

# UEM, Bina Puri seek RM300m from MAHB

**KLIA2 PROJECT:** Joint venture claiming for additional work at main terminal and satellite buildings, says source

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**T**HE UEM-Bina Puri joint venture (JV) is seeking as much as RM300 million from Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd (MAHB) for additional works being done at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport 2 (klia2) project, a person with first-hand knowledge of the matter says.

It is learnt that MAHB has requested the joint venture to expand the floor area at the airport's main terminal and satellite buildings to cater to requirements from various government agencies.

A source said extra floor space is also required at the three-storey main terminal building to cater to Malindo Air, Malaysia's newest domestic low-cost carrier, which plans to move to klia2 when it opens next year.

The country's biggest airport operator, however, was adamant on the liquidated and ascertained damages (LAD) charges.

"The LAD will be imposed on contractors who have breached their contractual obligations," MAHB said in a statement.

The klia2 was slated to open on June 28 this year, but the source said it may only operate a year from now.

The UEM-Bina Puri JV won a RM997.2 million contract in June 2010 to build the main terminal and satellite buildings, a sky bridge and four piers. The joint venture commenced work in August 2010 and was slated to complete it by April this year.

UEM Construction Sdn Bhd, a unit of UEM Group Bhd, holds a 60 per cent stake in the joint



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venture and it is building the main terminal and two piers. Bina Puri is constructing two piers, the satellite building and the sky bridge.

"The joint venture is taking longer than anticipated to complete its work because of the additional requirements. They are submitting progressive additional claims to MAHB for the works done," the source said.

MAHB said last week that it may impose LAD on contractors yet to complete their portions of work on time.

Business Times reported recently that MAHB can impose a LAD of as much as RM200,000 a day on contractors that are late in handing over their work.

→ Turn to B2

# Bina Puri: We need a few more months

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At a fund managers briefing yesterday, Bina Puri executive director Matthew Tee expressed confidence that the company will not have to pay LAD to MAHB for the delay.

Tee said MAHB has approached all the contractors involved in the project and will determine soon which parties are responsible for the delay.

“The joint venture has completed 93 per cent of the job. We need a few more months and are confident of handing over the job to MAHB by the fourth quarter of this year,” he said.

Tee said Bina Puri has applied for time extension till September or October this year to put the finishing touches on its works at klia2.

Besides UEM, other parties blamed for the delay in the new low-cost terminal are KUB Malaysia Bhd and WCT Bhd.

KUB group managing director Datuk Wan Mohd Nor Wan Ahmad has said its RM268.79 million contract to build Runway 3 and the parallel connecting taxiways is about 80 per cent completed.

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