

A DEFINITIVE GUIDE FOR EVERY END-USER

# PC.com

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 2



X1



X1 MAX

## Witness the New X-Factor of the X1\*

Be among the first to catch  
this exclusive  
announcement and  
join us to find out  
more at:

**Date:** 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**Time:** 2pm

**Venue:** Sunway  
Pyramid Shopping  
Mall, Blue  
Atrium, LG Floor

Bring along this copy and  
receive an  
exclusive merchandise\*

\*First come first serve basis



neffos | Perfection in **0.2 Seconds**

reach  
publishing

ISSN 1511-7243

9 771511 724005 02

MTR(P)238/12/003  
KON-PP 11281/11/2012 (031447)

**FEBRUARY 2017**

RM 10.60 RM 12.70 S\$ 9

# neffos

The new Neffos X1 and X1 Max combines a well-thought design, superb processing power and looks that paves a new way of mobility for the masses. It brings unparalleled value as it prioritizes features that gives users a new way to stay closer to everything and everyone around. Not only it combines a sleek design and good performance package into a handsome device, it is also packed full of features that will appeal to users out there. The Neffos X1 and X1 Max brings new meaning to a phone you want to own and to be seen anywhere you go.





# neffos X1|X1 MAX

## Perfection in **0.2 Seconds**



### Inspired Design

The Neffos X1 and X1 Max features a stylish, sleek build, thanks to the premium materials used in the construction. The two models share the same metal exterior that was inspired by the rocks found in streams — smoothed by the water over time without losing their mettle.

Each detail is refined to make the phones feel familiar, and for a better user experience. The dual-curved back tapers to the side for maximum comfort, and for better single-hand use when compared to its peers in the market currently.

The X1 Max features one of the narrowest edges in the industry at 2.75mm, and at the same time the two phones are slender to the touch – measuring at 7.85mm for the X1 Max and 7.95mm for the X1. Plus, the two phone comes with super-thin bezels, chamfered edges and 2.5D glass that gives the phone a high screen-to-body ratio of 76 percent.

### Made to Perform

Performance is something that the Neffos X1 and X1 Max has in spades. The powerful MediaTek Helio P10 processor gives it the grunt it needs to run just about any app under the sun with ease and lag free. Plus, the RAM supplied with the phone is plenty enough for any app to run without problems – with the X1 featuring either 2GB or 3GB of RAM, and the X1 Max coming with either 3GB or 4GB of RAM. Plus, there are options of having up to 64GB of storage on board, so you will never see a 'Low Storage' error appear on screen.

The fingerprint scanner on the phone is fast – real fast. It just takes **0.2 seconds** for the Neffos X1 to unlock, thanks to the sensor's sophisticated algorithms. It also learns from you – the more you unlock your smartphone, the more accurate and faster it gets. So you can literally tap and go on your daily life – while ensuring your data are kept well secured in the phone.



### Specifications

MediaTek Helio P10 Octa-core processor  
LTE FDD Cat4 (up to 150Mbps DL / 50Mbps UL)  
microSD slot (up to 128GB)  
13-megapixel Rear camera with PDAF  
5-megapixel Front camera  
Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g/n, 2.4GHz, 5GHz  
Bluetooth: 4.1  
Dual Nano SIM Cards (Dual SIM Dual Standby)  
SIM1 supports 2G/3G/4G; SIM2 supports 2G/3G/4G

| X1                   | X1 Max                |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| RAM: 2GB/3GB         | RAM: 3GB/4GB          |
| Storage: 16GB/32GB   | Storage: 32GB/64GB    |
| Price: RM769 / RM849 | Price: RM999 / RM1199 |

### Value Power

Not only it is powerful, it is full of value. While other comparable smartphones feature tiny batteries, the Neffos X1 series comes equipped with well-appointed power options. The long-lasting 3,000mAh battery inside the X1 Max can go through a full day's use – the same can be said about the X1's 2250mAh battery.

Unlike other smartphones in its class, the Neffos even comes with a high-end feature – Fast Charging. Users can charge their nearly dead battery up to 50% capacity in just 30 minutes – so the phone can be used for longer periods of time throughout the day.



### Top-notch Imaging

Nestled inside the rear of the phone is a 13-megapixel Sony IMX258 sensor with backside illumination and a fast Phase Detect Auto Focus (PDAF) of only **0.2 seconds**, ensuring that images are sharp as tack as the shutter button is pressed. Thanks to the f/2.0 lens, the camera on the smartphones can take good and clear photos in low-light conditions while providing a shallow depth of field. Even the front 5-megapixel sensor is tuned for the best selfie ever. The Real-time Beautify mode makes taking selfies more intuitive and promises excellent results. The perfect selfie is just one tap away with the Neffos X1 and X1 Max.



### Bigger experience

The Neffos X1 display as a 5-inch HD screen, and the Neffos X1 Max features a 5.5-inch Full HD screen, giving users a big view on anything they have on screen. The full in-cell screen of the Neffos X1 series, combined with its 2.5D glass, provides you with a new visual dimension that is brighter, sharper and more defined than ever before. At the same time, the "touch and display driver integration" or TDDI technology greatly improves touch sensitivity for better user experience. Colours are rendered with utmost accuracy and vibrancy. Details are sharp and viewing angles are excellent even at awkward angles.

### FIND OUT MORE AT

[neffos.my](http://neffos.my)

[facebook.com/neffos.my](https://facebook.com/neffos.my)



A DEFINITIVE GUIDE FOR EVERY END-USER

# PCcom

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 2

PROTECTED BY



ENJOY SAFER  
TECHNOLOGY™

**INSIDE:**  
WIN A VIVO V5!



# PS4 PRO WHERE THE GAMING WORLD COMES ALIVE

## TESTED

- SONY RX100 V
- ASUS G1 PREDATOR
- WIKO UFEEL PRIME

## GAMETIME

- GRAVITY RUSH 2
- SARAH IS MISSING
- SUPER MARIO RUN

REVIEWS

TECHNOLOGY

GAMING

IDEAS

reach publishing

ISSN 1511-7243

9 771511 724006 02

MITA(P)238/11/2003

KDN-PP 11281/11/2012 (031447)

FEBRUARY 2017

RM 10.60 RM 12.70

SGD\$9



# WHAT MAKES YOGA BOOK GREAT

Mobile productivity enters a new era with the Lenovo Yoga Book, a 2-in-1 tablet like none you've seen before.



## WORLD'S THINNEST & LIGHTEST 2-IN-1\*

Only 0.16 in (4.05 mm) thin when opened, weighing just 1.5 lbs (690 g), the Yoga Book allows you to use your creativity wherever you are.



Browse



Type



Watch



Create

# YOGA<sup>BOOK</sup>

\*Based on Lenovo's internal analysis as of 18 August 2016 of 10.1" or greater 2-in-1 computers (sold with keyboard) using Windows, Android, Chrome or OSX sold by major competitors shipping >1 million units worldwide annually; measured with keyboard attached in closed position.

