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## AirTrunk opens AI-ready data centre in Johor Bahru

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➤ JHB1 offers domestic and international connection to regional technology hubs including Singapore

**PETALING JAYA:** Asia-Pacific and Japan hyperscale data centre specialist AirTrunk has commenced operations in Malaysia, following the official opening of its flagship 150MW hyperscale data centre in Johor Bahru, named AirTrunk JHB1.

Among those who attended the opening ceremony were Deputy Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Liew Chin Tong; Johor State Investment, Trade and Consumer Affairs Committee chairman Lee Ting Han and Australia's High Commissioner to Malaysia, Danielle Heinecke.

The initial phases of JHB1 will provide over 50MW of capacity for its large technology customers.

Spanning 10.3 hectares, JHB1 offers domestic and international connection to regional technology hubs including neighbouring Singapore, with an end-to-end cross-border connection strategy.

Along with its industry-low design Power Usage Effectiveness of 1.15, making it one of the most efficient data centres in the country, the new state-of-the-art facility features an AI-ready

design with AirTrunk's first deployment of direct-to-chip liquid cooling technology alongside traditional indirect evaporative cooling and high-density racks. This pioneering approach reduces energy consumption by up to 23%. The company launched its liquid cooling approach in July 2024, following five years of research and development.

With a focus on accelerating the energy transition and supporting energy reliability, AirTrunk worked with Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) to connect JHB1. This follows an MoU with TNB signed in 2023 that will see the two companies advance the energy transition in the region.

Earlier this year, AirTrunk also announced the first renewable energy Virtual Power Purchase Agreement for a data centre for 30MW of renewable energy, with developer ib vogt, under Malaysia's Corporate Green Power Programme. The allocation was the maximum available for an individual developer with a secured offtake. JHB1 is also equipped with a solar-ready roof, able to provide over 1MW of power for this phase, making it one of the largest

onsite solar deployments for a data centre in Southeast Asia.

AirTrunk founder and CEO Robin Khuda said: "The rapid and safe delivery of JHB1 is a pivotal step in the adoption of AI in Malaysia and AirTrunk's growth as a trusted partner for our customers in the APJ region."

With a commitment to innovation and sustainable growth, combined with a programme of investment in energy availability and renewable electricity, he added Malaysia is fast becoming a key tech hub in the Asia-Pacific and Japan region.

"Through our long-term investment in Malaysia, we are able to support our customers as they grow at speed and implement groundbreaking solutions like liquid cooling, at scale, in order to catalyse sustainable cloud and AI development," he said.

AirTrunk Malaysia head Pei Jet Lim said AirTrunk is making a positive contribution to the local economy by supporting and developing local talent and delivering critical digital infrastructure.

"The new data centre supports the rapid growth of cloud and AI in Malaysia and aligns with the Madani Government's initiative to establish AI hubs in the country. We are making a long-term commitment to further engage with the local community to build a full AI ecosystem in Malaysia," said Pei.



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