

Official Opening Speech
Deputy Minister of Works Malaysia
YB Dato' Sri Abdul Rahman Bin Haji Mohamad
KL BIM Day 2023
at World Trade Centre
13 July 2023

Salutations (to be provided on event day)

A very good morning, Salam Perpaduan, Salam Malaysia Madani,

1. It is a great pleasure for me to join you in the opening ceremony of the KL BIM Day, which is being organised in a big scale for the first time. I would like to thank CIDB Malaysia for inviting me and giving me the honour to officiate this momentous event.

2. Ladies and gentlemen, the theme for KL BIM Day, “BIM and Beyond”, is very suited to the time and space we are in today. BIM is recognised in the National Construction Policy (NCP) 2030 as a game changer in digitalising the construction life cycle. Indeed, BIM can certainly be the gateway for all players in construction to delve into the adaptation and adoption of other emerging technologies under the Industrial Revolution (IR) 4.0. The NCP sets a target for the construction sector to achieve digitalisation in at least half of its cycle by 2030.

3. The adaptation and adoption of technology also help in minimising the project costs and maximising the quality and value of the projects, which will ultimately reduce wastage and delay caused by unnecessary reworks during the construction progress period.

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. The Ministry of Works has been promoting the use of BIM for many years. All of us know that the industry players who have used BIM in their projects, have benefited tremendously from it and have not turned back to the old ways. BIM continues to gain widespread adoption across the construction industry. More and more companies and organizations are recognizing the benefits of using BIM. As such, I believe that the time for talking about BIM is over. Now is the time for action.

5. I am proud to note the initiatives to increase BIM adoption has indeed gain good traction. The adoption of BIM has increased from 17 percent in 2016, 49 percent in 2019 to 55 percent in 2021.

6. Many high profile projects today, use BIM technology in the design through construction stage. They include, the Pan-Borneo Highway, KL118 Tower, the Klang Valley Mass Rapid Transit Project or MRT, and the Tun Razak Exchange. As for government projects, the early adopters include the National Cancer Institute, and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Administration Complex, in Putrajaya, and Bagan Datuk Polytechnic in Perak and six government hospitals in Selangor, Terengganu, Johor, Perak, Kedah and Pahang.

7. I am also happy to share that the Ministry of Works, through the Public Works Department Strategic Plan has set a target to reach 50% of BIM adoption in its projects this year and 80% adoption by 2025. The Ministry of Works has so far completed 297 projects using BIM and Industrialised Building System (IBS). These includes the building of roads, bridges and buildings. We have found through the years that the use of BIM and IBS have improved construction quality and productivity. I believe that a higher adoption of BIM can be achieved through strategic collaboration between the relevant ministries and agencies.

8. The challenge remains, how do we increase the rate of BIM adoption in private projects? This is where the launch of the National BIM eSubmission (NBES) today marks yet another significant milestone in accelerating BIM adoption, especially in privately-funded projects. The heart of NBES is using online BIM submission to ensure the transparency and also expedite approvals of building plans. This will contribute significantly towards the ease of doing business in construction.

9. NBES will enable local authorities to process building plan submissions more efficiently through the imbedded auto checker, and project owners to start their projects earlier. As we know, in business, time is money! Thus, the more time we save, the more money and income we are able to generate for the economy. So, I urge all local authorities to come on board and explore working with CIDB on introducing the NBES in the approval processes.

BIM as a Collaborative Tool

Ladies and gentlemen,

10. While BIM is considered a game changer, it is still just a tool and will only make a difference if it is being used effectively. Throughout the years of using BIM industry players throughout the world had found that the key success factors contributing to their success include **early and effective collaboration among stakeholders**.

11. In a productive BIM environment, the appointed design team, contractors, manufacturers and installers will all working collaboratively even before the first concrete are being poured. This means that all matters regarding designs, issues, priorities and construction methods will

be agreed upon in the initial stages and fully understood by all parties involved. If any party execute their task in silos with no communication or coordination, projects will surely hit stumbling blocks. By collaborating on a project from the initial stages, we will be able to reduce extension of time (EOT) or variation order (VO). This is very necessary for a more efficient implementation of government and private projects alike.

12. I would like to encourage the industry players to use the MyBIM Centre to carry out their collaborative work on BIM, if they do not have their own facilities. I was made to understand that the MyBIM Centre was used by MRT Corp during the initial stages of the MRT project design.

Conclusion

Ladies and gentlemen,

13. Technology, as we know, provides the catalyst and leverage for us to leapfrog the construction industry performance on many fronts including safety, quality, productivity and professionalism. So, I call upon the industry players in the room today to take the lead in BIM investment and adoption. I believe the day has finally arrived when the practical knowledge and skills of BIM can become a differentiating factor for a construction professional to compete and succeed locally and at the global stage. Thus, let the KL BIM Day be the event where you finally get convinced, make the decision to adopt BIM, and be counted!

14. Ladies and gentlemen, with that, it is with great honour that I declare the KL BIM Day 2023 officially open.