#### AVAILABLE AT:

**LENOVO EXCLUSIVE STORES:** KUALA LUMPUR: Brightstar Computer Sdn Bhd (Plaza Low Yat) • D' Mobile Sdn Bhd (Plaza Low Yat) • FCC Retail Sdn Bhd (Mid Valley) • SNS Network (M) Sdn Bhd (Plaza Low Yat) SELANGOR: FCC Retail Sdn Bhd (Digital Mall Section 14) • IT Comp Sales & Services Sdn Bhd (One Utama) • IT Comp Sales & Services Sdn Bhd (The Mines) • Pro Trade Marketing (Plaza Alam Sentral) • Thunder Match Technology Sdn Bhd (IOI City Mall) JOHOR: Grex Multimedia (Danga City Mall) PAHANG: Core ICT Sdn Bhd (Berjaya Megamall) PENANG: Mind Maker Sdn Bhd (Komtar ICT Mall) PERAK: SNS Network (M) Sdn Bhd (Ipoh Parade) TERENGGANU: Aidea.com Technology (Jln Kampung Dalam, K. Terengganu) and also available at Lenovo authorized retailers.



## DRAW LIKE A REAL PRO WITH A REAL PEN

When the keyboard is turned off, the included Create Pad and Real Pen give you the precision and control you expect from a traditional pen on paper.



Lenovo™



## ON-DEMAND HALO KEYBOARD

When you want to get serious work done, just open the Yoga Book in Type Mode. The easy-to-use Halo keyboard shows up on demand — only when you need it.

INTEL INSIDE®. EXTRAORDINARY PERFORMANCE OUTSIDE.  
LENOVO YOGA BOOK IS POWERED BY  
INTEL® ATOM™ x5 PROCESSOR.



FIND OUT MORE: ☎ 1800 88 7148 🌐 [www.lenovo.com/my](http://www.lenovo.com/my) 📘 [www.facebook.com/LenovoMY](https://www.facebook.com/LenovoMY) 🐦 [www.twitter.com/Lenovo\\_MY](https://www.twitter.com/Lenovo_MY)

©2016 Lenovo, all rights reserved. Lenovo and the Lenovo logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Lenovo in the United States, other countries, or both. Ultrabook, Celeron, Celeron Inside, Core Inside, Intel, Intel Logo, Intel Atom, Intel Atom Inside, Intel Core, Intel Inside, Intel Inside Logo, Intel vPro, Itanium, Itanium Inside, Pentium, Pentium Inside, vPro Inside, Xeon, Xeon Phi, and Xeon Inside are trademarks of Intel Corporation in the U.S. and/or other countries. Microsoft and Windows are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Google and Google Play are trademarks of Google Inc. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy. Lenovo will not be liable for any inadvertent error which may occur in editorial or typography in this advertisement. All images are for illustrative purposes only.

Lenovo Technology Sdn. Bhd. (685098-H)

# CONTENTS



## 12 WIRE

- 18 Xciting Experience With Neffos
- 20 The New Sherif in Town
- 22 MSI opens third store in Malaysia
- 24 The Selfie King Is Here
- 26 Two new Samsung variants made available in Malaysia



- 27 All new Acer monitors ready for 2017
- 28 Autodesk Switches To A Subscription Model
- 30 Protecting You From Shock
- 32 Proton Reaching New Altitudes

## 39 GIZMOS



**GIFTS FROM THE HEART**  
YOUR VALENTINE'S DAY GIFT GUIDE



## 45 COVER STORY



## 52 TESTED

- 56 Fitbit Flex 2
- 58 Sony Xperia XZ
- 60 Sony RX100 IV
- 62 Illegear Z5
- 63 Honor 6X



# msi®

WORLD'S  
FIRST



## BEST MEETS BEST REACH NEW HEIGHTS

GP62MVR Leopard Pro | GL62M

GE62VR | GE62VR Apache Pro

### GEARED WITH LATEST 7<sup>th</sup> GEN. INTEL® CORE™ i7 7700HQ PROCESSOR



| 7<sup>th</sup> GEN. INTEL® CORE™ i7 PROCESSOR | WINDOWS 10 HOME |  
| GEFORCE® GTX 1060 / 1050 GRAPHICS | NVMe M.2 SSD |  
| STEELSERIES GAMING KEYBOARD | SOUND BY DYNAUDIO |  
| NAHIMIC 2 VR | KILLER E2400 LAN | VR READY |

INTEL INSIDE®. EXTRAORDINARY PERFORMANCE OUTSIDE.



Start from RM 4,499

Intel, the Intel Logo, Intel Inside, Intel Core, and Core Inside are trademarks of Intel Corporation in the U.S. and/or other countries.



Product Info Centre:  
1300-22-1986

Mon - Fri  
(9am - 6pm)



WEB:  
my.msi.com

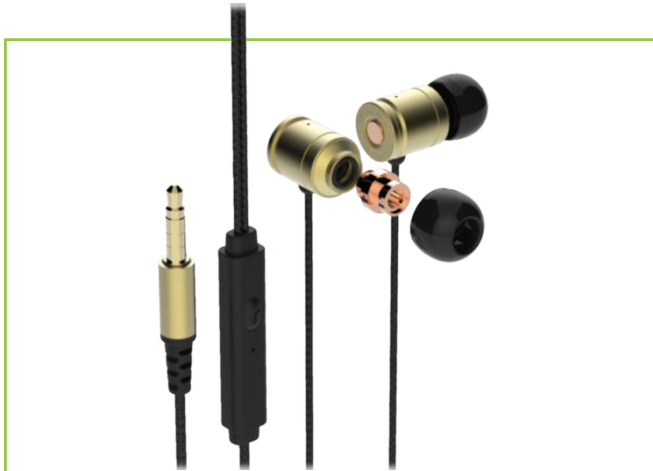


YOUTUBE:  
MSI Gaming Global



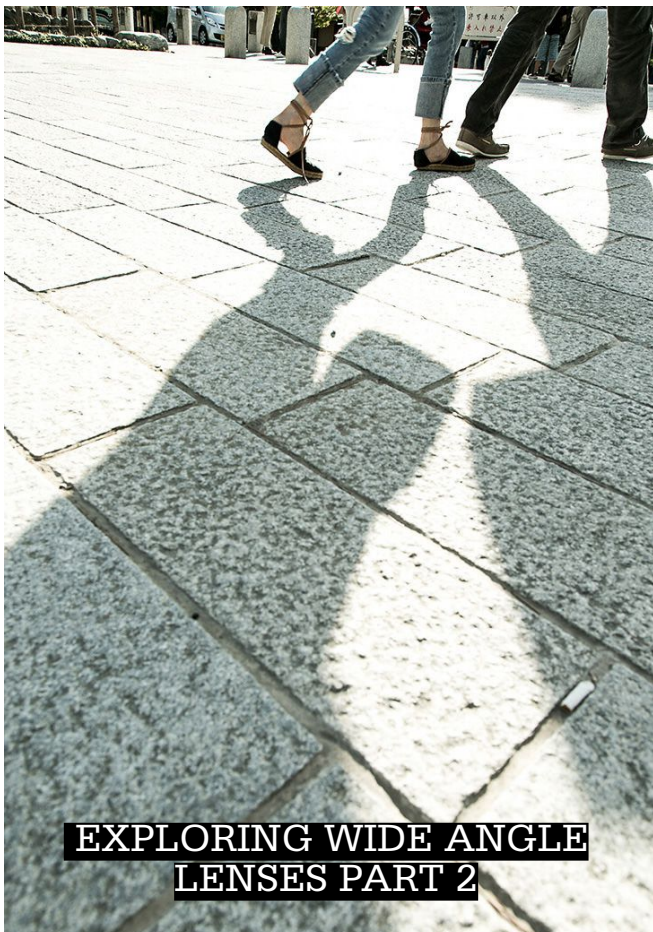
FACEBOOK:  
MSI Malaysia Notebook

# CONTENTS



## 64 VERSUS (CONT.)

- 65 Wiko UFeel Prime
- 66 Acer Predator G1
- 68 Aztech Full HD Wireless IP Camera
- 70 Gamdias HEBE M1
- 72 DLINK AC5300
- 74 MSI Z270 Krait Gaming



