
MALAYSIA: Glove makers to invest RM300 m to RM500 m in automation

Malaysian rubber glove makers will invest between RM300 million and RM500 million in the next five to 10 years to enhance their automation system and reduce labour costs, an industry official said.

Malaysian Rubber Glove Manufacturers Association president Lim Kwee Shyan said on Tuesday (4 Sept. 2012) that automation would help manufacturers reduce the workforce by 30% to 50% in less than five years.

There will also be a shift in hiring more skilled workers like local graduates and reduce employment of non-skilled workers such as foreign workers, he said after the 6th International Rubber Glove Conference and exhibition.

By adopting newer technology, it would help players to reduce costs thus mitigate risks from hike in latex prices, natural gas prices and labour costs which would affect the profit margins, said Lim.

Source: Daily "The Star", Kuala Lumpur; 4 Sept 2012

(Syed Rashid Ali, Karachi, Pakistan)

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