

MVCA launches 2007 showcase

The Malaysian Venture Capital and Private Equity Association (MVCA) will be launching the MVCA 2007 Showcase of High Growth and Emerging Companies on April 2. This initiative is the fifth in an ongoing series organised by MVCA "with the objective of promoting and developing the Malaysian venture capital and private equity industry," says its chairman Azam Azman.

The Malaysian venture capital and private equity industry shoulders the task of being one of the drivers for the nation's vision of achieving fully developed status by 2020. The growth of the domestic economy, which will be fuelled by activities based on knowledge and technology rather than asset-based operating companies, will rely heavily on funding from sources such as venture capital and private equity. "The venture capital and private equity industry is the catalyst for the spirit of innovativeness that the country is seeking to nurture," Azam adds.



Azam: The objective of the showcase is to promote and develop the Malaysian venture capital and private equity industry

The showcase offers unparalleled opportunity for entrepreneurs to raise funding and network with the venture capital and private equity industry. Organising chairman Anwar Ali Jumabhoy says, "It is also our intention to provide a platform for entrepreneurs to present their businesses to potential investors, angel investors, venture capitalists [VCs] and private equity investors."

The objective of the showcase is to encourage companies seeking equity financing to fund their continued development and growth to look to the venture capital and private equity community. VCs and private equity investors can significantly contribute to business-building and accelerate the growth of private companies.

"We expect the event will allow entrepreneurs to understand the investment criterion of a venture capital/private equity investor and by participating, they will gain a better understanding of their prospects for fund raising," Anwar continues. This year, MVCA hopes to see more interest from companies seeking to raise capital to undertake a regional expansion. "Companies should seek venture capital funding and build a regional business by working with the venture capitalist before going for a listing," Anwar continues.

Companies can log on to the MVCA website at www.mvca.org.my to apply. Participating companies will be assessed and shortlisted by a panel of judges comprising

VCs and private equity and industry participants. To qualify, companies should preferably be operating companies that are already generating revenue and have the potential for significant growth, or have an established and tested proprietary technology that meets the demands of the Malaysian and regional markets.

"It is our belief that this event will help

identify promising companies for eventual listing on the Mesdaq Market and Bursa Malaysia which in turn, will contribute to the long-term development of the capital market," Azam says. "We hope that there will be a large number of applicants, and we encourage entrepreneurs [Malaysian or foreign] to apply."

The event is sponsored and supported by

the Malaysian Venture Capital Development Council and Bursa Malaysia. Other sponsors include CIMB Private Equity Sdn Bhd, Malaysia Venture Capital Management Bhd, Malaysian Technology Development Corporation, MSC-Cyberport and MSC Malaysia.

For further enquiries, contact Joan Shunmugan at MVCA at joan@mvca.org.my or (03) 2096 2094.

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