EXPLORING WIDE ANGLE  
LENSES PART 2

## 91 PIXELS

## 96 BIZ2.0

- 98 Data Centres: Digital Enablers of the Economy
- 99 A smarter Wi-Fi for Sunway University



## 100 SPOTLIGHT

## 102 INVIEW



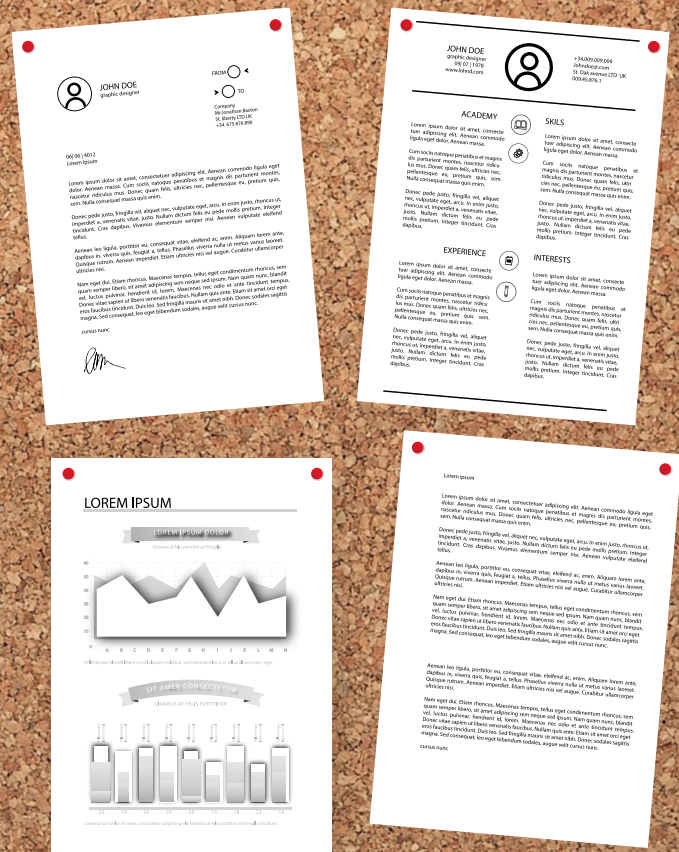
## 104 GAMETIME

- 105 Gravity Rush 2
- 108 Sara is Missing
- 110 Super Mario Run
- 112 ESL One makes its way to Genting
- 114 MSI Introduces KabyLake
- 115 White Is The New Black



# OKI

JAPAN • 1881



**MFP**

**MB472dnw / MB492dn  
ES5162**



**Printer**

**B412dn / B432dn / B512dn  
ES4132dn**

- Fast print speed up to 45ppm
- Duplex and network ready, optional Wireless
- Apple AirPrint and Google Cloud Print ready
- Banner printing up to 1.3m long
- Secure printing to protect confidential documents



High performance A4 mono printer & A4 mono multifunction printer for more demanding user



TOLL FREE NO.:  
(9am-6pm, Mon-Fri)

**1-800-88-1177**

**www.oki.com.my**



## PUBLISHED BY

Reach Publishing Sdn Bhd, No. 15-3, Block F1, Jln PJU 1/42, Dataran Prima,  
46500 Petaling Jaya, Selangor. Tel: 03-7880 2611/22 Fax: 03-7880 1971  
Website: liveatpc.com FB: facebook.com/liveatpc

## PUBLISHER / MANAGING EDITOR

Selva Rajan

## EDITORIAL

editor.pcdc@reach.com.my

**Editor-In-Chief** Vinodhani Nair K  
**Editor** Sharil Abdul Rahman  
**Writers** Teh Wi-Liam

**Singapore Correspondent** Lee Ser Wei  
**Contributors** Amir Rothman, Din, Nur Atifi  
**Graphic Designer** Ahmad Zhafri, Syafiq Zainal, Asyraf Halim

## ADVERTISING

sales@reach.com.my

**Advertising Manager** Stephanie Wong  
**Business Development Manager** Connor Tan  
**Advertising Executive** Moon Leong

## CIRCULATION

circulation@reach.com.my

## TAIWAN REPRESENTATIVE

JK Media Co, 10F-4, No. 43, Songjiang Rd., Zhongshan District, Taipei City, 104, Taiwan. Contact: Juliet Tseng  
Tel: +886-2-25065637 ext.11 Fax: +886-2-25065390 Email: juliet@jkmedia.com.tw

## PRINTER

Thumbprints Utd. Sdn. Bhd. Lot 24, Jalan RP3, Rawang Perdana Industrial Estate, 48000 Rawang,  
Selangor, Malaysia.

## OFFICIAL MAGAZINE FOR

IT World, Sunway Pyramid, Digital Mall, Fitness First, Digital Bay,  
Digital One, Landmark IT Mall, Mine Shopping Fair, Hatten Square

## AVAILABLE AT

Starbucks Coffee, MPH Bookstore, Open University, Dome, Popular,  
Acer Tele Dynamics, The Coffee Bean, MyNews.com, Maxis

## PICTURE CREDITS

All images used on the cover and PC.com GameTime are owned and copyrighted to their respective owners

Find us on:



