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'RHB SHIMANO HIGHWAY RIDE @ LEKAS 2017' NIGHT CYCLING EVENT A SUCCESS

Kajang, **17 April 2017** - A massive crowd of cyclists sprang into action at the Kajang Selatan Toll Plaza, Lebuhraya Kajang-Seremban E21 ("LEKAS") to take on Malaysia's No.1 closed highway night cycling challenge at the RHB Shimano Highway Ride @ LEKAS event. Yang Berhormat Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, Minister, Ministry of Works officiated the opening ceremony, flagging off the event which comprised about 4,300 cyclists of all ages.

This event was held in collaboration with RHB Banking Group and Shimano as the title sponsors and Lebuhraya Kajang-Seremban Sdn Bhd (a subsidiary of IJM Corporation Berhad's Toll Division) as the venue sponsor. LEKAS was also coorganiser of the event, together with GoSportz Sdn Bhd.

Starting at the Kajang Selatan Interchange up to Paroi Junction, the event was kicked off by 160 young riders as part of an effort to encourage young riders to experience group riding in a safe and controlled environment. The 105km route was flagged off first at 7.55 pm, followed by the 78km route at 8.15 pm. About 1,970 cyclists took part in the 105km route while 2,080 cyclists undertook the 78km route.



Dato' Khairussaleh Ramli, Group Managing Director of RHB Banking Group said, "We are proud to be part of this unique sporting event which is Malaysia's biggest night cycling race on a closed highway. Thus far RHB Shimano Highway Ride has gained immense popularity amongst cyclists not just in Malaysia but also internationally. Its unique experience has attracted more than 4,000 cyclists who will be participating. Through this event, we hope to spearhead and promote cycling as a healthy lifestyle activity among Malaysians and to encourage the younger generation to experience the outdoors in a fun and exciting way".

Eugene Koh, Deputy Director of Shimano said, "We're encouraged to see so many participants support the event and participate in cycling as an activity. We hope everyone had a great time out with their friends and families. We look forward to your continued support in the future."

LEKAS, a dual three-lane highway which connects Kajang, Selangor to Seremban, Negeri Sembilan had ensured a full road closure for the event, and a fully LED-lit highway, allowing cyclists to enjoy a smooth and safe ride on the road for the fourth time since the race began. In addition, the route of the race event was structured in a way that would challenge the fitness and endurance of the participants with its undulating terrains. Participants of the race event had to face the test of a 4km uphill climb at the 30km mark of the route. The first cyclist in each category to reach the goal at the end of the climb was crowned "King of the Mountain".

Wan Salwani Bin Wan Yusoff, Chief of Operating Officer of LEKAS said, "We are honoured to be so central to this event and are pleased to partner with RHB and Shimano on an event that has over the past four years picked up speed to become one of the most anticipated cycling events in Malaysia. Across the IJM Group, sports is very much at the heart of our corporate social responsibility initiatives. Events like these allow us to make the best use of our infrastructure assets to give back to the



community. We will continue to be a venue sponsor and also fully sponsor the young riders from ages 10 to 16."

Prior to the night cycling event, the organisers held a 'Cycling and Sports Carnival' at Mines 2, Seri Kembangan in conjunction with the Race Pack Collection. It was the biggest cycling carnival in Malaysia, which featured many industry leaders, presenting the latest in bikes, gear and apparel, parts and accessories and sports equipment. Besides targeting cyclists, the carnival was also well-received by the public who had the opportunity to join in the fun-filled programmes and activities.

Albertt Leong, Race Director of GoSportz said, "We would like to thank all our sponsors for making this cycling event a success. We would also like to express our appreciation and gratitude to the Ministry of Works, Lembaga Lebuhraya Malaysia and Polis Diraja Malaysia for their continued support and co-operation in ensuring a safe, fun and smooth race on the highway. Following the successful completion of the event, it is set to become a highly anticipated premier cycling event on the country's sporting calendar."

The two main race events were the 105km route and the 78km route. Categories for the 105km route are the 'Elite' (Pro-Cyclists, Continental Teams, State plus current and ex-National riders aged 18 years and above), 'Open' (men/women aged 22 years and above), 'Veteran' (men/women aged 45 years and above) and the 'Corporate/Open Team' (men/women aged 22 years and above).

Categories for the 78km route are the 'Open' (men/women aged 22 years and above), 'Veteran' (men aged 45 years and above), and the 'Young Adults' (boys/girls between the ages of 17 and 21 years).



There was a special fun ride category for teenagers (ages 13 to 16 years) and children (ages 10 to 12 years). This category was fully sponsored by IJM, together with the first 100 participants of the Young Adult category, aiming to nurture new talents and promote cycling as a sport for all. In addition, the 17km VIP bike ride saw the participation of Yang Berhormat Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, Minister, Ministry of Works and Yang Berbahagia Datuk Ir. Hj. Ismail bin Md. Salleh, Director General of Lembaga Lebuhraya Malaysia.

