



PRESS RELEASE

MICROELECTRONIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP INITIATIVES THE LAUNCHING OF SPIN OFF COMPANIES *ICREKA SDN BHD & ICCIPTA SDN BHD*

By

Y.BHG. DATO' MUSA BIN MUHAMAD

Secretary General, Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperative Development

PUTRAJAYA, 11 March 2007: IC Microsystems Sdn. Bhd. [ICmic] and ICmic UniKL Academy Sdn Bhd [Academy] today announced the launching of spin-off companies, *ICREKA SDN BHD and ICCIPTA SDN BHD*. The event was officiated by Y.Bhg. Dato' Musa bin Muhamad, Secretary General, the Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperative Development [MECD] at Putrajaya. This exercise falls under the Microelectronics Entrepreneurship Initiatives that are fully supported the MECD and Majlis Amanah Rakyat [MARA].

This is a natural extension to the establishment of the Academy by MARA, ICmic and Universiti Kuala Lumpur [UniKL] in early 2007 with the objective of focusing on microelectronics competency development for Malaysian particularly in the area of Integrated-Circuit (IC) and system application design coupled with nurturing and guiding the apprentices to become technopreneurs.

ICREKA SDN BHD and ICCIPTA SDN BHD, are the subsidiary of the Academy and ICmic respectively and both are involved in IC Design and product development with very own product focus.

From the microelectronics industry standpoint, the initiative is indeed a significant milestone to the company and the country as Malaysia strives to create and enhance technopreneurs that are able to compete at the global level. The two companies are spun-off with the necessary world class intellectual property [IP] as the base for them to grow and then market the products globally. To do this, the entrepreneurship skills, integrity and technological competencies are very important.

The value of the global semiconductor industry for 2007 was US\$260 billion. This industry is well segmented into IC Design, Wafer Fabrication, Packaging & Test and Marketing. Malaysia which is heavily involved in the packaging and testing segment has also started some initiatives in the IC Design. This IC design activity has the highest value-add, typically from 50%-80% in comparison with assembly & test of about 10%. With the success of ICmic's IC Design effort, it has a strategic role in the development of Malaysian-based IC Design cluster in the effort to further penetrate the lucrative global semiconductor market.

IC and Electronics products are very important for Malaysia to position itself in global economy. Competitive products will create entrepreneurs, job-opportunities, upstream and downstream support activities and most importantly the spin-off companies. This is a bold move, a new paradigm shift from a mere typical R&D based set-ups. This product-driven outfit will create the right R&D drive, professional work environment and global in nature and stature.

This was demonstrated by the establishment of the Academy and now followed by the launching of the spin-off companies.

During the event, Appreciation Awards are given to Bahagian Pembangunan Usahawan MARA, Bahagian Penganjuran Pelajaran MARA and Telekom Malaysia Berhad for their strategic contribution and support towards the technopreneurship development of ICmic and the Academy. On hand to receive the Awards are Y. Bhg Datuk Nam Marthinin, the Director General of MARA and Tuan Haji Gazali Harun, the Chief Procurement Officer, TM.

END OF PRESS RELEASE

About ICmic-UniKL Academy

ICmic-UniKL Academy (www.icmic-unikl.com) – located in Cyberjaya, is the result of a joint venture between Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA), IC Microsystems Sdn Bhd (ICmic) – a leading Integrated Circuit (IC) Design company in Malaysia and University Kuala Lumpur [UniKL] – a premier technical educational institution based in Kuala Lumpur to spearhead the country's microelectronics competency development. The key objective is to produce hands-on engineers with entrepreneurial skills who can directly participate in microelectronics/electronics design and related industries thus closing the gap with industry requirement.

The Academy conducts product-development based post graduate programs for Integrated Circuit design and Application design. Currently programs include Master of Engineering program and on-job training programs.

About ICmic

ICmic Sdn Bhd (www.icmic.com) is a leading IC [integrated circuit] Design Company based in Cyberjaya, Malaysia with an office in Santa Clara, California. It is a Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) status company and has a global customer base with proven products performance in costs and technology. The company's product portfolio also includes world-class Mixed-Signal IC's in the form of Digital to Analog Converters IC's, fixed-line Phone IC's, RFIC's and Serial EEPROM.

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