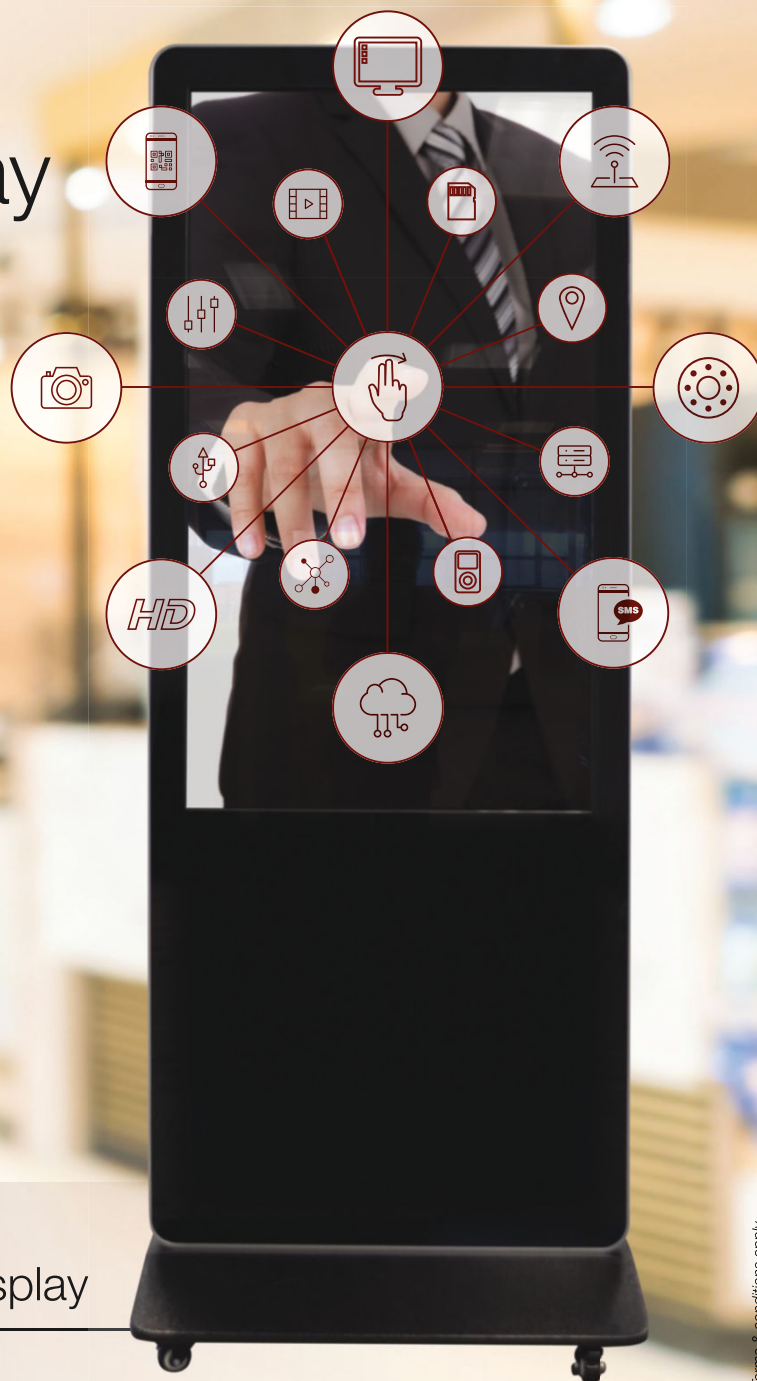
www.liveatpc.com



# i3DiSPLAY

## The New 49" Interactive Display

Reach out to your customers with this slim, friendly Smart Technology and Intuitive Interface.



SAVE BIG  
on our Latest 49" Interactive Display

Rental From  
**As LOW As RM150\***

Sales Enquiry **019-682 2689**



**M3 Technologies (Asia) Berhad** (482772-D)

Lot 17.1, 17th Floor, Menara Lien Hoe, No.8, Persiaran Tropicana & Jalan Tropicana Utama, Tropicana, 47410 Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

☎ **603-7886 2423**

✉ **sales@m3tech.com.my**

🌐 **www.i3display.com**

📘 **www.facebook.com/M3TechnologiesAsiaBerhad**

All products, patented technology and company names are trademarks of their respective holders. Their usage does not imply any liaison with or endorsement by them. Copyright © 2017 M3 Technologies (Asia) Sdn Bhd. All rights reserved.

\*Terms & conditions apply.

## A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

**H**ello everyone again. With just a few winks and days gone by – it is already the second month of 2017! How was your Chinese New Year celebrations? We at PC.com hope it was a good one, and will signal a prosperous year ahead for you (and for us as well).

We were lucky enough to be invited to the Consumer Electronics Show or also known as CES 2017. The show is the start of a new year for the tech community, as the latest and greatest gizmos, gadgets and technology was on display there. Do check out our cover story coverage of the show floor in this issue, and be amazed with what the coming year will be for tech.

Valentines is coming soon, and you may need ideas on what to give your significant other – at least pertaining to gadgets. Check out our Valentine's list in Gizmos, and see if anything strikes your fancy to be a suitable gift for your loved one this month.

We sure go a lot of new and exciting stuff in our Tested labs, where we start off with the best gaming console to come from Sony, the PS4 Pro. This hunk of metal, plastic and circuits had our gaming sense tickled, and we are excited to have it in our labs to try and see if the hype is real. Also, we do have a few other new cool stuff in line so check the Tested section out.

Gametime is where the latest and greatest news and reviews for gaming is in, and we are honoured to have a Malaysian-made game in our list this month. Sarah is Missing is a mobile game experience like no other, and it is proudly made in Malaysia. Do you fancy to be a sleuth? Check it out.

Also, I would like to say hello to our readers, as I take over the reins of Atifi as editor of PC.com. I hope to start a great engagement with all of you in the coming months.

Signing off.

Sharil | **PC.com Editor**



HIGH BRIGHTNESS BUSINESS PROJECTORS  
EB-4000 SERIES/G7000 SERIES/Z SERIES/  
L1000 SERIES/L25000U

**EPSON**  
EXCEED YOUR VISION

**LIGHT UP THE WORLD WITH OUR  
BRIGHTEST PROJECTORS.**



Introducing the star-studded lineup of Epson high brightness projectors. Powered by proprietary 3LCD technology that is exceptionally brighter and more vivid to bring images to life and deliver a stunning viewing experience indoors or outdoors. Engineered to shine with great reliability and durability by the world's No.1\* projector brand. Get ready for performances that will light up the world.

\*Source: Futuresource Consulting Limited

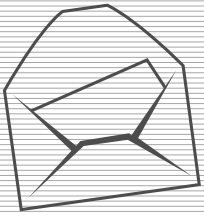


Visit [www.epson.com.my/highbrightness](http://www.epson.com.my/highbrightness) or call 1800-8-17349 (Toll-Free).

EpsonMalaysia @EpsonSEA EpsonSoutheastAsia Epson Southeast Asia

**ENGINEERED FOR BUSINESS**

**Epson Malaysia Sdn Bhd** (211204-X) 3rd Floor, East Tower, Wisma Consplant 1, No. 2, Jalan SS16/4, 47500 Subang Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan. Tel: 603-56 288 288 Fax: 603-56 212 088  
Epson is the registered trademark of Seiko Epson Corporation. All other product names and other company names used herein are for caption purposes only and are the trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective owners. EPSON disclaims any and all rights in those marks. Scan/Print samples shown here are simulations. Specifications are subject to change without notice.

