

(From left) Oji Asia Sdn Bhd chief executive officer Dilun Tan, Oji Holdings Corp president and group CEO Hiroyuki Isono, Sultan of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah, Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari, and Japan's Embassador to Malaysia Takahashi Katsuhiko.

Selangor Sultan officiates at launch of GS Paperboard & Packaging's RM1.2 bil plant

BY SHAZNI ONG

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BANTING (Oct 27): Sultan of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah on Thursday (Oct 27) officiated at the launch of GS Paperboard & Packaging Sdn Bhd's (GSPP) RM1.2 billion Paper Machine 3 (PM3) advanced paper making technology plant in Banting, Selangor.

This was after GSPP having reached another milestone with the completion of the PM3 on Nov 15 last year. The plant clocked in its first paper on Sept 30, 2021, and commercial run has started since April 1 this year.

Also present at the event were Tengku Permaisuri of Selangor Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin, Crown Prince of Selangor Tengku Amir Shah, Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari, Selangor State Executive Councillor for Industry and Trade Datuk Teng Chang Khim, Selangor state government officials, as well as senior management personnel of GSPP and Oji Holdings Corp.

Oji president and group chief executive officer Hiroyuki Isono noted that Oji had continued investing in Malaysia to further strengthen its position as the largest paper, packaging and paper-related product company in the country since the acquisition of GSPP in 2010.

"Last month, we acquired the Adampak group, which is Southeast Asia's largest manufacturer of adhesive paper labels. To date, Oji has grown together with Malaysia's economy, and today, we have a total of 18 business locations, with total investment of more than US\$1 billion (RM4.71 billion).

"As we look at the Southeast Asian and Indian markets as our business growth centre, we aim to be the number one total packaging material solution provider ever since we first stepped foot into Malaysia in 2010," he said in his opening speech.

He added that the RM1.2 billion PM3 project is equipped with the most advanced technology that is capable of producing high-quality paper products and meeting the needs of the packaging industry, both in Malaysia and the whole Asean region.

Under the paper division, GSPP has two existing paper machines, with a combined capacity of 300,000 metric tons per annum. With PM3, total production is expected to rise to 750,000 metric tons per annum.

Looking ahead, Oji's projection of its overseas sales ratio is over 50% in its midterm business plan. Besides expanding the industrial material sector, Oji has also been investing heavily in the functional material and disposable diaper businesses.

Oji aims to have 50% market share in Malaysia by 2025

At a press conference after the launch, Hiroyuki said Oji remains committed to further investment in Malaysia, with the group via GSPP aiming to capture 50% of the paper-related product and packaging business market share, from 35% currently, in the country by 2025.

"We are trying to expand more in Malaysia, because I think the economy itself is still growing. A lot of manufacturers are moving to the Asean area. As such, we are aiming to be much bigger to serve in the Malaysian and Asean markets.

"We do not have an exact number of how much we will do, but definitely what we did in these last 10 years was US\$1 billion. We will aim to do the same kind of big investment here in the next few decades," he said.

Sultan Nazrin: Malaysia's Islamic finance industry well placed to continue to innovate in ESG space

Bernama

KUALA LUMPUR (Oct 27): Islamic finance can contribute in addressing the challenges faced by the conventional environmental, social and governance (ESG) investing space, said Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Shah.

And given Malaysia's track record of global leadership in Islamic capital markets, the country is well positioned to continue to innovate in this space, the Ruler said.

"By doing so, we can further boost the profile of our Islamic finance industry," he said in his inauguration address at the launch of INCEIF University's new campus here on Thursday (Oct 27).

Having taken the lead in the 1990s, when the Islamic finance industry was in its infancy, the country must once again take charge of the second wave of its expansion, the Sultan said.

"And for this rebooted 'Islamic Finance 2.0', so to speak, an even greater emphasis must be put on the ESG agenda," he added.

Sultan Nazrin noted that the country has already made great headway in incorporating ESG considerations into the business practices of companies, and the investment considerations of financial service providers.

He said the regulators, industry players, and research institutions like the International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF) - have all helped to champion ESG in the Islamic finance industry.

"As new ESG requirements have been introduced, these stakeholders have provided regulatory and supervisory support, leading in product development and other strategic initiatives.

"However, we need to elevate our efforts to compete at the global level if the country were to demonstrate how Islamic finance could serve the needs of the wider financial markets and the global economy," he said.

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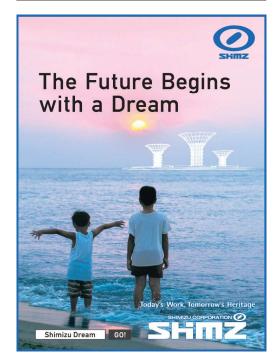




Congratulations GS Paperboard & Packaging Sdn Bhd On The Launch Of Paper Machine #3



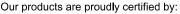




















GS Paperboard & Packaging Sdn Bhd Launch of Paper Machine #3

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