

## Awarded for their green dreams

BY MENG YEW CHOONG



Good work: Tengku Amir Shah (third from left) presenting the award to Von Kok Leong (center), Green Technology and Water Ministry secretary-general Datuk Loo Tok Gee (left) and GreenTech Malaysia chairman Datuk Dr Keirul Abdulah (right).

GREENBUILDINGINDEX Sdn Bhd was honoured by the Malaysian Green Technology Corporation (GreenTech Malaysia).

The company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Pertubuhan Arkitek Malaysia (PAM) and the Association of Consulting Engineers Malaysia (ACEM).

PAM and ACEM set up Greenbuildingindex in 2009 to spur the development of environmentally-sensitive buildings through a rating system that ranks a building's performance using a checklist.

Raja Muda of Selangor Tengku Amir Shah Sultan Sharafuddin handed out the award at a black-tie gala dinner that honoured Malaysia's Top 30 Green Catalysts for 2014.

Also recognised were the Royal Malaysian Police, Malakoff Corporation Bhd, PenjanaBebas, Subang Jaya Municipal Council, Tan Chong Motors, Bandar Eco-Setia Sdn Bhd, Maybank Bhd, Panasonic Malaysia Sdn Bhd and Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd, as well as individuals such as Gurmit Singh of the Centre for Environment, Technology & Development Malaysia (Cetdem), Ruth Yeoh of YTL Corporation, Tan Sri Eddy Chen of MKH Bhd and The Star's environment editor Tan Cheng Li.

Chair of the Green Building Index (GBI) Accreditation Panel Von Kok Leong received the award on behalf of GBI.

In its citation, GreenTech Malaysia said GBI has been catalysing Malaysia's green movement by actively engaging infrastructure industries to educate and advocate sustainable building practices.

"GBI has opened the doors to green buildings by championing and making information on sustainable development more easily accessible than ever before.

"GBI has driven sustainable development in Malaysia to new heights with over 282 accredited green buildings with a total gross floor area of 11.8 million sq m to date.

"Thanks in large part to GBI's prominent role, these numbers are on a steady rise as more and more Malaysian developers realise the importance of embracing green building practices with the aim of creating a more environmentally sustainable nation.

"To this end, GBI's continuous support within the building industry is truly exemplary and their efforts are indeed deserving of recognition," said GreenTech Malaysia, which also recently appointed Greenbuildingindex as a verification body for its MyHijau Mark Programme.

MyHijau Mark is a registry of products, equipment, systems as well as service and systems providers that have been verified by GreenTech Malaysia to meet Malaysian and international environment and ecological standards.