



**OPENING SPEECH BY:
YB DATO SRI ALEXANDER NANTA LINGGI
MINISTER OF WORKS**

FOR

**FUTURE READY GREEN DATA CENTRES SYMPOSIUM:
SUSTAINABLE AND HIGH PRODUCTIVITY ENGINEERING**

**24 SEPTEMBER 2026
9.00 AM – 10.00 AM
HALL 8B, LEVEL 4, KUALA LUMPUR CONVENTION CENTRE**

**MAIN ORGANISER:
THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, MALAYSIA (IEM)
CDL ACADEMY BY YTL CEMENT
YTL CEMENT**

SALUTATION

Yang Berhormat Dato' Ingenieur Haji Yusuf bin Haji Abd. Wahab
Chairman of CIDB Malaysia

Yang Berusaha, Ingenieur Yau Chau Fong
President of IEM

Yang Berusaha, Ms. Rachel Yeoh
Executive Director of YTL Cement

Yang Berbahagia Datuk Surveyor. Mohammad Zaid Zakaria,
Chairman of CDL Academy

Yang Berusaha, Ingenieur Ng Beng Hooi
Organising Chairman of Future Ready Green Data Centres, IEM

Distinguished Speakers and Panellists

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

INTRODUCTION

Salam Sejahtera, Salam Malaysia Madani, Salam Segulai Sejalai.

1. Terlebih dahulu, saya merakamkan penghargaan kepada The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM) dan YTL Cement atas jemputan serta penganjuran simposium ini.
2. Saya berbesar hati bersama para profesional, pakar industri dan pemegang taruh untuk membincangkan pembangunan pusat data yang berdaya tahan, berprestasi tinggi, hijau, mampan dan produktif.
3. Seterusnya, saya akan meneruskan ucapan saya dalam Bahasa Inggeris.

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. Today, we are discussing how Malaysia can build the infrastructure, capabilities and lasting value needed to support its growing digital economy.
5. According to the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA), Malaysia recorded RM385.7 billion in data-centre-related investments between 2021 and the first half of 2026, with around 4.6 gigawatts of capacity reported to be planned or under construction. Data centres are now part of our wider infrastructure landscape, not merely individual projects.
6. For Kementerian Kerja Raya, the question is whether this growth strengthens Malaysia's infrastructure, industry and long-term

capabilities. We must look beyond each facility to its connectivity, access, engineering, construction, asset management and resilience.

7. Data centres depend on reliable electricity, water, connectivity, roads and supporting infrastructure, which must expand together. Government, industry and the responsible agencies must coordinate their planning across this whole ecosystem.
8. Investment and capacity alone cannot define success; we must also measure resource efficiency, safe and reliable delivery, lasting asset performance and the Malaysian capabilities we develop. Our goal is to create more value from every investment.
9. Speed matters in a competitive market, but safety, quality, reliability and long-term performance must remain paramount. Earlier planning, better coordination and a full asset-lifecycle view will improve productivity without compromising standards.
10. That is why KKR supports Industrialised Building System (IBS), modular construction, prefabrication, Design for Manufacturing and Assembly, and Building Information Modelling (BIM). These approaches should reduce rework, improve coordination and quality, and make better use of time and resources.

Ladies and gentlemen,

11. Our digital transformation must extend from project design to intelligent asset management through BIM, Artificial Intelligence and better use of information throughout an asset's life. Better information

should lead to better decisions, better assets and better outcomes for the public.

12. Data centres must be designed for efficient energy and water use, maintenance, upgrades and changing technology, not just completion day. We must manage their performance throughout the asset lifecycle.
13. Sustainability can improve productivity, lower long-term costs and strengthen resilience through better use of materials, less carbon and waste, and more efficient energy and water use. I welcome today's showcase of ECOCem Prime and its launch as a practical example of lower-carbon innovation that should be adopted across the construction value chain at scale.
14. Data-centre investment should strengthen Malaysian engineers, contractors, manufacturers, technology providers, maintenance specialists, professional firms and SMEs across the wider value chain. As global capital builds capacity here, Malaysian capability must grow with it.
15. Future engineers will need skills in sustainability, digitalisation, AI, data, productivity, resilience and lifecycle management. They must also uphold the profession's enduring standards of competence, integrity, safety, quality and responsibility to society.
16. Future-ready infrastructure must remain resilient through disruption, resource pressures, supply-chain challenges, system failures and changing needs. KKR is working to anticipate risks, plan earlier and strengthen resilience before problems arise.

17. The real test is whether our standards, construction practices, skills, supply chains and professional capabilities keep pace with this growth. I encourage IEM, YTL Cement and all industry partners to turn today's ideas into practical improvements in standards, skills, innovation, productivity and sustainable construction.
18. Malaysia has built significant digital infrastructure capacity; our next task is to build lasting capability around it. Our future depends on how well we engineer and manage greener, more productive and resilient infrastructure, and on the value it creates for Malaysians.

Ladies and gentlemen,

19. I congratulate IEM, CDL Academy and YTL Cement for convening this symposium and look forward to the practical ideas emerging from today's discussions.
20. With that, it gives me great pleasure to declare the Future Ready Green Data Centres: Sustainable and High Productivity Engineering Symposium officially open.

Thank you.