

**SPEECH FOR  
Y.BRS. EN ARHAM ABDUL RAHMAN  
DCEO OF MIDA  
OSRAM MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT  
HANDOVER CEREMONY OF EQUIPMENT BY OSRAM TO  
FOUR MALAYSIAN UNIVERSITIES  
5 JULY 2018, BOARD ROOM, MIDA HQ**

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**Acknowledgement**

Dr. Roland Mueller  
CEO of OSRAM Malaysia

Distinguished guests

Members of the media

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Good morning and a warm welcome to all of you here today to witness the handover ceremony of semiconductor and photonic equipment by OSRAM to four of Malaysia's main public universities, namely Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Universiti Malaya (UM), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP).
2. **Before I continue, Dato' Azman Mahmud, our CEO has asked me to convey his regrets for not being able to be with you today, and has requested me to deliver this address on his behalf.**
3. MIDA is pleased to work with OSRAM and these four universities towards widening the current curriculum on photonics and semiconductor fabrication technology. OSRAM's donation of the latest equipment used in this field, worth RM2.4 million, would contribute in bringing our talents up to speed with the current technologies used in the industry today. There will also be 2 to 3 dedicated OSRAM employees temporarily stationed at the respective universities to ensure the successful handing over and setting up of the equipment.
4. We are confident that this initiative would contribute in many ways, especially by enabling lecturers and students to be familiar with the latest technologies in the industry. The equipment will help the universities develop R&D labs while at the same time allow lecturers to teach on the latest technology. By working closely with an industry player, these universities are able to use a cost effective solution to put theory into practice and train up industry ready talents. MIDA is happy to support such initiatives and we seek to facilitate more of such impactful collaborations between the industry and academia.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

5. Malaysia, as a small country with an open economy, is highly dependent on trading with the world. Thus, our policies remain pro-business and we continue to welcome foreign direct investments (FDI) from all over the world.

6. FDI has played an important role in the development of Malaysia's economy due to its multiplier impact. When MIDA attracts FDI, we want to ensure that these investments bring along positive spill overs, such as enhancing the country's technological capabilities, developing the local supply chain, increase the country's export revenue and contribute to skills creation.
7. Today's event is an example of a foreign investment that has contributed much to Malaysia. Not just any company, but OSRAM, the global number one company in automotive car lighting and is today a household name of an efficient and energy saving lightings both for domestic and commercial use.
8. Last year in November, Dato' Azman had the pleasure to attend the grand opening of OSRAM's new semiconductor plant in the Kulim Hi-Tech Park. Once its final phase of construction is completed in a few more years, this Malaysian factory will be the largest and most modern factory for 6-inch wafers for LED chips in the world.
9. With over 40 years of history in Malaysia, we are encouraged that OSRAM continues to choose Malaysia as their preferred investment destination. To date, the company has created a total of 8,172 jobs with 30% of them in the managerial, technical and supervisory categories.
10. OSRAM's obvious prominence in the LED sector makes it a good partner for Malaysia. This is especially seen through its contribution in the Electrical & Electronics Strategic Council or EESC, whereby OSRAM heads the LED strategic group of this Council. The EESC was created with the objective to provide strategies to the Malaysian Government for the development of the E&E sector.
11. Notably, OSRAM intends to make Malaysia its global technology and vertical integration manufacturing hub to produce LED devices from epitaxy, chip wafer fabrication and LED device assembly and testing as well as its R&D center. The company's R&D activities would be a catalyst to increase Malaysia's achievement as a technology and manufacturing hub for LEDs.
12. For the year ending 2017, OSRAM's activities in Malaysia generated annual sales of RM3.64 billion where 99.8% of this was recorded as export. The company's accumulated investment in Malaysia as at May 2018 amounted to RM4.6 billion and its local spending was a total of RM500 million, supporting close to 600 local vendors.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

13. A highly skilled workforce is a critical enabler for attracting quality investments. MIDA continues to support and foster industry-academia collaborations. We work closely with the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) and the Semiconductor Fabrication Association of Malaysia (SFAM) to address the shortage of skilled workers in the semiconductor sub-sector. Among such initiatives include the Curriculum Embedment Workshop in 2017 to expose the academia on industry content syllabus by SFAM and an educational visit for lecturers to MIMOS earlier this year.

14. OSRAM, which is a member of SFAM, is a good example of a global E&E company that is strongly involved in industry academia collaborations.
15. Not limiting to only tertiary levels, OSRAM has also contributed towards the development of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) awareness in Malaysian schools. This is seen through OSRAM's sponsorship programme for the 2017 Penang State Science and Technology - a joint effort between OSRAM and the Penang State Education Department, for both primary and secondary school students.
16. OSRAM has also been an active sponsor and among the founding members for the American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM)'s Young Enterprise programme. This programme provides opportunities for 16 year old students interested in entrepreneurship to gain valuable skills and experience that can spur them to achieve their aspirations.
17. To further encourage the development of local talent in the semiconductor industry, OSRAM also provides internship programmes with local university students. An annual average of 50 interns with engineering backgrounds have benefitted from this program.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

18. By listing out the contributions of OSRAM to the country as well as their involvement in developing the local talent pool, MIDA would like to encourage other global companies to emulate these practices and bring the E&E industry to the next level of technology sophistication and competitiveness.
19. MIDA seeks to promote prosperity and achieve win-win developments, ensuring a conducive environment for businesses to thrive. These on-going efforts are in addition to the many incentives that the Government provides to encourage the transformation of the manufacturing sector. We want the industries in Malaysia to be more responsive, more innovative and adapt new ways of doing things. We cannot do this alone. The participation and support of stakeholders such as OSRAM and the academia is crucial towards achieving this goal.
20. We recognise the contributions of OSRAM and are proud to support the widening of the local universities' curriculum through the donation of this specialised equipment. I trust that the universities involved will make every effort to optimise their usage towards nurturing industry ready talents. Ultimately, the country and wider economy will benefit from the efforts we make today.
21. On that note, I would like to once again thank OSRAM for their continuous support to our local universities through this initiative. We look forward to more companies emulating such initiatives towards growing a sustainable talent pool for the industry.

Thank you.