



Azmi and the InvestKL team are all smiles after receiving the Site Selection 'Top Investment Promotion Agency 2019' for the Asia Pacific Regional category award.

## InvestKL wins Top Investment Promotion Agency 2019 in Asia-Pacific category

BY EMIR ZAINUL

KUALA LUMPUR: Government investment promotion agency (IPA) KL has won the Top Investment Promotion Agency 2019 under the Asia-Pacific regional category by Site Selection for 2019.

In a statement yesterday, InvestKL said it was also recognised as the most professionally responsive to inquiries, having the best reputation for protecting investor confidentiality and aftercare services.

The recognition marks the third time InvestKL won the awards from Site Selection, after winning in 2015 and 2017.

InvestKL acting chief executive officer Muhammad Azmi Zulkifli said winning the award is a hallmark of the collective efforts of government stakeholders — the international trade and industry ministry (Miti), the federal territories ministry and Kuala Lumpur City Hall — to attract investments.

"We are honoured to receive our third award and very much appreciate the recognition by the Site Selection consultants from around the world.

"InvestKL remains focused on attracting high value, high skilled and innova-

tion-led investments to create quality jobs for Malaysians. InvestKL's aftercare services focuses largely on meeting the needs of MNCs and collaborating to develop the local talent pipeline with Malaysia Global Talent Programme, and working with MNCs to facilitate industry-academia collaborations, amongst others," Azmi added.

The statement said that to date, InvestKL has attracted 80 multinational companies (MNCs) with approved and committed investments of RM12 billion, and that created more than 12,000 regional high-skilled jobs. At the same time, InvestKL was also noted to be aligned to the Industry4WRD blueprint launched by Miti, which aims to increase productivity, encourage innovation, and upskill the workforce to adapt Industry 4.0 initiatives.

"We have MNCs pushing the Industry 4.0 agenda and working in areas related to artificial intelligence, robotics, Big Data analytics, Internet of things and cybersecurity, to name a few. They provide benefits to the economy and bring in specialised expertise in terms of new technologies, industry skills and knowledge transfer. This in turn will enhance the capabilities of our local talent pool, Azmi said.