



Boon to knowledge workers

DTS provides a 24-hour link between Cyberjaya and areas within an 80km radius

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EMployees of banking institution HSBC are the heaviest users of the 24-hour Dedicated Transport System (DTS) since it started operations in 2007 to provide a link between Cyberjaya and areas located within an 80km radius.

Cyberview Sdn Bhd (CSB) managing director Datuk Redza Rafiq said efforts were being made to encourage more knowledge workers to use the system as only slightly more than 10% of the 20,000 working population in Cyberjaya were using it.

"HSBC is by far the largest user with 2,000, followed by MDec and OCBC Bank with a total of 140 users. We are conducting outreach programmes at companies to brief them on the benefits of using the DTS system," Redza said.

All DTS buses serviced by RapidKL are equipped with the Mobile Tracking Unit (MTU) that is capable of monitoring the buses via the Global Positioning System (GPS).

The unit contains a GPS chipset that can track locations and a GPRS (General Packet Radio Service) telecommunications unit for sending location information to a Web Server.

Redza said besides tracking the bus's location, the MTU could alert the system when a bus departed from its base and warn the administrators should the bus experience a breakdown.

"On the rare occasion when a bus stalls, a replacement will be immediately despatched from a fleet of 10 reserve buses.

"The MTU also confirms a passenger's presence on any particular bus through the i-Button, a Radio Frequency Identification chip in the system.

"This will allow companies in Cyberjaya to track employees and ensure they are safe from the time they leave their office until they reach their final destination in near real-time," he said.

HSBC is the only company in Cyberjaya that provides all its workers using the DTS with the i-Button and CSB is working with other companies to adopt a similar system for their employees.

The MTU-installed DTS is reputed to be the first in the world to use the GPS and GPRS and this could be one of the answers to solving the

parking and congestion problems in the cyber-city in the years to come.

The DTS charges RM213 per passenger per month. The buses leave from seven locations daily - KL Sentral, Gombak, Kepong, Bangi, Klang, Banting and Seremban.

"The system is gaining steam with a total of 31 companies having signed up for the service. The DTS is an affordable, reliable and efficient mode of transportation for any knowledge worker based in Cyberjaya," Redza said.

Bus schedules are designed to suit the working hours of the companies operating in Cyberjaya, especially the shared services and outsourcing companies, with the pick-up times customised to individual company needs.

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DATUK REDZA RAFIQ

Atosorigin Sdn Bhd employee Harjinder Singh is keen to try the DTS because it is a convenient way of commuting to his workplace from his home in Port Dickson.

"I'd heard that the DTS buses were specially modified and had reclining seats.

"This service is perfect for me: the only hassle I face is that I have to make my way to the Seremban pick-up point on my own," said Harjinder, who recently started work as an IT engineer at his new workplace.

Regular passenger Khatijah Abdul Sidek from Shah Alam said she had been using the DTS for more than a year and found it very convenient as it provided a direct service from



Waiting for passengers: RapidKL DTS buses waiting in line in front of the HSBC bus shelter in Cyberjaya; it is the biggest bus shelter as the company is the largest user of the DTS system.

Wisma Masalam.

"I use a monthly pass but it will be good for the workers if all companies followed the HSBC i-Button system for safety reasons, as many of us work at odd times, sometimes leaving for home in the wee hours of the morning," she said.

There are now 53 buses operating 24 hours, seven days a week. The pick-up and drop-off points are at KL Sentral; Bukit Jalil; Puchong;

Melawati; Ampang Point; Gombak; Bandar Tasik Selatan; KTM Serdang; Shell Section 1; Bandar Baru Bangi; Sg Ramal Luar Kajang; Putrajaya Sentral; Komplek Desa Kepong; 1 Utama Damansara; LRT Kelana Jaya; Summit USJ; Subang Jaya; Klang Parade; Lotus Restaurant, Jalan Gasing, PJ; Wisma Masalam, Shah Alam; Terminal 1, Seremban; Courts Mammoth, Nilai; Pasaraya Dengkil and Narsco Plantation, Banting.



Keeping track: DTS stakeholder relations unit executives Norhafizah Saharin and Abdul Latif Yasin monitoring the MTU system in the control unit in Cyberjaya.