**WRITE  
& WIN!**

# Write In And Win!

**Stand a chance to win****A MYSTERY GIFT!****Send your mail to [editor.pcdc@reach.com.my](mailto:editor.pcdc@reach.com.my) and please be sure to include your full name and address for our record****LETTER  
OF THE  
MONTH**

## Mailbox

From

**Lee Kok Aun**

Subject

**Ed, thanks to your stuff on fake stories in the high-tech world that are so rampant nowadays. It may be a fairytale, a convincing hoax, a false alert, and at the end of the day it's all a BIG LIE!**

**So, guys, 2017 is another progressive ambition year, so let's be more aware of these "underworld tactics" and together with your amazing mag, we shall exude that passion for creativity, endlessly!**

**I was reading through your FFXV game review and was wondering if your writer knows how to get Noctis Ultima Blade?**

**Rizal Rafizi**

Our writer does know! At the start of the game, Noctis will have his signature weapon known as the Engine Blade. As early as Chapter 2, you will be able to upgrade the Engine Blade three times with the help of Cid. These upgrades will be a sidequest on its own and you must look for the particular components to pass to Cid before he can make the modifications.

The first sidequest known as 'A Better Engine Blade I' requires a Rusted Bit before it can be

upgraded. 'A Better Engine Blade II' requires a Glass Gemstone and a Sturdy Helixhorn is needed for 'A Better Engine Blade III'. The Sturdy Helixhorn, however, requires some time and effort.

To acquire the Sturdy Helixhorn, you will have to look for the Hunt labelled 'The Last Spiracorns' located at Old Lestallum. From there, you must break the horn of a Duplicorn in order to upgrade the Engine Blade into the Ultima Blade.

**STALK US ON**<http://facebook.com/pcdotcom><http://www.twitter.com/pcdotcom>



# SHARP

# AQUOS

THE WORLD'S FIRST

# 8K RESOLUTION TV

**THERE'S NOTHING LIKE IT**  
**唯一無二、この世にたった一つのTV**

LC80XU930X

## SHARP

SHARP-ROXY SALES & SERVICE COMPANY (M) SDN.BHD. (8394-W)  
No.1A, Persiaran Kuala Langat, Section 27, 40400 Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan.  
[www.sharp.com.my/aquos](http://www.sharp.com.my/aquos) Email: [productinfo@my.sharp-world.com](mailto:productinfo@my.sharp-world.com)

Product Enquiry: Tel: 1800 2 AQUOS (27867) or 03-5102 5369  
Service Enquiry: Tel: 1800 888 678 (Toll Free) Fax: 03-5102 5329

 SharpAQUOSMalaysia





# THE A STANDS FOR AWESOME

Samsung introduces the revamped Galaxy A Series

**W**ith the modern-day millennial in mind, Samsung releases its revamped version of its mid-range flagship, the Samsung Galaxy A Series. The Galaxy A5 as well as A7 comes with a host of upgrades and features that is not found with the previous models.

"The Galaxy A5 and Galaxy A7 are the latest additions to the Malaysian market and they complement the needs of connected millennials who crave spontaneity and seek life's pleasures in the most fulfilling way. The millennial consumers are socially active, fun-seeking individuals who live in the moment, and we at Samsung want to help them get ready for anything that comes their way. So for the first time ever in the Galaxy A Series, we made the 2017 variant to be dust and water resistant – youthful, trendy and cool as the right companion for millennials!" said Mr. Lee Jiu Siang, Vice President, IT & Mobile Business Unit, Samsung Malaysia Electronics.

The stand out feature of both the Galaxy A5 and A7 would be the IP68 dust and water resistance rating, making it the first in Samsung's mid-range smartphones to carry it. Both devices also come with USB Type-C ports and is equipped with fast charging, allowing you to keep the device fully charged faster. It also comes with 16 megapixels for both the front and rear cameras with f1.9 aperture lens and also PDAF sensors for the rear and FF sensors at the front. Taking its cue from the flagship Galaxy mobile device experience, the new Galaxy A Series comes with the vivid Full HD 5.7-inch (A7) and 5.2-inch (A5) Super AMOLED screen displays – perfect for immersive gaming on the go or even binge-watching videos from YouTube and Netflix.

Another great feature that Samsung releases with the Galaxy



**"Another great feature that Samsung releases with the Galaxy A Series is Samsung Pay."**

A Series is Samsung Pay, a new alternative when making purchases at places where credit, debit and prepaid cards are accepted. This new method of wireless mobile payment is compatible with both NFC and MST, both of which are included in the Galaxy A Series. The mySamsung app is also preloaded into both devices, making it that much easier for users to set up, manage and optimise their Samsung experience while staying up to date with the latest offers and promotions. Both the A7 and A5 are available in Black Sky and Gold Sand colour options and will be available at all Samsung brand stores nationwide from 25 January onwards at RM1,899 for the Galaxy A7 and RM1,699 for the Galaxy A5. 





# Hello, internet!

The internet can be a daunting place.  
Sometimes you just want to get things done.  
Sometimes you want to try something new.  
And sometimes things go wrong.

With **ESET Internet Security** protecting you  
and your privacy, online worries are a thing  
of the past.

Find out more: [www.eset.com/my](http://www.eset.com/my)



ENJOY SAFER TECHNOLOGY™



# A NEW SONY PHOTOGRAPHY EXPERIENCE

The new Sony  $\alpha$ 99 II,  $\alpha$ 6500 and RX100 V launched in Malaysia



In conjunction with the 10 year anniversary of the Sony Alpha line, Sony Malaysia has officially announced a new range of high speed Autofocus (AF) enabled cameras in multiple categories, which includes both mirrorless and compact cameras. The new Sony  $\alpha$ 99 II,  $\alpha$ 6500 and RX100 V are now officially launched in Malaysia.

"We are continuing to push the boundaries of modern innovation in digital imaging, in particular within the mirrorless space," said by Mr. Satoru Arai, Managing Director of Sony Malaysia. "Sony is an overall leader in digital imaging and the world's largest image sensor manufacturer. Over time, Sony has experienced a robust boost in mirrorless camera sales, strengthening our dominant position as the No.1 overall full-frame mirrorless brand, a position Sony has held for 6 consecutive years since 2010, thanks to the immensely successful  $\alpha$ 7 series and  $\alpha$ 6500 series."




The new cameras are the epitome of the company's journey in digital imaging thus far. The Sony  $\alpha$ 99 II is Sony's update to the popular  $\alpha$ 99 SLT camera, with a slew of new improvements and updates to the camera. First, it now receives the new 42.4 megapixel full-frame sensor as the Sony  $\alpha$ 7-series, giving it a high dynamic range with every press of the shutter button. The camera also receives the 5-axis stabilisation system, ensuring shake-free images whenever the camera is in motion or

in use. 4K recording is now standard in the camera as well.

For the mirrorless market, the  $\alpha$ 6500 is an update in Sony's mirrorless line-up. Shares the same unrivalled 4D FOCUS system as the  $\alpha$ 6300 camera, which can lock focus on a subject in as little as 0.05 seconds. The new model can shoot images at up to 11 frames per second with continuous autofocus and exposure tracking and up to 8 frames per second in a live-view shooting mode with its 24.2

megapixel Exmor sensor. Thanks to the expanded buffer, it can shoot up to 307 frames before running out of cache space. Also for the first time in the line's history, the camera now comes equipped with both the 5-axis stabilization system as well as a touch-sensitive screen for easy operation and navigation.

