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'GREENING VALUE CHAIN' PROGRAMME

Kossan, Pantas launch initiative to help SMEs decarbonise

KUALA LUMPUR: Kossan Rubber Industries Bhd, in collaboration with Pantas Software Sdn Bhd, has launched the Greening Value Chain (GVC) programme to help small and medium enterprises (SMEs) within its supply chain network to decarbonise their operations.

The GVC enables the suppliers to access Bank Negara Malaysia's low carbon transition facility (LCTF) of RM2 billion.

The LCTF aims to fund SMEs' working capital or capital expen-

ditures related to low-carbon practices at an affordable rate.

Kossan group managing director and chief executive officer Tan Sri Lim Kuang Sia said GVC was a win-win situation for the company and its suppliers.

Lim said the initiative was a significant step in Kossan's continuous efforts "to be greener".

"This is only one step out of many more to come in Kossan's sustainability journey. We are committed to being a carbon-resilient company and we extend

our 'Green DNA' investment to our strategic supply chain partners under the GVC programme," he said at the launch yesterday.

Pantas chief executive officer and co-founder Max Lee said it would assist the SMEs to begin measuring greenhouse gas emissions and report on sustainability indicators in a consistent and efficient manner to help achieve national carbon reduction targets.

He said the SMEs would receive free access to carbon accounting

software solutions developed by Pantas along with training and consultation services provided by GVC service provider partners.

"They include Malaysia Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation, Credit Guarantee Corporation Malaysia Bhd, British Standards Institution and AmBank Bhd to kickstart their carbon management journey."

Lee said the company believed that an integrated software solution, relevant training and

awareness were essential to get SMEs onboard Kossan's sustainability efforts.

"Apart from assisting SMEs in measuring and disclosing the relevant climate data, Pantas will also work with partners to help SMEs set and achieve carbon reduction targets," he added.

Following the GVC rollout, Pantas and the selected service provider partners will hold regional training sessions for SMEs, with the first training session scheduled for March 21.

-- New Straits Times