

UPM, Airbus Helicopters Malaysia ink MoU



Aini (centre) and Mohamed (right) exchanging MoU.

BY NOOR ESZEREEN JUFERI

SERDANG: The Aerospace Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) is collaborating with AIRBUS Helicopters Malaysia (AHM) Sdn Bhd through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) towards boosting the quality of research, teaching and learning in UPM in the field of aerospace.

UPM Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Datin Paduka Dr Aini Ideris said under the collaboration of understanding, both UPM and AHM have a big agenda to achieve under the National Transformation 2050 and become smart partners in research projects and students' mobility with the industry.

"AMRC UPM is a research centre, established at the Faculty of Engineering in February 2012. This effort is in line with research intensifications in the

field of engineering composites, especially in aerospace industry."

"This Centre works strategically in applied researches, products developments and trainings through smart partnerships with government agencies, national and foreign institutions and the private sector," she said.

Head of Governmental and Oil & Gas Market Division of Airbus Helicopters Malaysia, Mohamed Raziff Mohamed Abdul Hamid, said AHM is recognised internationally as an aerospace company, and this helped to facilitate the transfer of technology and knowledge processes, especially in the field of helicopter.

As an international organisation, he said AHM provided maintenance services, overhaul and spare parts for all helicopters owned by AIRBUS. "Malaysia is capable of producing more highly skilled and knowledgeable engineers, particularly in the

aeronautical industry," he said.

AMRC Director, Prof Ir Dr Mohamed Thariq Hameed Sultan said through the collaboration, UPM will receive from AHM, a Lycoming aircraft engine (TIO-540-AB1AD), with an estimated value of RM130,000 (US\$30,000). The engine will be actively used for research, teaching and learning at the university.

"UPM and AHM have agreed to ensure the success of the exchange programme involving UPM research officers or post-graduate students to AHM for the purpose of research and engineering consultancy," he said.

Also in the pipeline is an industrial training programme for UPM undergraduates that will last for 12 weeks. Under the agreement, a Joint UPM and AHM Laboratory will be set up at the Faculty of Engineering, UPM, to facilitate research activities. – UPM.