



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Working Visit of the Second Minister of International Trade and Industry to Germany, 24-28 April 2017**

Y.B Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan, the Second Minister of International Trade and Industry led a working visit to Hannover Messe 2017 in Germany from 24 to 28 April 2017.

Hannover Messe is one of the world's largest industrial expo organised in Hannover, Germany since 1947 with participation over 70 countries, showcasing their technologies for factories and energy system in the future. This year, two Malaysian exhibitors participated in Hannover Messe, namely Bilfort, specialised in aluminum and carbon steel precision forging and LINKK Busway Systems specialized in design and manufacturing of electrical busway system.

During the Expo, Minister visited prominent German companies such as Siemens, Beckhoff Automation, Bosch Rexroth, Weidmüller Interface, Universal Robots and SEW Eurodrive. These companies are leaders in the field of Industrial Automation, Digital Factory, Robotics, Digital Industrial Security and Drive Technology.

At the sideline of the Expo, Minister delivered his keynote address on "ASEAN In 2017: Taking New Opportunities through Trade Policy" at the ASEAN Forum. He highlighted on Malaysia's recent initiatives in growing trade such as the ASEAN Economic Community, the on-going Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership negotiation and Malaysia's participation on the China's "Belt and Road" initiative.

A bilateral meeting was held on 25 April between Y.B Dato' Seri Ong and the German Minister of Economy and Energy, Her Excellency Brigitte Zypries. Both Ministers emphasized in strengthening bilateral collaboration especially in talent development for Industry 4.0 through the Malaysian-German Chamber of Commerce.

Minister also visited several high profile German companies such as Volkswagen, BMW, B.Braun, Siemens and Muhlbauer whom have presence in Malaysia. The Minister was briefed on the latest technology adopted by these companies and he encouraged these companies to expand Industry 4.0 ecosystem in Malaysia.

Y.B Dato' Seri Ong viewed "Industry 4.0 is a combination of automation and digitalization, and connectivity is the core to drive this revolution". SMEs should gradually transform their business operation as to embrace Industry 4.0. Malaysian Government will continue to facilitate industries towards this direction.



MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY

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Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI)

**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 by 2020 .

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