OIL PIPES THREADING PLANT TO BE SET UP IN BRUNEI BY MID-2016

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Energy Minister at the Prime Minister’s Office Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Singamanteri Colonel (Rtd) Dato Seri Setia (Dr) Hj Mohd Yasmin Hj Umar (2nd L) with (L) Sumitomo Corporation's General Manager for Tubular Products Division, Shuichi Suzuki, NSSMC Vice Head of Pipe and Tube Unit, Toshihiko Kunishi (3rd L) and BSP Technical Director, Yap Kong Fah at the contract signing ceremony at The Empire Hotel & Country Club yesterday. BT/Sanusi Hussin



Energy Minister at the Prime Minister’s Office Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Singamanteri Colonel (Rtd) Dato Seri Setia (Dr) Hj Mohd Yasmin Hj Umar (L), looks on as the BSP Technical Director, Yap Kong Fah (R), signs the contract during the Contract Signing Ceremony for the provision of integrated oil country tubular goods supply and local threading plant project held at Member's Lounge, The Empire Hotel & Country Club. Picture: BT/Sanusi Hussin Sanusi Hussin

THREADING for imported steel pipes needed in the oil and gas industry here could soon be done in the country.

A contract to set up the facility at the Salambigar Industrial Estate was signed yesterday between Brunei Shell Petroleum and two Japanese companies yesterday.

The cost of the facility, which is expected to be ready by mid-2016, is $36 million. Warehousing facilities are expected to cost around $16 million.

Representatives from BSP, Nippon Steel and Sumitomo Metal Corporation and Sumitomo Corporation Asia & Oceania Pte Ltd signed the contract at the Empire Hotel and Country Club.

The Country Manager for Sumitomo Corporation, Stuart McCartney, said: “We aim to support Brunei’s vision for 2035. We want to play a part in that direction.

“While we are primarily here to support BSP operations, there is absolutely no reason we shouldn’t be looking beyond and transfer technology and knowledge into the Brunei local economy and help support the vision for 2035.”

BSP’s Technical Director, Yap Kong Fah, said that the signing of the contract was a historical milestone in the oil and gas industry of Brunei.

“This really creates values for all the companies and is a significant contribution to local business development,” he said.

He said that it will create a lot of jobs for locals and bring in foreign direct investment (FDI). In addition, he said that the deal will involve the transfer of real, top-end technology to Brunei.

“I look forward to the realisation of this opportunity over the next few years,” he said.

The Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister’s Office, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Singamanteri Col (Rtd) Dato Seri Setia Dr Hj Mohd Yasmin Hj Umar, said that from the perspective of the Government, this project will not only bring in FDI but transfer of technology and knowledge from Japan.

He also said that the plant would require technical staff once operational, and asked that parties involved discuss staffing and support services’ requirements so that they can prepare for and maximise the use of local talent and local small-medium enterprises in the project. ***– Courtesy of The Brunei Times/Koo Jin Shen***