



SPEECH BY

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**PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY OF
THE MALAKOFF POWERMAN ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2013**

27 OCTOBER 2013

The Management team

Malakoff Corporation Berhad

Athletes,

Distinguished Guests,

Members of the Media,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Bismillahir rahmanir Rahim

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh

1. A very good afternoon and warm welcome to the Prize Giving Ceremony of the Malakoff Powerman Asian Championships 2013.

2. It gives me great pleasure to be here and celebrate the spectacular performance by the duathletes. All of the participants have demonstrated steadfast commitment and passion today and I am sure it is a proud moment for everyone here. So let's have a round of applause for our participants once again.
3. I also wish to congratulate our Malaysian duathletes for their grit and determination in flying the Malaysian flag high at Asia's largest international duathlon tournament. *Syabas* and keep up the good work.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. I am sure you will agree with me that there are very few things in life that can rally as much emotions and fire up the human spirit as sports. Sports is a language that we all can easily understand. At its very best, sports truly unites people together regardless of our background and differences.
5. In this regard, we at Malakoff are thrilled to have been sponsoring the Powerman Championships for 12 consecutive years. The event has surely grown from strength to strength in attracting scores of participants and communities to come together to enjoy the duathlon event.
6. As you are aware, Malakoff Powerman Asian Championships started off as a small-scaled tournament in 2002 with just 237 duathletes competing. With your unwavering support, the number of athletes has increased significantly this year with a record 2,133 duathletes from over 30 countries including Australia, France, Singapore, United Kingdom and United States.
7. This remarkable growth is indeed a proud achievement for Malakoff as it validates our decade-long efforts in reinforcing Malaysia's position as Asia's hub for international duathlons.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

8. Like all of you here who strive to perform better at each race, we at Malakoff have continuously raised the bar higher for the Powerman Championships. Indeed, the Powerman Championships has never stood still.
9. Not only has Powerman Malaysia grown significantly in terms of numbers, the event has also turned green in support of the Government's objective to reduce carbon emissions in Malaysia.
10. This year, we are pleased to collaborate with the Department of Environment to further promote running and cycling as alternative means of commuting within the communities, well beyond the race tracks.
11. As you are aware, not only are these activities healthy, they are also environmentally friendly as they produce zero carbon emissions. As such, I urge you to support us in encouraging your family and friends to adopt these "low carbon footprint" activities.
12. At this point, I would like to thank all the participants, co-sponsors, partners over the last 12 years for making this event a success for over a decade.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

13. Congratulations once again to everyone for participating in the Malakoff Powerman Asian Championships. Your efforts in completing Asia's largest and possibly the toughest duathlon tournament surely deserves a trophy. I hope today's event also serves as an inspiration for all athletes to pursue and achieve their sporting goals.
14. You have trained hard and surely deserve all the applause today. But I would also like to pay tribute to those outside of the limelight, including family and friends who have been cheering our duathletes right from the training ground months ago to the starting and finishing lines here today.

15. Special thanks to Yang Berbahagia Datuk Seri G. Palanivel, the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, representatives from the Polis Di-Raja Malaysia and the relevant Government agencies. Your relentless support has been essential in ensuring a successful world class sporting experience for all.

16. Finally, I would like to convey my deepest appreciation to all partners who have contributed to the success of this event, and we look forward to a successful collaboration in the future.

Thank you and have a pleasant day.

- **END OF SPEECH** -