



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DRB-HICOM, GEELY HOLDING ENTER MOU WITH MIDA, MARII FOR THE PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF AHTV

Collaboration with MIDA and MARII to transform Automotive Hi-Tech Valley into an R&D and smart manufacturing hub for hi-tech components and Energy Efficient Vehicles

KUALA LUMPUR, Monday, 16 December 2024 – DRB-HICOM Berhad (“DRB-HICOM”) together with Zhejiang Geely Holding Group Co. Ltd. (“Geely Holding”) today signed two Memorandums of Understanding (“MOU”) towards transforming the Automotive Hi-Tech Valley (“AHTV”) in Tanjong Malim, Perak, into a global automotive hub for Next Generation Vehicles (“NxGV”) and Energy Efficient Vehicles (“EEV”).

The first MOU, signed with the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (“MIDA”), aims to explore potential areas of co-operation and collaboration to promote investments specifically in the development of AHTV, with the objective of fostering growth, capabilities and competitiveness of the Malaysia automotive industry.

Key areas of collaboration include promoting the transformation of Malaysia’s automotive industry and Industry 4.0 (“I4.0”) to help Malaysia become a leading country for EEVs in ASEAN. This aims to transform AHTV into a global automotive hub focussing on the production of NxGVs, as well as a smart manufacturing for hi-tech automotive components and an export base for the global supply chain for complete vehicles and parts.

Other areas of collaboration include attracting and hosting global automotive supply chain players and establishing a complete eco-system within AHTV which include enhancing capabilities of local suppliers to enable them to participate in the localisation of key components, at the same time assisting in transforming and upgrading of the local supply chain.

The parties will also create communication and discussion with related stakeholders on investment, trade and industrial policy, as well as to accelerate the support of promotion and application of energy efficient vehicles in Malaysia and build an EEV ecosystem.

Meanwhile, the second MOU, signed with the Malaysia Automotive Robotics and IoT Institute (“MARii”), will see the parties exploring areas of collaboration in Research and Development (“R&D”) and Talent Development for AHTV.

In the area of R&D, the scope of cooperation includes building shared R&D and testing facilities focusing on vehicle R&D, manufacturing, supply chain and NxGV testing capabilities which shall be recognised across the ASEAN region. This will involve amongst others, the establishment of the National Testing and Homologation Centre at AHTV, aimed to be Malaysia’s national level tropical climate, autonomous driving and EEV testing and homologation centre, and designated as the country’s testing and certification centre.

In addition, the parties agree to develop local design capabilities and expertise in critical components such as e-motor, battery management system, and power distribution units with assistance from Geely Holding.

In the area of talent development, the cooperation includes developing an AHTV automotive talent training programme focusing on NxGV and smart manufacturing, nurturing talent in R&D, smart equipment, manufacturing and marketing services together with collaboration with institutions from China and Malaysia.

This includes, amongst others, establishing national standards for Automotive TVET and SKM certification, deploying an automotive apprenticeship programme, creating modules for high schools up to universities, and conducting certification programmes for digitalisation and I4.0 proficiency in the manufacturing and supply chains.

For both MOUs, DRB-HICOM Group Managing Director Tan Sri Syed Faisal Albar signed on behalf of the company while Geely Auto Chief Executive Officer Jerry Gan Jiayue signed on behalf of Geely Holding. For the first MOU with MIDA, Chief Executive Officer Datuk Sikh



Shamsul Ibrahim Sikh Abdul Majid signed on behalf of his organisation, while Azrul Reza Aziz, who is Chief Executive Officer, signed on behalf of MARii for the second MOU.

The signing of documents was commemorated during the official launch of the Proton e.MAS 7, Malaysia's first electric vehicle, at the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC) earlier today.

The MOU signing is the latest milestone in the establishment and transformation of AHTV into the international NxGV and EEV hub in Malaysia. Developed by AHTV Alliance Sdn. Bhd., a joint venture between the DRB-HICOM and Geely Holding, AHTV will encompass extensive automotive and mobility solutions across the value chain.

This spans from a full-fledged high technology global research and development centre to world-class automotive original equipment manufacturers and manufacturing clusters, as well as supporting services and associated ecosystem including logistics, training and learning institutions within a smart city for the automotive industry.

-ENDS-



ABOUT DRB-HICOM

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DRB-HICOM Berhad (“DRB-HICOM”) is one of Malaysia’s leading group of companies with core businesses in the Automotive, Aerospace & Defence, Banking, Postal, Services, and Properties sectors. With 84 active companies in its stable and more than 45,000 employees group-wide, DRB-HICOM’s aim is to continue adding value and propelling the nation’s development. In the Automotive sector, DRB-HICOM is involved in the manufacturing, assembly and distribution of passenger and commercial vehicles, including the national motorcycle. In Aerospace and Defence, DRB-HICOM is involved through its subsidiaries CTRM and DEFTECH, while it is represented in the postal segment through its subsidiary Pos Malaysia, and banking through Bank Muamalat. In the Services segment, DRB-HICOM is involved in various businesses, including concession, education, aviation and logistics and investment holdings whereas in Properties, DRB-HICOM is involved in the development of industrial properties.

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