academic institution established under Universiti Teknologi Malaysia to introduce Japanese-style engineering education based on an agreement between the heads of state from Japan and Malaysia back in April 2010. Japan's Ambassador to Malaysia, Shigeru Nakamura said that the loan would be used to provide facilities and equipment for higher level education, and added that MJIT incorporates the Japanese engineering system to enable Malaysian students in the institute to study particular conditions which they will experience in Japanese universities.

*(Sourced from BERNAMA)*

## RM1 Billion Contract in Australia Won by Muhibbah's JV

Monadelphous Muhibbah Marine JV, Muhibbah Engineering (M) Bhd's 50:50 joint-venture company with Monadelphous Group Ltd's wholly owned subsidiary Monadelphous Engineering Pty Ltd, has been awarded a contract to construct the approach jetty and ship berth in Queensland, Australia. Valued at RM1.05 billion, the contract is associated with the Wiggins Island Coal Export Terminal Pty Ltd's (WICET) Project at Gladstone in Australia and entailed the construction of offshore plant and infrastructure, including a 1.8km approach jetty and transfer tower platform, wharf and wharf conveyor including the drive and take-up tower. The JV will also build the berthing and mooring dolphins, ship access platforms and jetty conveyor which includes the section onshore and the transfer tower.

Muhibbah Engineering stated that it would contribute its expertise in the delivery of marine and port construction works while Monadelphous' role was in the civil construction of the project. Stage One works of the project, which has a contracted annual coal export capacity of 27 million tonnes, will start immediately and this capacity will expand its annual capacity to more than 80 million tonnes when it is fully completed in the first quarter of 2014.

*(Sourced from The Star)*

## Engineering Graduates Urged to Drive Economy

Tun Mohd. Khalil Yaakob, the Yang Dipertua Negeri of Melaka and Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka's (UTeM) Chancellor, has called on engineering graduates to drive the nation's economy in the industrial and manufacturing sectors. He said the success of research efforts by engineering specialists had helped Malaysia remain as the world's primary producer of rubber, palm oil, cocoa and pepper. Tun Mohd. Khalil added that continuous efforts in research and development will also boost agricultural resources, food production technology and advancements in the field of health. He wants UTeM to encourage the transfer of technology from developed countries until Malaysia is able to handle cutting-edge technology with the best human capital.

*(Sourced from BERNAMA)*

### ADMISSION AS REGISTERED BUILDING MANAGERS OF BMAM

Individual and Corporate Members may apply for admission as Registered Building Managers (individuals) or as Registered Building Managers (Corporate) at a special discounted rate of RM10.00 and RM20.00, respectively. The special offer is now extended to 31 March 2012. Those admitted before this date will be granted a full waiver of their prescribed annual registration fees for 2012. This special concession being offered to IEM Members augurs well towards strengthening the role and participation of the BMAM as the sole multi-stakeholder entity representing and protecting the overall interests of the building management industry of Malaysia. Please refer to the "Guidelines for Admission as Registered Building Managers" for further information, or contact Building Management Association of Malaysia (BMAM) at 41491718 or e-mail: [svenkat19@yahoo.com.sg](mailto:svenkat19@yahoo.com.sg)