

PRESS RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Straits ropes in telco specialist Sunny Ho to spearhead its entry into the 5G landscape and O&G industry digital transformation

Sunny Ho is appointed as CEO of Straits CommNet Solutions Sdn Bhd effective 3rd February 2022

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 February 2022 – Malaysia’s leading oil bunkering player, ACE Market-listed **Straits Energy Resources Berhad** (“Straits” or “the Group”), has further cemented its entry into the 5G landscape with the appointment of **telecommunications specialist Mr. Sunny Ho Khin Choy 何建材** to lead its indirect subsidiary Straits CommNet Solutions Sdn Bhd. Mr. Sunny Ho, who has led various key sections in Digital Nasional Berhad, Axiata’s Edotco, Nokia Malaysia and Ascom, among others, will spearhead Straits’ push into the **5G-driven digital space and Internet of Things (“IoT”) transformation of the regional oil and gas (“O&G”) industry.**

Mr. Sunny Ho will drive Straits CommNet to explore the vast wireless network communication and infrastructure business opportunities in the 4G and 5G rollout of Malaysia and regionally, further expanding the Group’s business exposure and revenue stream. His appointment as the Chief Executive Officer of Straits CommNet effective 3rd February 2022 is announced less than three months after Straits’ joined hands with Texas-based Baicells Technologies Co. Ltd, which provides innovative 4G Long-Term Evolution (“LTE”) and 5G New Radio (“NR”) access solutions in its first collaboration initiative.

With **30 years of accomplishments in the telecommunication and digital transformation space**, Mr. Sunny Ho has a proven track record in regional sales, business startups and turnaround, project management as well as marketing and product branding, especially in the mobile, wireless and connectivity industry. His rich experience will be a great asset to Straits, which has already fast-tracked its recovery post-COVID19 pandemic.

Mr. Sunny Ho's last posting prior to joining Straits CommNet was in Digital Nasional Berhad ("DNB"), a Malaysian government-owned entity mandated to deploy 5G network and infrastructure across the country. He was responsible for product planning and execution and ensuring that the products support all DNB's business strategy and goals. Mr. Sunny Ho holds a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering, with a minor in Telecommunication and Computer Engineering from the University of Louisiana, United States.

Meanwhile, **Mr. John Ho Soon Choy 何顺财** was also appointed as Chief Operating Officer of Straits CommNet effective 3rd January 2022. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science from the University of Louisiana, United States. With over 32 years of experience in the IT industry, Mr. John Ho has in the past led a MIS/IT team that provided support on SAP and IT infrastructure for F&N and Yeo's Malaysia and Indonesia. He is a specialist in IT restructuring, improving system processes and achieving cost optimisation.

Dato' Sri Ron Ho Kam Choy 何锦财, Managing Director of Straits Energy Resources Berhad said:

"It is our great pleasure to welcome Mr. Sunny Ho and Mr. John Ho, who are both the directors of Straits CommNet, into the management team. The appointments will immediately put us on an accelerated path towards establishing our footprint in the 5G and the O&G IoT market.

Through our active participation in the oil and gas industry, we noticed that there are huge under-tapped areas of opportunities in terms of digitalisation and IoT. With many processes and functionalities remain traditionally or minimally-digitalised, Straits want to be a disruptor by incorporating 4G and 5G enabled technologies such as IoT into the daily processes within the industry. The ultimate goal is to raise productivity and to make the processes more efficient.

Following our collaboration with Baicells Technologies, we are in a better position to roll out our services and under the leadership of Mr. Sunny Ho, I am optimistic that we would be able to tap

into the right opportunities and grow this new segment into an important revenue generator for the Group.”

On 16 November 2021, Straits entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Baicells Technologies to collaborate and drive the growing wireless network communication business opportunities of the 4G and 5G rollout and the digital transformation of the O&G industry through the IoT in Malaysia and regionally.

Baicells Technologies’ vision of “Connect the Unconnected” has led to the establishment of offices across five of the seven continents and the development of 300 patents since its inception in 2014. Baicells Technologies currently boast over 700 private LTE networks across the world, with a large percentage of those trusted networks operating within North America.

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