



AmBank Group

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Rewards worth RM2 Million await Malaysian SMEs
in the AmBank BizRACE Season 2**

*AmBank BizRACE to also include bilingual knowledge-sharing sessions
within the AmBank BizCONFERENCE series, held nationwide from
10 November onwards*

KUALA LUMPUR, November 28 2018 - AmBank Group under its Business Banking division is aligned to the development goals of a new Malaysia, by increasing GDP growth through strategic support of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) with Season 2 of the AmBank BizRACE – a business challenge designed to enable SMEs to scale and grow with further executive learning experiences and media exposure. The competition is open to businesses with more than one year in business and annual turnover of less than RM100 million.

Participating SME winners in their respective stages of the AmBank BizRACE will stand a chance to gain media exposure for their business, experience Executive Development programs worth RM310,000, a China learning field trip worth RM340,000, a UK-based executive development programme worth RM265,000, the UTM - Azman Hashim International Business School (AHIBS) Executive Education Award worth RM21,000, Media Prima Marketing Strategy Award worth RM30,000, and Microsoft Digital Transformation Award worth RM50,000. The Top 100 finalists will also get to experience the internationally-renowned immersive leadership simulation which is *InsideRisk*.

“SMEs now make up 98.5% of businesses in Malaysia and as one of the leading banks in the country, we started the AmBank BizRACE and its knowledge-

sharing components recognising that we are in a position to support SMEs in stages four and five of their business growth in a way that goes beyond financial accessibility,” says Christopher Yap, Managing Director of Business Banking at AmBank Group.

“The level of participation we witnessed in the first season and the data we collected proves that we are on the right track. We will continue to enhance the experience each season, following the strategic needs of local SMEs and our stakeholders.”

Following the standard BizRACE format, Top 100 applicants will be selected based on their plans for scalability and growth, and invited to attend a series of pitching sessions with an experienced panel of judges.

Each pitching session will be audited by EY, where the judges will narrow down the winning pool to Top 30, Top 10, and Top 3. This year’s AmBank BizRACE official partners include Media Prima, the UTM Azman Hashim International Business School, Microsoft Malaysia, EY and MasterCard. The programme will be further supported by media partners NSTP, Media Prima TV Networks (MPTN), Ripple and Rev Asia. Interested business owners may register to participate from 10 November until 24 December 2018.

AmBank will also continue the BizCONFERENCE series from its first launch, consisting of five FREE nationwide conferences this time to be held in Penang, Kuala Lumpur, Klang, Melaka, and Johor. Each event will feature local entrepreneurs from various industries who will share how they have successfully grown their businesses. AmBank BizCONFERENCE held in Kuala Lumpur, was graced by AmBank Group Chairman, Tan Sri Azman Hashim who shared his entrepreneurship journey via an interactive interview session moderated by Roshan Thiran, CEO of Leaderonomics. Three of the BizCONFERENCE sessions will be catered to bilingual Malaysians, enabling a more inclusive learning environment than before.

For more information on AmBank BizRACE and to register for an upcoming event, visit www.ambankbizclub.com.

About AmBank Group

AMMB Holdings Berhad is the holding company of AmBank Group and has been listed on the Main Market of Bursa Malaysia since 1988. It is the sixth-largest banking group by assets in Malaysia, with a market capitalisation of around RM11.6 billion and assets of RM137.9 billion at 31 March 2018.

AmBank Group is one of Malaysia's premier financial solutions groups with over 43 years of experience in supporting Malaysians in their economic development. AmBank Group offers a wide range of both conventional and Islamic financial solutions and services, including wholesale banking, retail banking, investment banking, underwriting of general insurance, life assurance and takaful, stock and share broking, futures broking, investment advisory and management services in assets, real estate investment trust and unit trusts.

The Australia and New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ) is the biggest shareholder in the AmBank Group with a 23.8% holding and provides support with Board and senior management representation, risk and financial governance, product offerings and new business developments. In the general insurance business, the Group has partnered with Insurance Australia Group Ltd (IAG). In the life assurance and family takaful businesses, the Group has a partnership with MetLife International Holdings Inc (MetLife). The Group benefits in terms of expertise transfer from IAG and MetLife.

For more information, please visit www.ambankgroup.com

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