

PRESS RELEASE – Pre MyGOSSCON 2010



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fourth Annual MyGOSSCON Brings Together 1,000 Participants to Witness the Strength of OSS in Shaping National Agenda

MAMPU's Biggest Ever - MyGOSSCON 2010 - Staged on Nov 2

Putrajaya, MALAYSIA, Nov. 2. MAMPU, the Government's OSS torchbearer since the launch of the Malaysian Public Sector OSS Master Plan, has staged its fourth annual Malaysian Government Open Source Software Conference (MyGOSSCON 2010) on Nov 2 – 3 at Putrajaya International Convention Centre (PICC).

Focus on the role of OSS in improving public service delivery took centre stage at the conference today, promoting cross-pollination among the three crucial entities of the OSS ecosystem comprising Public Sector, private sector and Research and Development (R&D) community.

This conference is meaningfully themed “OSS: Innovation for National Transformation” to underscore the instrumental role of OSS in supporting the four pillars of national transformation.

The objectives of the conference are primarily to intensify the development and implementation of OSS in Government, to strengthen collaborative partnerships among Business, Public Higher Education Institutions and Public Sector communities, and to enhance and invigorate the OSS Ecosystem by providing an open and interactive forum for exchange of knowledge and experience.

Officiated on Nov 2 by Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister, Y.A.B. Tan Sri Dato' Haji Muhyiddin Bin Mohd. Yassin, MyGOSSCON was attended by high-profile Government officials, private sector CEOs and dignitaries, and delegates from local and international organisations. The event will be closed on Nov 3 by MAMPU's Director General, Dato' Mohamad Zabidi Zainal.

MyGOSSCON 2010 is the biggest Government OSS conference ever held. It promises to awe and stimulate participants with many exciting activities, including a large and diverse repertoire of local and international speakers delivering more than 40 papers through plenary, track and tutorial sessions. There are 40 exhibitor booths, OSS Community forums titled “Future of Cloud Computing” chaired by IDC with speakers from RedHat, Microsoft and IBM. Rounding out the activities are informative events and entertaining competitions, including the Malaysia Book of Records endorsed contest, 36-hour OSS Web Development Contest, as

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well as new OSCC products launch.

Two new OSCC products, MyDesktopManager and MyTaskManager were launched using state-of-the-art 3D animation powered by OSS, showcasing the latest technology capability and maturity of OSS.

This 2-day conference is expected to draw at least 1,000 participants to learn more about how OSS can drive innovation towards enabling national transformation. It is also held to substantiate OSS' inherent strengths in helping Government agencies and private sector companies to reap significant benefits.

The opening ceremony on Nov 2 featured awards presentation ceremony for competitions and new OSCC MAMPU products launch. The closing ceremony on Nov 3 will announce best exhibition booth winner by MAMPU's Director General, Dato' Mohamad Zabidi Zainal.

MAMPU Deputy Director General, ICT, YBhg. Dato' Dr. Nor Aliah Binti Mohd Zahri delivered her keynote on "OSS: Innovation for National Transformation" together with three other presenters, while concurrent sessions were separated into nation building, innovation and transformation tracks, drawing on key local and international speakers from Malaysia, USA, Australia, Spain, Norway, Sudan, Japan, and Singapore sharing their experiences in these sessions. Among the highlights include keynote talks on "Impact of FSFE to the Ecosystem" and "Community Support for OSS Implementation in the Public Sector".

In line with the Government's aspiration to nurture a learning and innovation culture and promote growth of local OSS communities, there are many other activities held in conjunction with this event. These include three OSS competitions comprising the 36-Hour OSS Web Application Development (OSS WebDev) Contest, Public Sector OSS Case Study Awards and the Central Zone Schools OpenOffice.org Competition.

The inaugural 36-hour OSS WebDev Contest, held on 6-8 October, was recognised as "The Longest OSS Programming Event", endorsed by the Malaysia Book of Records 2010 on Oct 8. It was held to further spark and ignite open source web application development skills in Malaysia. The contest received 42 submissions, double the number received for the 2009 event.

The Public Sector OSS Case Study Awards attracted 92 submissions from both Public Sector and Public Institutes of Higher Learning (IPTA in Malay), nearly tripling 2009's submissions. It was held for a third successive year to recognise the most innovative and effective OSS implementations in Government agencies and public universities in boosting the OSS ecosystem.

The Central Zone Schools OpenOffice.org Competition was held in order to raise and stimulate OSS awareness and to promote innovative use of OpenOffice.org among students. 85 teams applied to compete with full submissions coming from 58 teams.