Compact cameras can't get any better with the Sony Cybershot RX100 V. In a small compact body, the camera hides a 20.1 megapixel 1-inch sensor, paired to a ZEISS Vario-Sonnar T\* 24-70 mm 5 F1.8 – 2.8 large aperture lens assembly as well as the excellent pop-up electronic view finder that is synonymous with the line. It also records in 4K video, as well as super slow motion recording at up to 960 fps 7 with extended recording time.

The new  $\alpha$ 99 II,  $\alpha$ 6500 & RX100 V will be available throughout Malaysia with the pricing of RM12,299 for  $\alpha$ 99 II; RM6,499 for  $\alpha$ 6500 (body only) and RM4,599 for the RX100 V. 





# INTRODUCING YOUR E-WASTE RECYCLING PARTNER, USED COMPUTER

Turn obsolete and redundant electronics into something useful for the community

**U**sedcomputer is wholly subsidiary by TM Recycle IT. At Usedcomputer, everything we do is guided by a set of principles that define our character, culture and work, which have been at the core of the Company since its inception. The '3R' dictum of 'Rethink, Reuse and Recycle' was developed to guide the design of the recycling process and the way we do things in our facility.

## Rethink

Rethinking is the most effective of the 3Rs and the way to begin, and is also the most complex, as it requires letting go of some notions like 'new trumps old'. We are always re-thinking and finding better, more effective ways to recycle in our commitment to a healthier environment.

## Reuse

Before we recycle or dispose the E-Waste, we evaluate whether it has life left in it, and put it back to use. Reusing keeps new resources from being used for a while longer, and old resources from entering the waste stream.

## Recycle


Recycling is the utilization of something old and turning it into something new. This involves making new products out of old products. This means the potential landfill wastes become a new product hence protecting the environment.

We offer a holistic IT, Computer and Electronics disposal service to address the vital requirements of clients, such as:

- Asset validation and Audit
- Secure Data Destruction from end-of-life computers
- Customised collection schedules

- Proper documented processes
- Compliant and Environmental friendly

## Recycling and disposal

From secure software and physical data destruction, IT and Electronic Asset Management service, management of 'end-of-life' (EOL) IT assets and electronics to a complete IT, Computer and Electronics disposal service that addresses the vital requirements of our clients – Usedcomputer is the name that can be trusted by everyone in securing your e-waste in Malaysia. 



### Trade Value For Used Electronics

Are you looking to trade-in your used electronics for cash? We make it easy to trade-in your old computers, laptops, netbooks and ultrabooks. Gather your e-waste. Call **03-3101 4955** and get the pickup schedule (free transportation) and price quote from us.

Usedcomputer is an **appointed contractor of the Malaysian Department of Environment (DOE) or Jabatan Alam Sekitar Malaysia bearing the Code SW110** for the proper recycling of Electronic Waste or E-Waste.



# Experience **MUSIC▶ONZ™** with the Ear Earphones

## Don't stop till U get enough.

With the Ear Earphones, you'll have ears big enough to take on free unlimited data for music streaming. Play that funky music again and again and again, until it gets stuck in your head.

## Hakuna Madata.

It means no worries when you're streaming with Music-Onz. Simply wear this pair of huuuge orange ears to stream music all day and night without using your data.

## Everybadehhh... yeaaaaah.

Put on the Ear Earphones and rock your body right. It doesn't matter if you're on a postpaid, prepaid, or broadband plan. As long as you're a U Mobile subscriber, you'll get to enjoy Music-Onz.

## Any way U want it.

The Ear Earphones can handle any kind of music, rock jiwang, jazz, pop, and even untz untz untz music. Pair it with Music-Onz to stream your favourite hits 24/7 on Apple Music, Spotify, JOOX, Tidal, KKBOX, Raku, BFM 89.9, ERA fm, MY FM, hitz fm, MIX fm, LiteFM, Sinar FM, THR Raaga, THR Gegar, MELODY FM, Fly FM, Hot FM, One FM, and Kool FM.



## Want more than just Music-Onz? This is how U do it.

Subscribe to HERO Postpaid P98 to enjoy 30GB of data, unlimited Video-Onz, unlimited Music-Onz, and unlimited calls. Check it out at [u.com.my](http://u.com.my)

Disclaimer: It's almost impossible to get your hands on the Ear Earphones.







30GB

UNLIMITED  
VIDEO ▶ ONZ™

UNLIMITED  
MUSIC ▶ ONZ™

UNLIMITED  
CALLS

Sooo much music,  
you'll want bigger ears.

**MUSIC ▶ ONZ™**

Free unlimited data for music streaming.

Apple MUSIC Spotify JOOX KKBOX and more.

U Mobile. Where data ♥ U.

Terms and conditions apply. U Mobile Sdn. Bhd. (223969-U)



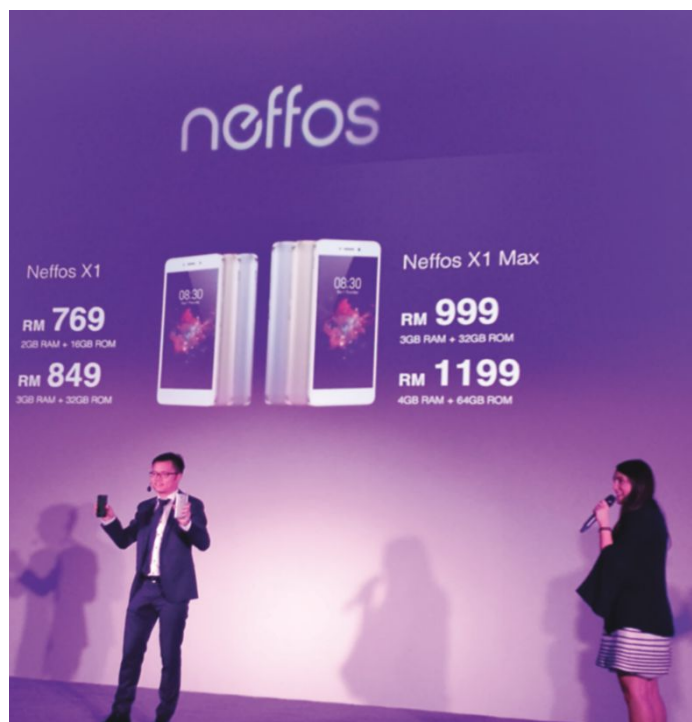


# XCITING XPERIENCE WITH NEFFOS

The Neffos X1 and X1 Max are now officially out in the Malaysian smartphone market

**H**aving already made its debut during IFA 2016, Neffos starts off 2017 with a bang thanks to the introduction of its latest flagship, the Neffos X1 and X1 Max. Adhering to the brand's 'Close to You' mantra, the new Neffos X1 and X1 Max exhibits human-oriented philosophy and design approach with the aim to seamlessly connect people and technology together.

The X1 as well as the X1 Max features a stylishly sleek body built with premium materials, giving it a look of elegance and sophistication like no other. It's metallic body exterior complements the dual-curved back that tapers towards the sides and allows for a more ergonomic fit. The X1 comes with a 5-inch HD display while the X1 Max has a 5.5-inch Full HD display; the




X1 Max in particular comes with a 2.5D Corning Gorilla Glass screen so swiping on the screen feels great.

