

Boosting defence, aerospace R&D

UPM, ATSC ink deal to jointly develop homegrown technology

LANGKAWI

UNIVERSITI Putra Malaysia (UPM) is strengthening its presence in the nation's defence industry through a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed with Aerospace Technology Systems Corp Sdn Bhd (ATSC) at the Langkawi International

Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition 2025 (Lima '25).

The agreement outlines collaboration in research and development access to intellectual property and human capital development.

UPM vice-chancellor Datuk Professor Dr Ahmad Farhan Mohd Sadullah said the goal is to start working on developing local, homegrown technology, particularly in terms of replacement systems and, more importantly, ensuring that the aircraft used by the country's armed forces are properly maintained.

"This initiative won't just support the growth of local talent and technological development, but also

help the country by saving a significant amount of money.

"On a broader front, UPM also wants to contribute to the future ecosystem of the defence and aviation industry.

"We've been supporting similar efforts for many years. But in the past, we were essentially replicating or implementing solutions developed by others.

"Now, it's time for us to develop

our own technologies so that our sovereignty is not compromised.

"While this is about aviation and defence, the same philosophy applies across all sectors that UPM is involved in, including food security and others," he said following the signing of the MoU at the sidelines of Lima '25.

Present were ATSC chief executive officer Lieutenant Colonel (Rtd) Datuk Mohd Fadzar Suhada.

UPM Faculty of Engineering dean Professor Dr Mohd Zainal Abidin Ab Kadir said the signing of the MoU is expected to significantly impact the development of joint research and technology transfer in the country's aerospace sector.

"This initiative will directly strengthen local capabilities in the aerospace field and bridge the gap between academic institutions and industry," he said.



Universiti Putra Malaysia vice-chancellor Datuk Professor Dr Ahmad Farhan Mohd Sadullah (right) shaking hands with Aerospace Technology Systems Corp Sdn Bhd chief executive officer Lieutenant Colonel (Rtd) Datuk Mohd Fadzar Suhada at the signing of the memorandum of understanding at the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition 2025 on Tuesday.