



AN EXPLOSION OF IDEAS AT THE 2023 INVESTOR DAY OF ICAPITAL.BIZ BERHAD



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Key views and findings discussed during the Investor Day:

- *It is time to buy Malaysia as the influence of Malaysia's 4th PM is waning*
- *TVET will be a major catalyst for Malaysia, especially in raising income for the Bumiputeras*
- *The Malaysian semiconductor sector will stage a recovery in 2024*
- *Conventional oil and gas are here to stay as no viable, nor sustainable alternative exists*



Capital Dynamics CEO and icapital.biz Berhad's designated person, Tan Teng Boo

KUALA LUMPUR, 07 NOVEMBER 2023: The 2023 Investor Day of icapital.biz Bhd (ICAP, 5108) 2023, with its theme of “*Why Now is the Right Time to Invest in Malaysia*” was a rousing success, attracting over a thousand participants and bringing together industry leaders, international finance experts and investors to delve into what is in store for Malaysia, the business sectors that will thrive, and how best to grow one’s wealth during unchartered times such as these.

In his keynote speech, Capital Dynamics CEO and icapital.biz Berhad’s designated person, Tan Teng Boo discussed icapital.biz Berhad’s strategic priorities and how it is extremely committed to driving shareholder value.



Reasons to turn positive on Malaysia

Tan’s single biggest reason for turning positive on Malaysia is because Malaysia’s fourth prime minister, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has started losing significant influence on Malaysian politics.

“He has been interfering in Malaysian politics since the time of our first Prime Minister (PM) Tunku Abdul Rahman all the way to our fifth PM, Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi Lah and sixth PM Datuk Seri Mohammad Najib Razak. For the first time in about 50 years, we will soon be having a government that is able to implement sound social and economic policies without his interference,” said Tan.

Tan Teng Boo added that another catalyst for Malaysia is the current government's emphasis on the technical and vocational education and training (TVET) sector. Under Budget 2024, there will be a total allocation of RM6.8 billion, where a further RM100 million will be allocated to facilitate professional certification of TVET graduates in recognised industries.

“Similar to how accountants and doctors have a professional body governing them to raise their standards and give them accountability, the same should be done for plumbers, electricians and other technical vocations. I feel that TVET is a low-hanging fruit that can transform the Malaysian economy and break free from the middle-income trap. More importantly, it will give a better income and a more sustainable future for our Bumiputeras,” said Tan.

Insights from leaders of listed companies

Meanwhile, as part of the highly innovative Investor Day, key leaders from public-listed companies such as Hibiscus Petroleum Bhd, Unisem (M) Bhd, OCK Group Bhd, Kelington Group Bhd and many others shared key trends and updates on their respective companies and sectors.

During his session, Hibiscus Petroleum Bhd managing director Dr Kenneth Pereira said that the profit efficiency of oil and gas players around the world is currently at its highest levels. With the present unrest in Ukraine and the Middle East, governments are starting to realise the importance of energy security with a new urgency.

“Studies have shown that when a country has energy security, life expectancies are longer, the economy is better, and the people are richer in general. Oil and gas will remain critical for now, as there still isn't a viable alternative that is sustainable,” said Dr Kenneth.

Unisem (M) Bhd group COO Kevin Khoo adds that 2024 will be the recovery year for the semiconductor sector in Malaysia.

The semiconductor sector remains one of the most important industries in Malaysia. In 2022, it employed 232,722 people or 10% of the total manufacturing employment. Malaysia currently contributes some 7% to 10% of the global chip output.

Learning how to invest better

It wasn't a day dedicated only to experienced investors. Novice and would-be investors left the event with improved financial literacy and savvier investing skills.

Attendees could choose from a plethora of sessions, from more straightforward topics such as compounding principles and understanding financial statements, to the fallacy of retiring early, and the similarities between choosing a spouse and career.

The ICAP Fan Club was also introduced – the first corporate fan club in the Asia-Pacific, where the goal isn't just about making money, but leaving a better future for future generations. Amongst its other objectives, the ICAP Fan Club aims to share investment knowledge and experience among its members and to improve the quality of shareowners of icapital.biz Berhad. icapital.biz Berhad's primary objective for its Investor Day has always been to educate the general public on the benefits of sound investing. This not-for-profit Investor Day has been Asia's most innovative investment event since it was first held in 2010. Tan said during 2014 Investor Day: "The motivation behind Investor Day is 'sharing' – if I can convert one person to become a better person and a better investor from this, I would be happy. That person would go on to influence other people in their lives, and eventually they would all make a better Malaysian economy."

The 2023 Investor Day featured three exciting programmes, with two that ran concurrently throughout the event, and one that was held during the night.

The first track of programmes was '*For the Experienced Investors*' – where key management from public-listed companies including Unisem (M) Bhd, OCK Group Bhd, Hibiscus Petroleum Bhd, Kelington Group Bhd, MKH Bhd, Eupe Corporation Bhd and APM Automotive Holdings Bhd presented overviews of their companies and took questions from the floor. In addition, an independent assessment of icapital.biz Berhad's net asset value and share price performance by a top finance lecturer from a leading Australian university was also presented.

The second track of programmes, '*For Would-Be Investors*', featured investment, business, economic, and financial planning experts that dissected and analysed stocks and stock-picking strategies, the principles of compounding, economic literacy, how to achieve financial independence, and the path to becoming a savvy and successful investor.

The third track was the grand finale of the *i* Capital Talent Show, where 18 finalists consisting of highly gifted university students from across Malaysia presented artistic, creative and imaginative performances on stage. The winners are:

Champion (RM3,000): Harvard Sandar, from Geomatika University College

1st Runner-Up (RM2,000): Pasqueletta Joan Paulus, from Institut Pengajian Guru (IPG)

2nd Runner-Up (RM1,000): Lim Ke Xin, from Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology (TAR UMT)

Group Category:

Champion (RM8,000): Seven, from TAR UMT, Sunway University, and Asia Pacific University (APU)

1st Runner-Up (RM5,000): Shooterzzz, from Sunway University and Monash University

2nd Runner-Up (RM3,000): Virus A, from TAR UMT

The quality of the Talent competition blew past the expectations of every one.

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Investor Day

