



MINISTRY OF
INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

MEDIA RELEASE

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH IN ENGINEERING, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CREST) BECOMES MITI AGENCY, FACILITATING NIMP 2030'S TARGET TO ELEVATE E&E INDUSTRY IN GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS

The Ministry of Investment, Trade & Industry (MITI) is pleased to announce that **Collaborative Research in Engineering, Science and Technology (CREST) is now officially an agency under MITI.**

CREST is an industry-led entity launched in 2012 to address Malaysia's Electrical & Electronics (E&E) needs to **grow the Research, Development and Commercialisation (R&D&C) ecosystem through market-driven collaborative R&D and talent development.**

As MITI seeks to enhance the Malaysian industry's economic complexity as one of the missions¹ under the newly launched New Industrial Master Plan 2030 (NIMP 2030), CREST is a strategic addition to the MITI ecosystem. In **2022, E&E exports** were valued at **RM592.96 billion**, representing **38.3% of total exports from Malaysia**. For the same year, this sector also attracted a total of **106 investment projects, valued at RM29.3 billion**. In terms of employment, **9,099 higher-paying jobs at Managerial, Technical and Supervisory (MTS) level** were created, the highest among all industries in 2022.

The Minister of Investment, Trade & Industry, YB Senator Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Aziz said, "The MITI family warmly welcomes CREST into its fold. Indeed, **CREST's inclusion in MITI's ecosystem is not only appropriate, but also timely**

¹ The other three missions are to rapidly adopt technology, push for net zero carbon as well as ensuring economic security and inclusivity.

to provide key support towards establishing Malaysia's first wafer fabrication company and five Integrated Circuit design companies, as outlined by the recently launched NIMP 2030."

"Beyond the implementation of NIMP 2030's initial measures, CREST will also be one of MITI's key agencies to position the Malaysian semiconductor industry further up the global value chain. This, in turn, will help increase Malaysia's E&E exports, which contributes directly to foreign exchange earnings, and the MADANI Economy target to place Malaysia in the Top 30 economies globally," continued Tengku Zafrul.

CREST's member representation comprises representatives from the Government, Industry and Academia, a Triple Helix model focused on developing holistic support for the sustainable growth of the E&E industry.

"CREST is honoured to be part of MITI, and our partnership with key stakeholders is a testament to our commitment to driving innovation and excellence in research and technology. We are excited to contribute our expertise and resources to the success of the recently launched NIMP 2030 and catalyse the growth of the E&E industry. We look forward to working together with MITI to drive economic growth for Malaysia through innovation, collaboration, and sustainable growth," said Jaffri Ibrahim, CEO of CREST.

CREST's eleven-year existence has seen it become a premier platform for collaborative applied research in E&E, enabling the industry to grow from strength to strength across related industries, geographies and in key markets.

MINISTRY OF INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MITI)

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About MITI

MITI is the key driver in making Malaysia the preferred destination for quality investments and enhancing the nation's rising status as a globally competitive trading nation. Its objectives and roles are oriented towards ensuring Malaysia's rapid economic development and help achieve the country's stated goal of becoming a developed nation.

About

CREST

Collaborative Research in Engineering, Science and Technology (CREST) is a catalyst and change agent that drives the growth of Malaysia's Electrical & Electronics (E&E) industry through market-driven Collaborative Research and talent development. CREST is industry-led, with its member representation being the triple helix of Government, Industry and Academia. Visit www.crest.my for details.

About the E&E Industry

- On a global scale, the E&E market grew from \$3454.94 billion in 2022 to \$3739.37 billion in 2023, achieving an 8.2% CAGR. Projections indicate further expansion to \$4986.91 billion by 2027, with a 7.5% CAGR.
- In Malaysia, the E&E industry attracted RM148 billion in investments—RM146.3 billion (98.8%) from Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and RM1.7 billion (1.1%) from domestic sources, generating 28,362 jobs.
- The E&E is Malaysia's largest export sector. In 2022, it accounted for 38% of the country's total exports, with an export value of around RM593 billion.
- From Jan to Sep 2022, E&E projects with RM22.5 billion investments were approved. These projects will create over 26,668 jobs, mainly skilled positions. Additionally, foreign investments total RM21.3 billion (94.7%), and domestic investments RM1.2 billion (5.3%).

Quick Overview

- Malaysia's diverse E&E industry is in its fifth decade of operations, having started with just eight component production companies in the 1970s (also known as the "8 Samurais"). The companies were National Semiconductor (now Texas Instruments), Intel Malaysia, Hewlett-Packard (now Agilent), Advanced Micro Devices (AMD), Bosch, Clarion, Litronix (now Osram) and Hitachi (now Renesas).
- Malaysia today is one of the key players in global semiconductor industry with 7% of the total global semiconductor trade flowing through Malaysia and a 13% global market share in chip testing and packaging. Today, the E&E industry is a major contributor to Malaysia's economy.

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