All winners and runners-up are announced during the awards presentation ceremony held during MyGOSSCON 2010 opening ceremony.

An OSS Showcase Exhibition consisting of 40 exhibition booths is held in conjunction with the conference. The aim of the exhibition is to display various OSS solutions that have been

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successfully deployed within the Public Sector as well as solutions with a strong potential to be used by Government agencies. It clearly demonstrates the readiness of the local ICT Industry to implement and support OSS solutions especially for the Government agencies.

Other interactive activities in MyGOSSCON include the Birds-of-a-Feather (BoF) and Lightning Talk sessions, designed to bring together OSS community members from all backgrounds and walks of life to share knowledge, experiences and expertise on various OSS subjects and areas of interest.

To date there are 705 agencies implementing OSS, representing a 13-fold increase since the inception of the Public Sector OSS Programme. This uptake has resulted in known estimated cost savings of RM 205 million.

In pursuit of its 100% goal in Accelerated OSS Adoption in the Public Sector, MAMPU through its Open Source Competency Centre (OSCC MAMPU), has organised OSS Opportunity Workshops and seminars to guide and assist agencies who are new to OSS and implementing OSS solutions.

OSCC MAMPU has also introduced several OSS certification courses in Linux Administration and OpenOffice.org to further develop OSS competency among Government personnel to drive and increase OSS adoption and implementation in the Public Sector. These certification courses also aim to be a form of recognition of Government personnel with competent OSS skills. In addition, OSCC MAMPU has appointed 11 Certified Training Providers (CTP) to meet increasing demands for OSS training among Public Sector personnel. In an effort to promote growth of local ICT Industry, MAMPU has appointed 20 local ICT providers to form a panel of OSCC products services providers.

About MyGOSSCON

The Malaysian Government Open Source Software Conference (MyGOSSCON) is an event held annually to support the Malaysian Government's OSS Programme. This popular event is back again for its fourth consecutive year to bring the latest trends in OSS following the successes of the last three MyGOSSCON events in 2007, 2008 and 2009. In line with the new direction of the Government of Malaysia charting the path to achieve Vision 2020, the theme for this year is "OSS: Innovation for National Transformation".

MyGOSSCON, organised by MAMPU in collaboration with the Association of the Computer and Multimedia Industry Malaysia (PIKOM) and Multimedia Development Corporation (MdeC) and supported by the Malaysian Open Source community, is targeted at key Government and business leaders, IT decision makers, IT practitioners, academics and OSS enthusiasts from Government, institutions of higher learning and private sector.

For more information, please visit: <http://mygosscon.oscc.org.my>

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About Malaysian Administrative Modernisation And Management Planning Unit (MAMPU)

MAMPU, as a key member agency of the Prime Minister's Department, is responsible for implementing modernisation strategies for the Public Sector. MAMPU focuses on initiatives that could upgrade the quality, efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity of Malaysian Public Service. MAMPU advises the Government in the area of management, acts as the central agency for ICT development and automation as well as ICT policy formulation. The OSS Programme for the Public Sector is one of the ICT policies, which originated from a Cabinet decision, that is led by MAMPU.

All these initiatives encompass the areas of quality acculturation, organisational development, management integrity, ICT development, and enhancing the relationship between public and private sectors.

About Association of the Computer and Multimedia Industry, Malaysia (PIKOM)

PIKOM, the Association of the Computer and Multimedia Industry, Malaysia is the association representing the information and communications technology (ICT) industry in Malaysia. Its membership currently stands at over 750 comprising companies involved in a whole spectrum of ICT products and services which commands 80 per cent of the total ICT trade in Malaysia.

About Multimedia Development Corporation (MDeC)

Multimedia Development Corporation (MDeC) is a unique high powered government-owned corporation, established to facilitate the development and promotion of MSC Malaysia, the premier Malaysian ICT initiative. MDeC is tasked to advise the Malaysian Government on ICT legislation and policies, develop MSC Malaysia as a key growth driver of the economy and set breakthrough standards for ICT and multimedia operations. MDeC also promotes MSC Malaysia locally and globally, as well as supports companies which are located within the MSC Malaysia designated areas.

MDeC works closely with various parties and government agencies to ensure that MSC Malaysia offers a conducive enabling environment for companies to harness the full potential of ICT and multimedia technologies.

For More Information

If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Y.B. Dato' Mohamad Zabidi bin Zainal, Director General of MAMPU, please call Madam Tan King Ing at 019-3817287 or email at tankinging@mampu.gov.my.