



Sabah Ports Sdn Bhd and DP World Forge Partnership to Transform Sapangar Port into Regional Trade Hub

Sabah Ports Sdn Bhd (SPSB) proudly announces the formalization of a strategic collaboration with DP World (DPW) to manage and operate Sapangar Bay Container Port (SBCP). This partnership underscores a shared commitment to solidifying SBCP's position as a premier regional trade hub, with a primary focus on enhancing connectivity for cargoes en-route to the larger BIMP – EAGA, Far East countries, Europe, and the Middle East.

The agreement was signed by Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, Group Chairman and CEO of DP World and Datuk Ng Kiat Min, Managing Director for Sabah Ports Sdn. Bhd.

SBCP, being Sabah's main container port, plays an indispensable role in the facilitation of commerce, handling over 70% of the state's cargo. Recognizing the role of SBCP in the State's economic growth, SPSB's collaboration with DP World aims to leverage the latter's extensive connectivity network and expertise to further enhance operational efficiency, expand cargo base and enable increased trade.

As SBCP is positioned as a regional load centre, this strategic endeavour is poised to catalyse a substantial buildup in cargo volume, stimulating growth and potentially addressing Sabah's logistical challenges. Furthermore, this concerted effort is aligned with the government's overarching objective of reducing overall logistics costs, thereby enhancing the competitiveness of Sabah's economy on regional fronts.

Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, Group Chairman, and CEO of DP World, stated, "With its strategic location and abundance of natural resources, Sabah is well-positioned to reap the immense growth opportunities in the BIMP-EAGA region and beyond. Sapangar Bay Container Port plays a critical role in realizing these ambitions. We are honored to bring our experience in operating ports to support SBCP's transformation journey. In partnership with Sabah Ports, we will apply industry-leading practices to elevate SBCP into a hub port for BIMP-EAGA markets, supported by an ever-growing network of inland container depots, industrial parks, logistics parks, and free zones across Sabah."

Datuk Ng Kiat Min, Managing Director for Sabah Ports Sdn. Bhd., said, "Sapangar Bay Container Port is an important driver of development in Sabah. As we consider the future of SBCP, we are pleased to have onboard a partner like DP World who will lend their global expertise in managing ports and building supply chain networks to help optimize SBCP's operations, which in turn will catalyze increased trade through Sabah and benefit communities and businesses around the state."

"The synergy with DP World can potentially address the challenges of high logistics costs faced in Sabah, through the establishment of a strong shipping network and expansion of cargo base. The venture is expected to not only impact Sabah's shipping and logistics industry but will also lead to economic growth in view of market confidence, thus attracting economic investments and infrastructural upgrades in transport, logistics, and along the supply chain," she continued.



"The collaboration has been made possible through the invaluable support of the State government and key agencies. Their pivotal role in materializing this partnership demonstrates their commitment to advancing Sabah's trade infrastructure. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Minister of Sabah, the Ministry of Works Sabah, State Attorney-General's Chambers, State Economic Planning Unit, Sabah Ports Authority, and all other relevant government agencies for their unwavering support."

At present, SBCP is undergoing an expansion phase aimed at upgrading its facilities, expanding terminal capacity from 500,000 TEUs to 1.25 million TEUs, with the aim of positioning SBCP as the regional premier trade hub. The expansion project is funded by the Malaysian Federal government and is administered through the Sabah Economic Development and Investment Authority. With the strategic partnership and DPW's global expertise complementing this initiative, SBCP is poised to emerge as a high-performing port, strengthened by expanded capacity, strategic connectivity, and advanced port technologies.

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About DP World

Trade is the lifeblood of the global economy, creating opportunities and improving the quality of life for people around the world. DP World exists to make the world's trade flow better, changing what's possible for the customers and communities we serve globally.

With a dedicated, diverse and professional team of more than 106,500 employees spanning 73 countries on six continents, DP World is pushing trade further and faster towards a seamless supply chain that's fit for the future. In Asia Pacific, DP World employs more than 7,000 people, and has ports and terminals in 18 locations.

We're rapidly transforming and integrating our businesses -- Ports and Terminals, Marine Services, Logistics and Technology – and uniting our global infrastructure with local expertise to create stronger, more efficient end-to-end supply chain solutions that can change the way the world trades.

What's more, we're reshaping the future by investing in innovation. From intelligent delivery systems to automated warehouse stacking, we're at the cutting edge of disruptive technology, pushing the sector towards better ways to trade, minimising disruptions from the factory floor to the customer's door.

**WE MAKE TRADE FLOW
TO CHANGE WHAT'S POSSIBLE FOR EVERYONE.**



About Sabah Ports

Sabah Ports Sdn. Bhd. (SPSB), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Suria Capital Holdings Berhad, officially took over the management of all port operations from Sabah Ports Authority on 1 September 2004.

With eight ports strategically located at the west and east coasts of Sabah, SPSB provides berthing, handling, and cargo facilities to its port customers. SPSB has steadily developed its ports to become ports of global standing as it pursues its ambition to be a major container terminal as well as the region's palm oil distribution hub.

SPSB is paving the platform for greater global connectivity by capitalizing on the State's strategic location and abundant natural resources thus setting the foundation for SPSB ports to become an important gateway to the East.

Sapangar Bay Container Port provides container and Ro-Ro facilities and is positioned to be the premier transshipment hub for the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA). Kota Kinabalu Port handles break bulk, dry bulk, cruise, and crew change. Sapangar Bay Oil Terminal is a dedicated terminal for the handling of refined petroleum products and liquid chemical serving the west coast of Sabah.

The east coast ports of Sandakan, Tawau and Lahad Datu handle general cargo and containers as well as fertilizer and palm oil products. Kunak Port handles palm oil and palm kernel exports.