While both the X1 and the X1 Max runs on the Octa-core MediaTek Helio P10 chipset, the X1 comes in two variants, mainly 2GB and 3GB of RAM with 16GB and 32GB of ROM respectively. The X1 Max provides higher variants at 3GB and 4GB of RAM with 32GB and 64GB of ROM respectively. Both devices also support dual-band Wi-Fi, multiple LTE bands for fast Internet access as well as Voice-over LTE (VoLTE), allowing for high-speed wireless communication. While the X1 comes with 2,250mAh battery capacity, the X1 Max gets the larger 3,000mAh capacity; both devices will also come with fast charging capabilities so you can

have more time with the device while it spends less time charging.

Available in two colours – Cloudy Grey and Sunrise Gold, the X1 is available at all authorised Neffos retailers and resellers nationwide at RM769 (2GB RAM + 16GB ROM) and RM849 (3GB RAM + 32GB ROM). The X1 Max will be available from march 2017 onwards at RM999 (3GB RAM + 32GB ROM) and RM1,199 (4GB RAM + 64GB ROM).

"The new Neffos X Series smartphones are the perfect combination of smart technology and stylish design. They bring unparalleled value to our customers by prioritising features that help them stay closer to everything and everyone around them," said Jeffrey Chao, TP-Link co-founder and Chairman. 

# HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017



[www.directd.com.my](http://www.directd.com.my)



#directd



@directdteam



@directdteam

**DirectD Subang Jaya**  
7 Outlets in SS15  
11.00AM-11.30PM

No. 58,62,64,69,77,79 & 85 Jalan SS15/4B,  
47500 Subang Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan  
Hotline : +603-5621 1355

**DirectD Gadget Mega Store**

"The Largest Mobile Phone Shop in Malaysia"  
9.00AM-9.00PM

11, Jln 51A/219, 46100 Petaling Jaya, Selangor  
(Federal Highway PJ - same row with AVON)  
Hotline : +603-7958 1355



The Brand Laureate SMEs  
BEST BRANDS Award  
Signature Brand Retail & Wholesale  
Mobile Communication Devices  
2015-2016



Intel Platinum Partner  
Mobile Specialty Retailer



Asus Golden Premium Partner



# THE NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN

Oppo's latest release – the R9s takes over as its best camera smartphone

**F**amous for being the camera expert in the smartphone industry, Oppo introduces its latest flagship to its series of smartphones, the Oppo R9s. The title was previously held by Oppo's very own F1 Plus but it has since relinquished it to the R9s as the top camera smartphone by Oppo.

Not only is it powered with a 16 megapixel rear camera, the R9s also comes with extra-wide f/1.7 aperture lens and is coupled with the new Dual PDAF technology. This drastically improves the rear camera technology that enables users to capture clear photos anytime, anywhere. At the centre of the R9s' camera lies the all-new Sony IMX398 sensor – a customised 1/2.8 inch sensor developed by both Sony and Oppo. You can now capture 40% more light thanks to the sensor added



**"The R9s also introduces Oppo's VOOC Flash Charge technology for fast charging with lightning-quick fingerprint access."**

with an extra-wide f/1.7 aperture lens as well as having phenomenal focusing speed with noise reduction and great low-light performance.

In addition to that, the R9s also introduces Oppo's VOOC Flash Charge technology for fast charging with lightning-quick fingerprint access. Lying at the heart of the R9s is the Qualcomm octa-core processor, 4GB of RAM and 64GB of internal storage space. The body of the R9s is also equipped with

98.9% metal, giving it a subtle yet refined look.

"Though we have experienced success and received recognition from from Malaysian consumers for the F1s, we did not want to just stop there. We wanted to continue our journey to perfection in order for our fans to experience the most premium camera phone experience, and this is reflected in the R9s," said William Fang, CEO of Oppo Malaysia. 



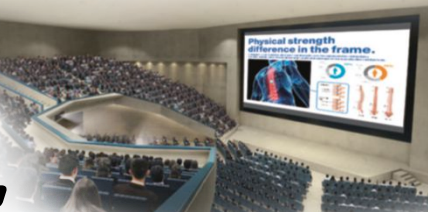
# SHINING A LIGHT ON BUSINESS PRESENTATIONS


 15 YEARS RUNNING 2001-2015  
SOURCE: FUTURESOURCE CONSULTING

Presenting to the business audience can be daunting for most of us.  
 Now, by following these tips, anyone can master presentations like a pro!



## THE FINAL KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL PRESENTATION - THE PROJECTOR



To successfully master the skills of good presentation require plenty of practice and preparation. However, many overlook the importance of the projector that is used. As a result, the projector output may sometimes be less than desirable, and as the presenter, we have to apologise to the audience that some important points on the slides cannot be clearly read on the screen. Such awkward moments will inevitably derail all preparations made earlier for a successful presentation.

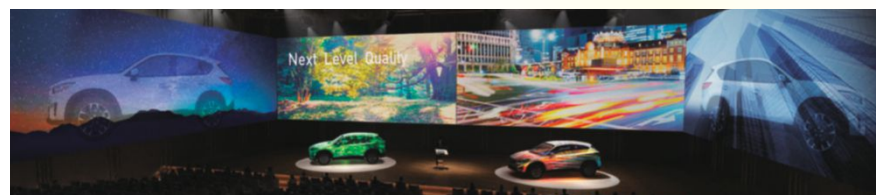
Recognizing this acute need for reliability, Epson, the world's top projector maker for 15 years in a row, pioneered the 3LCD projection technology to address this need.

3LCD is a sophisticated, innovative technology that utilizes three chips to deliver vibrant, true-to-life and consistent images. This technology offers up to three times more colour brightness and three times wider gamut of colours compared to other projectors, to

deliver dazzling high-definition images, vivid contrast and powerful colour intensity, even in bright ambience and outdoor environment.

3LCD projectors are also highly efficient and much more reliable, as they have no moving parts in the image generation engine, eliminating the risk of mechanical failure. These projectors also use 25% less power than single-chip DLP projectors to reduce operating heat, allowing the lamp in a 3LCD projector to last longer. Epson has also developed high brightness laser projectors in their range of 3LCD business projectors with a laser-light source that can deliver up to 20,000 hours of maintenance free use.

If you've created and rehearsed your presentation with our tips in mind, you can be confident that your Epson high brightness 3LCD projector will deliver mind-blowing image quality and make your presentation the star of the show.



## EASY PRESENTATION TIPS TO MAKE YOUR AUDIENCE GO WOW



Most of us have, at some point, come before an audience to make a presentation. As an effective presenter, it is imperative to hold the audiences' attention and to keep them riveted to your message that is presented.

The key to their attention varies with different audience, and the nature of your presentation determines the appearance of your slides - when to use graphs, attractive visuals and even video clips. It is important to use the right amount of colours and animations to maximize the impact of the information presented. Most importantly, do not clutter the slides with excessive amount of information.

Make no mistake - you are the presenter, not your slides. The slides are visual tools to emphasize your message. Therefore, do not overwhelm your audience by inserting your entire speech into the slides.

To exude confidence and authority on the subject, the right body language is very much needed. Audience are instantly attracted to confident personalities, and with the correct gestures and tone of voice, the audience will be absorbing every word of your speech like a sponge.

