

PRESS RELEASE: The Green Highways Project continues in Malaysia

Team Malaysia started its Green Highways Project journey from PETRONAS NGV station in Tampoi 3, Johor Bahru (border town for Singapore). Mr. M Haikal Zubir, heading Team Malaysia, received the torch and flag from Mr. William Aw of Team Singapore in the evening of 9th September 2009.. an auspicious date! The leader of Team Singapore crossed over to Malaysia via the Malaysia-Singapore Second Link in three natural gas cars to handover the torch and flag to the Malaysian team. The handover was witnessed by the Team Leader from Indonesia, Mr. Danny Praditya and the Executive Director of ANGVA, Mr. Lee Giok Seng.



Torch and Flag handover to Mr. M Haikal Zubir



The flag off at Tampoi 3 Petronas NGV Station

The Malaysian team started their journey to Kuala Lumpur with 2 stops at NGV stations for refuelling. Team Malaysia heading towards Kuala Lumpur was represented by a convoy of 5 natural gas vehicles from the OEM (Kia Optima) and conversion workshops (BMW 5 Series, Toyota Harrier, Toyota Estima and Nissan Cefiro). In Kuala Lumpur, the official flag off ceremony was carried out on the evening of 10th September 2009 at the PETRONAS NGV Station in Subang Airport.



Flag off by Datuk Dr. Abd Rahim Hj Hashim



Team Malaysia

Team Malaysia was flagged off by: Datuk Dr Abd Rahim Hj Hashim, President of the Malaysian Gas Association, Incoming President of International Gas Union and Immediate Past President of ANGVA and Mr. M Farid M Adnan, Senior General Manager, PETRONAS Dagangan Berhad. This eventful ceremony was wrapped up with a dinner and breaking fast at Hyatt Hotel. On 11.09.09, Team Malaysia began their Green Highways with a tour to 2 conversion workshops namely JT NGV Sdn Bhd and Innotrend Sdn Bhd.



Mr. Danny Tan, Ambassador of JT NGV Sdn Bhd



Flag Off at NAZA Automotive Manufacturing Plant

The team also visited the ANGVA Secretariat office in Bangi, Selangor. On 13th September 2009, the convoy of natural gas vehicles started its journey north towards the Malaysian – Thailand boarder. The team spent a night near the NAZA Automotive Manufacturing Plant in Gurun, Kedah. NAZA is one of the sponsors of the ANGVA Green Highways in Malaysia.

In the early morning of 14th September 2009, a simple flag-off ceremony was conducted by the Director of NAZA Automotive Manufacturing. The team then started an hour journey towards the Thai – Malaysia border. The Malaysian team with its convoy of natural gas vehicles crossed into Thailand to a very warm and exciting welcoming ceremony by Team Thailand, led by Team Leader Mr. Punnachai Footrakul in Sadao.



Passing the torch and flag to Team Thailand



A warm welcome by Mr. Punnachai Footrakul

The team was greeted by both the current (Mr. Charoonrith Khampanya) and incoming (Mr. Manop Ratanasupanusorn) CEO and President of Trans Thai Malaysia (Thailand) Ltd company, and staff of PTT PLC. Amongst the many activities were the flag and torch handover ceremony, media activities and also a traditional Thai dance to welcome the Malaysian convoy. Many friendships were forged with valuable experiences and information exchanged between the two teams.



Traditional Thai dance welcoming the Malaysian convoy



Continuing the journey of a thousand miles

After the ceremony, Team Malaysia crossed back to Malaysia, heading back to Kuala Lumpur with a wonderful memory of a handover ceremony hosted by Team Thailand and a thought that the torch and flag are on their way to Donghae, Korea in time for the ANGVA 2009 Conference & Exhibition, 27th – 29th October 2009.

Next stop - THAILAND