

Maltimur-DRAS: Collaborating to Grease The Wheels of the Future of Kuching's Urban Transportation

**"It's a lot easier to do good work when you have good words to say and work with good people."
- Mark Harmon**

Tuesday, 23 March 2021, Kuching – One of the most anticipated developments in Kuching is the upcoming Kuching Urban Transportation System ("KUTS"). As PMC for Line 2 (Batu 12 – The Isthmus), the excitement is more palpable for Maltimur as we welcome our technical specialists from DRAS Advans Sdn Bhd to grease the "rubber" wheels for KUTS.

A team of five consisting of Mohd Yusof Ahmad (Head, Interface Management), Abdul Hadi Ibrahim (Interface Manager - Integration), Muhamad Burhanordin Haji Ismail (Customer Operation Manager), Sarjankan Md Shariff (Interface Manager - Infra) and Rizaludin Datuk Hj Rahmat (Comms & SCADA Manager) comes with decades of experience in the rail and transit industry in projects such as PUTRA LRT and Mecca Metro.

This team will work with our PMC KUTS team on the world's first hydrogen powered autonomous rapid transit ("ART") vehicle that will run on a virtual track.

Mohd Yusuf Ahmad lauds the use of hydrogen for the ART, citing it to be more environmentally-friendly and economically sustainable. This is because hydrogen is abundantly produced in Sarawak and the technology selection parallels Sarawak Government's Green Hydrogen Agenda which strives to make Sarawak an important producer of green hydrogen for the region.

On potential challenges, the DRAS team elaborated that the biggest challenge will be to navigate around existing structures (commercial and residential units) as well as having to manage traffic when construction of the dedicated lanes commence. As PMC for Line 2 which runs through several densely population areas, managing construction and minimising the inconvenience to the local community will be no mean feat. It requires smart and efficient planning.

In the long term, the DRAS team is optimistic that KUTS will provide Kuchingnites with a safe and reliable public transportation system which can also enrich our lifestyle and stimulate the local economy. Maltimur shares this view.

With a good team behind KUTS, the future for Kuching and Sarawak looks set to be one of excitement and promise.



From left : Mohd Yusof Ahmad, Rizaludin Datuk Hj Rahmat, Sarjankan Md Shariff, Abdul Hadi Ibrahim, Muhamad Burhanordin