

# ANGKASA-X Launches First Homegrown Satellite

By **Cynthia Ignatius** - June 28, 2023



ANGKASA-X successfully launched its first homegrown A-SEANSAT-PG<sub>1</sub> (PG<sub>1</sub>) satellite, further propelling the development of spacetech ecosystem in Malaysia and Southeast Asia.

The team leading this maiden ANGKASA-X satellite-launch are Dr. William Lim, Group Executive Director and COO; and Ir. Norhizam Bin Hamzah, Group Chief Technology Officer, with the engineering team.

The launch was broadcasted-live across four locations in Malaysia; the University Science Malaysia (USM) in Georgetown, Penang; Malaysian Space Agency (MYSA) headquarter and GreenPro Capital office in Kuala Lumpur; and Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation Berhad (SDEC) in Kuching, Sarawak – streamed from Vostochny Cosmodrome – witnessed by Penang Chief Minister, Chow Kon Yeow in USM and Director General of MYSA, Gs. Tuan Haji Azlikamil Napiyah at MYSA's Headquarters.

With the launch of the PG<sub>1</sub> satellite, ANGKASA-X will leverage on its technological know-how to lead the way as part of its innovative Satellite-as-a-

Service (SaaS) offering, to create constellations of Low-Earth-Orbit (LEO) satellites along the equator, designed in Malaysia by Malaysians. These LEO satellites will work together to achieve the company's visionary initiatives by providing affordable remote-sensing services and revolutionising internet-connectivity services to millions in the region, particularly within the rural areas in Asia, bridging the digital divide.

“The launch of the PG1, Penang 1 satellite is a momentous occasion for Malaysia, propelling us towards a new era of technological advancement and establishing our position in the global SpaceTech ecosystem. I'm pleased to say that Malaysia is the first country in Southeast Asia to design, assemble and launch homegrown LEO satellites, the first in 2009 with RazakSAT-1, and now PG1 in 2023.” said Chow Kon Yeow, the Chief Minister of Penang

“This landmark achievement not only enhances data connectivity but also opens doors for innovation and economic growth. By investing in satellite & space technology, we will drive talent development, create high-value jobs, develop new space technology solutions to sell globally and attract domestic and international investment and talent, positively impacting the nation's economy. This launch also fosters and supports a digitally empowered nation and reinforces our status as a leading player in the space industry. We commend ANGKASA-X for their visionary efforts, and we are excited about the boundless possibilities this satellite launch brings towards Malaysia's future,” he added.

These satellites will bring forth highly demanded data for governments, security agencies, and the private sector on weather forecasting, aircraft tracking, maritime surveillance & security and real-time imaging on locations prone to potential dangers like landslides, deforestation, and other natural disasters. Images from the satellites will play a vital role in mitigating risks and aiding in disaster relief efforts to save millions of lives and also provide specific geographical features that will assist town planners in making informed decisions for effective and holistic development.

ANGKASA-X aspires to be the first SpaceTech Unicorn in Southeast Asia and its ultimate objectives are to accelerate the development of the ASEAN Space Economy and assist in nation-building for certain countries on the Equator that

require satellite services to safeguard national security and provide satellite internet connectivity to rural area citizens.

---

---

**Cynthia Ignatius**