

**WELCOME REMARKS BY**

**YANG BERBAHAGIA  
DATO' IR. AHMAD 'ASRI ABDUL HAMID  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD, MALAYSIA**

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**MALAYSIAN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE AWARDS  
(MCIEA) 2018 – PRESS CONFERENCE**

**28 SEPTEMBER 2018  
GRAND HYATT HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR**

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Distinguished guests,  
Members of the media,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

Assalammualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh, Salam Sejahtera, and a very good morning to all of you here today.

1. On behalf of the Construction Industry Development Board or CIDB Malaysia, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to all of you to the Press Conference of the 2018 Malaysian Construction Industry Excellence Awards (MCIEA 2018).
2. The MCIEA, which is the brain-child of CIDB Malaysia, is the nation's most prestigious construction industry awards that celebrates all round excellence in construction. First held in 2000, it recognises the outstanding achievements of developers, contractors, consultants and projects - individuals as well as organisations.

3. This is the 18th year that the MCIEA is celebrating the high-achievements of Malaysian construction industry players. In that time, we have seen the construction sector grow tremendously, both qualitatively and quantitatively. First, let me give you a little background on why we have the MCIEA and what we hope to achieve.
4. The rapid growth of Malaysia's economy makes it necessary for the construction sector to continuously improve and expand its capabilities. CIDB Malaysia's mission is to transform Malaysia's construction sector into one that is highly-modern, productive and sustainable, as envisioned under the Construction Industry Transformation Programme (CITP) 2016-2020.
5. As such, CIDB Malaysia under the leadership of the Ministry of Works is tasked with enabling the sector to undertake real and meaningful transformation, in order for the industry to remain as one of the key drivers of Malaysia's socio-economic growth. As part of the transformation effort, MCIEA encourages a sense of healthy competition by showcasing best practices in project implementation. It also recognises the stars of the Malaysian construction industry whose work has enhanced the image, performance and quality of the various fields represented in the construction industry.
6. For this year's Awards, we are heartened to note that we have received a total of 195 nominations for 10 award categories. We certainly encourage more industry players to up the ante and emulate the winners we are celebrating today, in order to continue raising the standard of the Malaysian construction industry to be globally competitive. This too is one of the key strategic thrusts of the CITP.
7. On that note, let me say congratulations to all our award winners! I am glad to see that they and many others have really stepped up over the years to lead the Malaysian industry by example through their excellence in construction, both domestically and internationally.

8. This year's MCIEA is especially significant for 2 reasons. For one, it is the first time ever in the history of the Awards that one company has won 2 major awards. WCT Berhad won the Green Building Award as well as the International Achievement Award. WCT Berhad is represented here today by Executive Director of Engineering and Construction, Mr. Liang Kai Chong. Please help me to congratulate WCT.
  
9. Second, it is the first time that we are awarding Construction Leading Lady to two persons. Both Dato' Yeoh Soo Keng and Pn. Majidah Majid are recognised for their outstanding contributions to the industry. I'm sure the judges had a difficult time choosing and, in the end, decided both equally deserved the recognition, and therefore created 2 awards in the same category. Congratulations to both of you!
  
10. I would also like to take the opportunity here to thank our panel of 11 distinguished judges who have put in the time and effort to review all the award candidates and make their selections. It's no exaggeration at all to say that they are the who's who of the construction industry, representing a wide stratum of stakeholders. Thank you for your input and contribution towards making MCIEA 2018 a great success!
  
11. With that short introduction, I would like to open the time to the floor for questions.

Thank you.

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