



# Malaysia

Bringing out the best in business

Technology and innovation are driving Asian integration

## A GREAT PLACE TO DO BUSINESS

The Malaysian government has created a business-friendly environment, an achievement confirmed by top scores in international rankings such as the World Economic Forum's "Global Competitiveness Report 2013-2014," which placed Malaysia 24th out of 148 countries. Malaysia is now among the 15 most competitive economies in the world, according to the World Bank.

"Growing numbers of Malaysian companies that have benefited from the country's pro-business environment are increasingly taking advantage of easier cross-border

trading," says Tan Sri Syed Azman, founder and group managing director of the Weststar Group of Companies: Weststar Aviation Services, which provides oil and gas aviation services, and Weststar Maxus Distributors, which sells Weststar Maxus commercial vans. The Weststar Group has stakes in the passenger and luxury car business, as well as construction, defense and engineering.

"When I started the company in 2003, my vision was to go global. We now operate in four countries and have nine divisions," says Tan Sri Syed Azman, explaining that the company's automotive division has just begun distributing vans in Indonesia, while its helicopter services are currently operational in West Africa, Morocco and Mauritania, and will start soon in Mozambique. It is already the largest helicopter company in Malaysia and Thailand.

"We are prepared for expansion in terms of manpower, expertise and human capital, and have a strong financial position. We recently received the ASEAN free trade agreement certification, meaning we can export vehicles from Malaysia with zero taxes," says Tan Sri Syed Azman.

Weststar's commitment to quality and safety is reflected by its award-winning track record, he adds: "Since 2009, we have won the oil and gas safety award every year."