

Mideast to remain as Gamuda's playing field

Firm targets more bigger engineering projects in the region

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DOHA: Gamuda Bhd will continue to bid for bigger engineering projects in the Middle East as part of its plan to strengthen its position in the region.

"Our good name will be an important asset to secure new jobs after we have completed existing contracts in Qatar and Bahrain by 2010," said group managing director Datuk Lin Yun Ling.

Lin was speaking to *StarBiz* after welcoming Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi at the New Doha International Airport (NDIA) site project here on Tuesday.

Gamuda, via a joint venture with WCT Bhd, was awarded the job in 2005 to design and build the airfield tunnels and detention ponds at NDIA. The project is scheduled for completion in February next year.

Costing RM2.6bil, the development is about 70% completed.

Gamuda engineering division managing director Chan Kong Wah said the company was bidding to build a new highway costing more than RM1bil in Bahrain.

It was also prequalified to participate in the new phase of the Dukhan highway development in Qatar.

"We will know the result in a

month or two on the Dukhan highway project. We will continue to bid for bigger projects in this region but will be very selective with our clients," he said.

Currently, Gamuda is developing part of the Dukhan highway from Shahaniya to Zekreet worth RM760mil.

Gamuda is also developing the RM650mil Sitra Causeway bridges in Bahrain. They are scheduled for completion in May 2010.

The company's construction order book is RM9bil, of which RM750mil is from the current projects in Qatar and Bahrain.



Datuk Lin Yun Ling (left) briefing Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi at the new Doha International Airport