

195 graduates from TAS Academy and UCPD receive their diplomas

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By MARRYAN RAZAN
marrayan@newsabah-
times.com.my

KOTA KINABALU: The first batch of 195 graduates from the Tun Ahmadshah Abdullah Oil & Gas Academy (TAS Academy) and UMS Link Centre for Professional Development (UCPD) received their certificate at a graduation ceremony held in the Grand Ballroom of I Borneo, here, on Wednesday.

From the total, 45 graduates from TAS Academy were awarded Advanced Diploma from the Business and Technical Education Council of the United Kingdom, which has the support of the School of Engineering and Information Technology, Universiti

Malaysia Sabah (UMS) in engineering, electrical, instrument, mechanical and production of oil and gas disciplines. The other 150 graduates from UCPD comprising first eight graduates for Executive Diploma in Mosque Management, first six graduates for Certificate in Paralegal Studies and 136 international graduates received their certificate in International Student Founda-

tion Programme.

The presentation of the certificates was made by former Yang DiPertua Negeri Sabah, Tun Ahmadshah Abdullah.

TAS Academy was established in 2008 and UCPD in 2007, operated by UMS and UMS Link Holdings Sdn-SilverKris Link Sdn. Speaking at the ceremony, Chairman of the UMS Link Holdings Sdn Bhd., Datuk K Y Mustafa said, TAS Academy aims to become the best oil and gas training provider in terms of performance, quality, training and development programs that are implemented in line with the needs of the industry in the region.

"We are grateful to the oil companies that support this program by accepting our students as interns in their organizations until they employ them as workers," he said.

He said UCPD would provide opportunities to those who are working to increase their knowledge and competency to become an excellent worker.

"UCPD will focus on training programs and development, external development programs for the public and

private sectors," he said.

Meanwhile, TAS Academy's excellent student, Dani Shamsuddin, expressed his gratitude to his sponsors, Tun Ahmadshah Foundation and Malaysia International Shipping Corporation (MICS) Limited, for their assistance and support given to the TAS Academy students.

"Thanks also go to the Shell organisation, especially their Oil Terminal at Labuan for their support and collaboration in providing industrial training facilities during our training," he said.

He said the experience they obtained during industrial training would be put to practical use soon to face the challenges of the real working world.

"I am very fortunate not only to successfully complete my training in the field of oil and gas, but also given the opportunity to work in the Gumusut-Kakap project. This is a tremendous opportunity to be able to participate in this industry where skilled and knowledgeable employees are required to contribute to the development of this industry in the future," he said.