

**SPEECH OF
YANG HORMAT PROFESSOR DATO' DR DAING NASIR IBRAHIM
VICE-CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG**

**OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON AUTOMOTIVE INNOVATION AND GREEN ENERGY VEHICLE**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2016; 10:30 AM;
MALAYSIA AUTOMOTIVE INSTITUTE, CYBERJAYA**

[READ BY THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (ACADEMIC & INNOVATION)]

SALUTATION

Encik Mohamad Madani Sahari,

Chief Executive Officer, Malaysia Automotive Institute;

Associate Professor Dr Abdul Adam Abdullah

Director, Automotive Engineering Centre, UMP;

Corporate and industrial representatives;

Distinguished speakers;

Conference delegates and participants;

Ladies and gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh,

Salam Sejahtera and Salam 1Malaysia.

1. It is with great pleasure that I have the honour of welcoming all of you this morning, on this auspicious occasion that marks the commencement of the *International Conference on Automotive Innovation and Green Energy Vehicle* or AIGEV 2016. First and foremost, I would like to convey the warmest regards from the Vice-Chancellor of UMP, Yang Hormat Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim who is unable to be with us this morning and he has asked to represent him in welcoming you all today.
2. Universiti Malaysia Pahang is honoured to host this bi-annual conference for the second time and to receive speakers, delegates and participants who come from all over the world to share their thoughts and findings on the future prospects of green energy and the automotive industry.

3. I am particularly pleased that UMP is able to work together with the Malaysia Automotive Institute (MAI) and DRB-HICOM HICOM University of Automotive Malaysia in co-organizing and hosting this edition of AIGEV with the support from SIRIM Measurements Technology Sdn Bhd and VTC Solutions Sdn Bhd.

4. It is my firm belief that the success of the inaugural edition of AIGEV in 2014 is the key motivating factor to the organizing committee to endeavour this second edition and Insha-Allah, future editions of the conference.

5. I am also glad that a total of 140 papers were submitted for this edition of AIGEV and 90% of them have been endorsed by the reviewing and selection panel to be presented throughout this conference. The most important factor that was taken into consideration during the review and selection process was the intellectual significance and scholarly impact of each paper in the dissemination of knowledge, particularly in the fields of automotive engineering and green technology.

6. Ladies and gentlemen,

In that regard, UMP is also committed in conducting research and commercialization activities in relation to automotive innovation and green energy vehicles. UMP has achieved a significant number of accolades from numerous competitions, both national and international, since we first embarked our journey to make research as an equally important activity alongside teaching responsibility.

7. The Automotive Engineering Centre is working very closely with the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering to re-strategize and re-emphasize its collective research capacity on selected flagships, rather than letting faculty members to work loosely on individual basis.

8. I am also proud to note that UMP's own International Journal of Automotive and Mechanical engineering (IJAME) ranks first in Asia since 2013. The same journal is ranked at number eight (8) out of 147 in automotive category and 53 out of 718 in mechanical engineering worldwide. In addition to that UMP's Journal of Mechanical Engineering and Sciences (JMES) is ranked at number 41 out of 406 in energy engineering and power technology category and 112 out of 718 in mechanical engineering.
9. These achievements are undoubtedly self-explanatory to our timeless commitment to develop and expand our technical expertise and intellectual capacity in the fields of automotive engineering, mechanical engineering and energy engineering.
10. Therefore, conferences and intellectual dialogue of this sort are strongly encouraged and highly supported by the management of UMP in the context of the University's strategic positioning and networking, both locally and internationally.

11. Ladies and gentlemen,

Speaking about the focus of AIGEV, that is automotive innovation and green energy vehicle, I would like to point out one critical issue – that our mother earth now is desperate for sustainable, economical and friendly green energy technological solutions to reduce the environmental impact caused by global warming and carbon emissions.

12. We are currently faced with a multitude of challenges caused by climate change, energy issues, aging population and increasing urbanization. More than ever, researchers are being called upon to provide creative solutions to everyday problems and global challenges confronting humanity today.

13. These sorts of questions are often asked - how can we delay global warming and mitigate its effects? How can we tap renewable sources of energy in a cost-effective manner? These and many more of such questions are unresolved issues which need to be addressed urgently with constructive solutions.

14. The answer to these questions, in my opinion, lies in collaborative innovation. Collaboration is the key to fuelling innovation. Scientific dialogue, such as AIGEV 2016 is one of such platforms which has been adopted by researchers from diverse regions and socioeconomic backgrounds to share their intellectual thoughts and best practices in exploring innovative solutions to the issues which I mentioned earlier through automotive innovation and green technology.

15. Thus, it is my hope that a multi-disciplinary perspective will also be taken into your discourse later in this conference to enable a broader parameter of intellectual discovery, in addition to pure technical and scientific findings that will be presented by the keynote speakers and paper presenters.

16. **Ladies and gentlemen,**

Honouring the efforts made to organize this conference, I would like to extend my heartiest appreciation and congratulations to the members of the organizing committee for their unwavering endeavour, commitment and dedication.

17. To all conference speakers, delegates and participants, I wish you all a fruitful discourse and deliberations and it is my earnest hope that you enjoy the warmth of our hospitality and a pleasant stay in Cyberjaya throughout the Conference.

18. With that, in the name of Allah, the Most Gracious and the Most Merciful, I hereby declare the inaugural International Conference on Automotive Innovation and Green Energy Vehicle 2016 officially open.

Wabillahi taufiq walhidayah,

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.