

Gafung, Bintulu Port in ship bunkering tie-up

By JACK WONG
starbiz@thestar.com.my

KUCHING: Gafung Petroleum (M) Sdn Bhd will provide ship bunkering services under a strategic partnership with Bintulu Port Holdings Bhd (BPHB).

Gafung inked an agreement with BPHB's unit Bintulu Port Sdn Bhd yesterday to supply fuel to vessels within Bintulu Port's water limits.

The signatories were Gafung managing director Tang Kuok Sing and BPHB group chief executive officer Datuk Mohammad Medan Abdullah. Sarawak Assistant Minister for E-Commerce, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Datuk Naroden Majais witnessed the event.

Bintulu Port, which is the largest port in Sarawak and Sabah and third largest in Malaysia in terms of cargo throughput, recorded total vessel calls of 8,004 last year, up from 7,871 vessels in 2017.

Gafung chairman Datuk Mohamed Khalid Yusuf said the company owned 16 road tankers

and 16 oil tanker ships ranging from 300 DWT to 3,200 DWT to supply marine bunker products such as marine gas oil, fuel oil, diesel and lubricants offshore and onshore in the region.

Gafung is also registered as a petroleum dealer with Petroliam Nasional Bhd. The company is currently working with various government agencies to supply their fuel provisions.

Mohamed Khalid said the partnership with BPHB would enable Gafung to expand its ship bunkering services.

"We can provide ship bunkering services around the clock at ports nationwide. Bunkering services is highly competitive with slim margins," he added.

Gafung is rapidly expanding internationally and its global expansion include managing and operating petrol stations.

It provides petroleum supply through tanker track deliveries in urban areas to provide easy access for petroleum supply for the local community in East Timor, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and soon, in the Philippines.