Commercialization of technology is a collaborative process between the Technology Transfer Office, researchers and partners. Therefore, Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) now has an Office of Technology Transfer (TTO) under the Department of Research & Innovation dedicated to identifying research which has potential commercial interest as well as strategies on how to exploit it. For instance, a research outcome may be of scientific and commercial interest, but patents for the findings are issued for practical processes, and so, a person - who need not necessarily be the researcher - must come up with a specific practical process, proof of concept and market prototype.

Successful technology transfer often results in a business license or start-up of a new company. In addition to traditional technology transfer function, TTO also performs other tasks such as working with faculties to facilitate their research activities, having collaborations with other institutions and commercial partners and serves as an interface between UMP and the business community for economic development efforts.

The establishment of TTO in UMP is in line with the Government's efforts to ensure that Malaysia continues to grow at a strong rate through its many initiatives including the 1Malaysia Programme, Economic Transformation Programme (ETP) Government Transformation Programme (GTP). Under the Prime Minister's plan, Unit Inovasi Khas (UNIK or Special Innovation Unit) was set up in August 2010. The unit is the central point for innovation in Malaysia and acts as an entity to propel towards an innovation-led economy. As a result of UNIK's recommendation, the National Innovation Agency (Agensi Inovasi Malaysia, or AIM) was created under the Innovation Agency Act Malaysia 2010.

The AIM Act 2010 was tabled for its first reading in the Parliament on December 13, 2010 before it was passed on its third and final reading on December 21, 2010. The AIM Act 2010 spells out the rationale and philosophy and details the specific mandate of the statutory body. AIM has two objectives that provide the...