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AEON Environmental Foundation
April 26, 2013

AEON, MOE and KeTTHa join forces to bring renewable energy to schools

Selected schools in Peninsular Malaysia will receive solar panel system worth RM1.2 million from Aeon Environmental Foundation, in a joint collaboration initiative between Ministry of Education (MOE), Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHa) and Aeon Co., Ltd.

Spearheaded by Aeon Environmental Foundation, solar power systems will be installed in schools to increase awareness of renewable energy source among the local residents and also to be used as educational materials by the students to learn about the environment.

“We have been providing solar power systems to junior high schools in Japan since 2009, and have successfully implemented the system in 15 schools. Moving forward, we decided to expand the initiative to other Asian countries with Malaysia being the first,” said Takuya Okada, Chairman of the Aeon Environmental Foundation at the handover ceremony at SMK Damansara Jaya.

“With the solar power systems, we hope to reduce the dependant of using non-renewable energy in building and for everyone to be aware and understand its impact towards the environment,” he further added.

SMK Damansara Jaya was the first school to receive the solar power system, and installations in the selected schools are expected to be completed by this year. The schools were selected because they are based in the heart of the urban community and hence more susceptible to the perspective of a sustainable energy system. The handover ceremony was witnessed by Yang Berhormat Dato' Sri Peter Chin Fah Kui, Minister of KeTTHa, and His Excellency Shigeru Nakamura, the Ambassador of Japan.

By introducing the solar system, Aeon Environmental Foundation hopes to promote the use of building-integrated photovoltaics (BIPV) as renewable energy source and reducing carbon emission. BIPV was first introduced in Malaysia in 2005 when KeTTHa was looking out for a sustainable energy system to enable Malaysians to be more energy-efficient and to better utilize renewable energy resources. Since then the ministry has been working with private and industry sectors to introduce BIPV to Malaysians, and today marks a special day as they are now moving into educating and exposing the younger generation on renewable energy source and green technology.

About AEON Environmental Foundation

Aeon Environmental Foundation was established in 1990 in Japan to bring solutions to environmental issues, and support groups and organizations that work to preserve the environment. The two main focus of the Foundation is prevention of global warming, and biodiversity preservation and utilization. Over the years, the Foundation has actively promoted tree planting projects domestically, and in China and other ASEAN countries as one of their key initiatives.

About AEON Co. (M) Bhd.

Aeon Co. (M) Bhd. is a leading General Merchandise Stores (GMS) chain in Malaysia, being the country's leading retailer with 25 outlets across the country. Incorporated in 1984 in response to the Malaysian Government's invitation to help modernize the country's retailing industry, Aeon's chain of stores across peninsular Malaysia strives to satisfy the ever changing needs and desires of consumers. Guided by its "Customer-First" philosophy, the company's acute understanding of their target market needs, aided by optimal product-mix, it strives to surpass consumer expectations and enhance their experience every time they shop.

Aeon strongly supports environmental sustainability. It actively supports various causes, including recycling, energy conservation and tree planting, engaging and encouraging various parties, including staff, customers, NGOs, government agencies and the community at large. For more information, please visit: www.aeonretail.com.my.