

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GEORGE KENT TRANSFORMS SMART METERING WITH TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY BREAKTHROUGHS

PUCHONG, 7 JANUARY 2025 – George Kent (Malaysia) Berhad (“George Kent” or “the Group”) has achieved a significant milestone with its automated meter reading (“AMR”) technology, marking its evolution from innovation to a mature, commercialised product. The Group plans to position this technology as an independent unit, aimed at further enhancing development and exploring wider applications beyond metering, particularly leveraging telecommunications technology for smarter solutions.

Demonstrating its progress, the AMR technology is already contributing positively to the Group’s profit, showcasing its growing adoption and market relevance. With strong potential for scalability and diverse applications, the Group is confident that AMR will continue to boost profitability and deliver sustainable value to stakeholders.

Backed by a dedicated team of 14 R&D specialists, George Kent’s AMR unit has been a key driver in advancing the Group’s capabilities. With over 11 years of experience, this expertise forms the foundation for the Group’s bold steps toward scaling its AMR technology and driving accelerated growth.

“The maturity of our AMR technology, underpinned by cutting-edge telecommunications solutions, marks a pivotal moment for George Kent as we unlock new opportunities to expand its reach and functionalities. By leveraging third-party collaborations and integrating end-to-end solutions, we are not just enhancing metering capabilities but redefining how industries achieve efficiency, sustainability, and innovation. This advancement positions us to deliver cutting-edge solutions that drive self-sufficiency and create long-term value for industries locally and globally,” said Tan Sri Dato’ Tan Kay Hock, Executive Chairman of George Kent.

The Group's commitment to continuous innovation and strategic development underscores its dedication to revolutionising water management through telecommunication technology. George Kent's AMR systems, equipped with cutting-edge features such as 5G and Narrowband Internet of Things ("NB-IoT"), have already started demonstrating their capabilities through deployments across Selangor, Malacca, Johor, Sarawak, Singapore, and Vietnam. With pilot projects underway, the Group is charting a roadmap for further expansions, including Sabah and Penang.

A Journey of Technological Advancement: First, Second and Third Generation

Reflecting on its 11-year journey, George Kent takes pride in its pioneering role in the AMR space.

- **First Generation (2013 – 2019)**

George Kent began its in-house AMR development in 2013, leading to the creation of its first wireless AMR system. Through its R&D expertise and strategic collaborations with key telecommunications partners, George Kent introduced Malaysia's first NB-IoT enabled smart meters. These innovations not only established George Kent as a market leader but also facilitated large-scale implementations for utilities and international deployments in Singapore and Vietnam.

- **Second Generation (2020 – 2023)**

The second generation of AMR solutions expanded George Kent's offerings to commercial and industrial sectors, introducing External MIUs, probes for larger meters, and RF Fixed Network systems. These advancements addressed challenges in areas with limited NB-IoT coverage while adhering to global communications standards. The successful integration with Singapore's government platforms and the deployment of 3,500 smart meters in Vietnam further demonstrated the scalability and adaptability of George Kent's solutions.

- **Third Generation (2023 – Present)**

Building on this success, George Kent is set to launch its third generation AMR technology, featuring RF-Mesh networks with dual long-range communication

capabilities. This next generation system will enhance connectivity and reliability, supporting advanced analytics such as tiered billing, leak detection, and water efficiency consulting, all powered by 5G and NB-IoT.

With a steadfast commitment to innovation and technology, George Kent continues to shape the future of smart metering solutions. Leveraging its expertise and cutting-edge telecommunications capabilities, the Group is dedicated to delivering smarter, more efficient, and sustainable solutions to industries worldwide. As George Kent advances its technological offerings, it remains focused on driving positive change and contributing to a more connected and sustainable future.

-end-

About George Kent (Malaysia) Berhad

George Kent is an established engineering and metering company in the water infrastructure, rail transportation and hospital construction industries. The Company specialises in the turnkey construction of water infrastructure and hospital projects, system works for rail transportation, and operation and maintenance of water treatment facilities.

Known for proven engineering excellence, George Kent has a strong track record of successfully completing high-value and technology-critical projects. The Company also manufactures and supplies water metering products and solutions for household, industrial and plant use. It operates one of the largest hot brass-forging plants in Southeast Asia for the production of internationally certified water meters, and supplies to water authorities in Malaysia and in the ASEAN region.

For more information, please visit www.georgekent.net.

Issued by: Imej Jiwa Sdn. Bhd. on behalf of George Kent (Malaysia) Berhad

MEDIA QUERY

Yoga Lim

M: 016 668 9509

Email: yoga@imejjiwa.com

Loo Yong Qi

M: 010 806 6001

Email: yongqi@imejjiwa.com