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Malaysia's Chemical Industry Prioritizes Tech Skills to Boost Productivity

20 February 2023, Petaling Jaya - The chemical and chemical products subsector plays a significant role in supporting others sector in Malaysia. In 2022, chemical and chemical products subsector shows a positive productivity growth, recorded at 2.0%. The interdependency raises a promising outlook to support the overall national economic recovery.

MPC Director General, Dato' Abdul Latif Haji Abu Seman said that tech skill has been a priority in the Chemical and Chemical Products Productivity Nexus (CPN) since its establishment in 2017, as the industry is rapidly adopting digital technologies to improve productivity and competitiveness.

"Tech skill is essential for driving digital transformation initiatives in the industry. This includes implementing new technologies, such as automation, process control systems, and analytics, to improve manufacturing processes and optimise operations," he added.

Thus, CPN initiated the certification programme for Chemical Process Technicians in collaboration with Genovasi University College, Politeknik Tun Syed Nasir Syed Ismail, and the Chemical Industries Council of Malaysia (CICM). The certification targets chemical process technicians, supervisors and employees working in upstream or downstream production in chemical-based factories.

The programme covered modules on occupational safety, environmental engineering, engineering fundamentals, basic piping and instrumentation diagram, process technology equipment, basic principles of chemical processing, chemical handling, separation processes and operations of the process plants.

MPC also highlighted that high skilled in technology is becoming increasingly important in the chemical and chemical products industry in Malaysia, as the industry adopts digital technologies to improve productivity and competitiveness. In 2022, Malaysia was ranked 33rd out of 63 countries in the IMD World Talent Ranking, declined by 5 positions compared to 2021. This reveals that employers in the industry should prioritise building a talent pipeline that includes individuals with the necessary tech skills and experience.

End.

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About Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC)

Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC) is a statutory body under the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI). MPC promotes productivity, quality and competitiveness to the industries and organisations in Malaysia. MPC's vision is to be the leading organisation in productivity enhancement for global competitiveness and innovation.