

Four Points by Sheraton opens in Sandakan

SANDAKAN: The 300-room Four Points by Sheraton opened yesterday, making it the first international brand hotel of Starwood Hotels and Resort Worldwide in Sabah.

The hotel is housed in the tallest building overlooking the Sulu Sea in Sandakan Harbour Square. It offers a comfortable, relaxed stay for value-oriented business and leisure travellers.

Four Points by Sheraton Sandakan is the third Four Points by Sheraton in Malaysia, following the opening of Four Points by Sheraton Langkawi in November 2011 and Four Points by Sheraton Kuching in March 2009.

Starwood is currently has nine properties in Malaysia with five more hotels in the pipeline under a range of its compelling brands which are Aloft Kuala Lumpur-Sentral, Four Points by Sheraton Kota Kinabalu, Sheraton Desaru Resort, The St Regis Kuala Lumpur and W Kuala Lumpur.

Speaking at the soft launching, Sandakan Municipal Council (SMC) president Datuk Ir James Wong said that the hotel would bring tremendous impacts on the development of Sandakan tourism industry.

The new international hotel will now be able to cater to the needs of most government agencies and non-governmental organisations in respect of hosting and organizing functions, events, conferences, seminars and celebrations because of its sufficient capacity, he said.

SMC has been a joint venture partner of ICSD Ventures Sdn Bhd (a subsidiary company of Ireka Corporation Berhad) which devel-

ops the Sandakan Harbour Square project.

"With the hotel opened for business and the impending operation of the Harbour Mall, residents of Sandakan are beginning to have a new era of shopping experience and changing new lifestyle in the near future," he said.

The ceremony was also attended by Ireka Corporation Berhad managing director Lai Siew Wah and executive director Lai Voon Hon, regional vice president of Starwood Hotel and Resorts, South East Asia, Chuck Abbott and general manager of Four Points by Sheraton, Synthio Camilleri.

Meanwhile, according to Synthio, with the opening of this hotel, it not only elevates the hospitality industry in Sandakan to the international level through creating an environment for a new tourist destination for both locals and foreigners, it also creates a vast long-term employment opportunity for the local community.



Four Points by Sheraton Sandakan.



James Wong (middle) and others attending the soft launching of the hotel yesterday.