Results of the race are as follows:

	Champion	Time
105KM Elite	Amir Mustafa Rusli	02:37:15
105KM Men Open	Mohd Hafidz bin Hamid	02:36:24
105KM Veteran Men Open	Brian Christopher Johnsen	02:36:28
105KM Women Open	Nur Aisyah	02:36:30
105KM Corporate/Open Team	TEAM LEKAS	07:49:20
78KM Men Open	Ng Yong Li	01:57:07
78KM Veteran Men Open	Hing Siong Chen	01:58:02
78KM Women Open	Jamie Tan	02:08:02
78KM Young Adults (Boy)	Muhd laman bin Rosli	01:55:54
78KM Young Adults (Girl)	Shahrifah Nur Llyana	02:00:17



The list of sponsors and supporters of the RHB Shimano Highway Ride @ LEKAS 2017 is as follows:-

Title Sponsors	RHB Banking Group	
	Shimano	
Venue Sponsor	Lebuhraya Kajang-Seremban Sdn Bhd (LEKAS)	
Main Sponsors	 IJM Corporation Berhad IJM Land Berhad Panasonic Malaysia Sdn Bhd Touch 'n Go Sdn Bhd Gigatera (M) Sdn Bhd EV-Dynamic Sdn Bhd Lerun Industries Sdn Bhd 	
Supporting Sponsors	 'Starbucks' '100 plus' 'N8' 'Rocktape' 'Endurace' 'Paradigm Mall' Brother International (M) Sdn Bhd Cycling Plus Malaysia 'Mamee' 'Rudy Project' 'Gopro' 'Specialized' Allianz Insurance 'Proviton' 'Thule' 'Ducati' 	

For race results, event pictures and other information, visit the www.lekashighwayride.my website.

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About the RHB Banking Group

RHB Banking Group, with RHB Bank Berhad as the holding company, is the fourth largest fully integrated financial services group in Malaysia. The Group's core businesses are structured into seven main business pillars, namely Group Retail Banking, Group Business & Transaction Banking, Group Wholesale Banking, RHB Singapore, Group Shariah Business, Group International Business and Group Insurance. Group Wholesale Banking comprises Corporate Banking, Investment Banking, Group Treasury & Global Markets, Asset Management and Private Equity. All the seven business pillars are offered through the Group's main subsidiaries - RHB Investment Bank Berhad, RHB Islamic Bank Berhad and RHB Insurance Berhad, while its asset management and unit trust businesses are undertaken by RHB Asset Management Sdn. Bhd. and RHB Islamic International Asset Management Berhad. The Group's regional presence now spans ten countries including Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Brunei, Cambodia, Hong Kong/China, Vietnam, Lao PDR and Myanmar.

About Shimano

Established in 1921 and incorporated in 1940 in Japan (Sakai City, Osaka), Shimano Inc. designs, conducts R&D, manufactures and sells high quality bicycle components, rowing and fishing equipment. In 1973, Shimano established its first factory in Singapore outside of Japan. By leveraging on the quality workforce here, Shimano has since grown into a full-fledged manufacturing plant complete manufacturing capabilities. Shimano Singapore set up its sales office in 1996. It is the regional headquarters for sales and marketing of all Shimano products in South-East Asia and aims to promote cycling culture in the region.

About Lebuhraya Kajang-Seremban Sdn Bhd

A subsidiary of IJM Corporation Berhad's Toll Division, LEKAS Highway offers an alternative route from Kajang to Seremban, Senawang and Kuala Pilah. The 44.3 km highway starts at Kajang Selatan in Selangor and ends at Paroi in Negeri Sembilan. There are seven interchanges along the highway at Kajang Selatan, Semenyih, Pajam, Mantin, Setul, Ampangan and Paroi. Apart from serving as the alternative route to the PLUS highway, places of interests such as Mantin, Broga Hill, the Jeram Toi Waterfall, ostrich farm in Jelebu, Istana Seri Menanti and Seremban International Golf Club are more accessible. Two rest and service areas are located on each side of the highway at Beranang, between the Semenyih and Pajam Interchange. Users travelling from Kuala Lumpur would find the highway a more convenient route to reach Kuala Pilah and states of Pahang and Johor.



To get onto LEKAS, exit 1804A which is accessible from the SILK Highway, Cheras-Kajang Highway and the South Klang Valley (SKVE) towards the SILK Highway. From PLUS North-South Highway, LEKAS Highway can be accessed via Kajang Exit 210 near Country Heights onto SILK Highway towards Seremban, Kuala Pilah, Melaka and Johor. From MRR2, the highway can be accessed via Cheras-Kajang Highway (Grand Saga). The abolishment of toll collection at Batu 11 Toll Plaza (towards Kajang Bound) and Batu 9 Toll Plaza (towards KL Bound) allow users to save money and reach their destinations earlier. From the south, LEKAS can be accessed through PLUS North-South Highway at Senawang Exit 220, Port Dickson Exit 219 and Nilai /Pajam Exit 215. Seremban is also accessible from Setul or Paroi as well as Ampangan.

About GoSportz Sdn Bhd

GoSportz Sdn Bhd's principal business is in sport marketing and event management. The company is led by partners with vast experience in sports event organisation and management. It is also backed by a group of industry players with more than 20 years of experience in organising sports events such as triathlon, duathlon, running and cycling events, both in Malaysia and abroad. GoSportz provides total event management solution ranging from initiation to execution, resource planning, technical advisory, equipment rental, human resource and marketing support to sponsorship management.

This press release is issued on behalf of: GoSportz Sdn Bhd

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