Visit [www.epson.com.my/highbrightness](http://www.epson.com.my/highbrightness) or call 1800-8-17349 (Toll-Free).

f EpsonMalaysia @EpsonSEA YouTube EpsonSoutheastAsia in Epson Southeast Asia

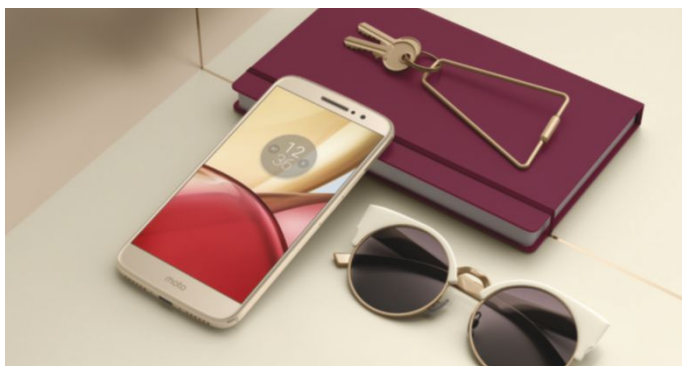
**ENGINEERED FOR BUSINESS**

# COMBINING POWER AND STYLE IN ONE SLEEK PACKAGE

The new Motorola Moto M is now available in Malaysia

**C**hoosing between style and performance can be a headache to some when they are looking for a new smartphone to own. The new Motorola Moto M may solve your problems, with its sleek design and above average performance offered in an all-metal body.

It features a 5.5-inch Full HD display, perfect for viewing photos and movies. The fast 2.2-GHz octa-core processor and 4GB of RAM will ensure all apps will run smoothly, without lag and as quick as a whistle. With 32GB of built-in storage, store all of your movies, images and songs right in your phone – Moto even gives you a microSD slot for extra storage – up to 128GB.



Sound performance is enhanced thanks to the Dolby Atmos-powered sound. Be it the built-in speaker in the rear or the headphone jack – the Moto M is engineered for outstanding audio.

Imaging is covered thanks to the advanced 16-megapixel rear

camera and an 8-megapixel selfie shooter on the front. The two sensors will ensure your images come out with amazing quality. The Dynamic Correlated Colour Temperature (CCT) dual LED flash automatically adjusts for natural-looking skin tones and consistent colours in every image.

Safety is a big deal, and the fast yet accurate fingerprint scanner will ensure your data is kept safe in the phone. Unlock and wake up your phone instantly the moment you tap your finger onto the scanner – no waiting needed.

If you are ready to own one, it can be yours for RM 1,199 and it is available in two colours – gold and grey. **PC**



## MSI OPENS THIRD STORE IN MALAYSIA

Store in Digital Mall complements previously opened store in Plaza Lowyat and Johor Baharu

**T**o mark the start of 2017, MSI Malaysia has recently opened their third concept store in Malaysia, located in Digital Mall in Petaling Jaya. The concept store is also the second store in Klang Valley, after the store in Plaza Low Yat.

The store features completed systems sold by MSI, which includes the current range of MSI Gaming laptops. The store also features for the first time the company's new logo as part of it's branding in 2017. Apart from MSI Gaming laptops, accessories and peripherals from MSI are also available on sale at the store in Digital Mall. Unfortunately there are no components available on sale at the store as of now.

During the launch, MSI also confirmed that they will be opening

two more stores by the end of 2017, one of which will be their flagship store located in the vicinity of Plaza Lowyat. As of press date they did now share the location of the second store to be opened in 2017. **PC**

**"The store features completed systems sold by MSI, which includes the current range of MSI Gaming laptops."**







# GAME MORE ON THE GO

MSI GL62M brings high gaming specs into a portable form factor

**G**aming on the go does not mean that you are limited to just simple gaming. Get ready for the next wave of gaming superiority with the new MSI GL62M gaming laptop. Combining the best chip and graphics in a sleek design, the MSI notebook is sure to bring you to new heights in your next gaming session.

## Pushing performance to the limit

Beating at the heart of the GL62M is the Intel Core i7-7700HQ processor that runs at 2.8GHz, with a Turbo speed of up to 3.8GHz. the 7th generation Intel Core H series processor utilizes a power-efficient microarchitecture, advanced process technology and silicon optimizations to deliver faster performance than processors of the previous generation. Improvement in gaming, multimedia and even 4K video decoding/transcoding can be expected with the MSI GL62M thanks to the processor.

## Up-to-date graphics with NVIDIA

The NVIDIA GeForce GTX 1050 GPU delivers most advance gaming technologies in the GL62M. It gives up to three times the performance of previous-generation GPUs, and it supports the latest

DirectX 12 API for the fastest, smoothest gaming experience around – especially when you are on the go. With the innovative Cooler Boost 4 cooling solution and MSI's special gaming features catered for gamers, the NVIDIA's latest GeForce GTX 1050 GPU shall be able to release its full performance completely on MSI gaming laptops like the GL62M.

## Hear better, play better

Included in the GL62M is the Nahimic audio software which offers a high definition sound technology and at the same time boosting the audio and voice performance of the MSI GL62M. Enjoy an immersive virtual 7.1 sound over your standard stereo equipment. The MSI Audio Boost design enhances the output sound detail and sound stage by 30%, and the gold flash audio jack provides stable sound transmission (reduced obstruction)

and works in conjunction with the optimized headsets AMP (Audio Power Amplifier) design, with low noise and low distortion characteristics, to greatly enhance headphone performance and faithfully reproduce each acoustic detail.

## A better keyboard experience

Thanks to Steelseries, the GL62M features a responsive and tactile feedback keyboard with an optimum WASD zone and support for multi-key input so that gamers can gain full command over their favoured game. Control the RGB lighting of the GL62M from a single app. The Dragon Center provides six functions to get a total control of your personal computer : easy access to all apps at once (App Portal), real-time system performance monitor (System Monitor) and LED effect control (LED Wizard). **PC**



# THE SELFIE KING IS HERE

Vivo introduces the V5 Plus, capable of capturing the perfect selfie




**F**ollowing the V5, Vivo announced V5 Plus with more storage space, an upgrade from the V5's 128GB to 256GB. At its core, both devices remain identical with its key selling factor being its camera, that comes with a Sony IMX376 Image Sensor. Both devices are also kitted with a 20-megapixel camera as well as 4GB of RAM, allowing you to capture and do more with the device.

However, that's not all Vivo has to offer for its V series devices. The V5 and the V5 Plus both come with the AK4376 Hi-Fi chipset, which enhances the music coming out from the device via headphones or loudspeakers. This results in a

signal-to-noise ratio of 115db, the best in its class for the price range.

Both devices sport a 5.5-inch Full HD IPS LCD display screen while carrying a pixel depth of 401 ppi. It also comes with a 3,000mAh battery capacity with fast charging capabilities. The dual-charging engine allows the devices to be charged quicker in a short period so you will spend less time away from the device. At the core of the V5 and V5 Plus is the Qualcomm Snapdragon 625 octa-core 1.8GHz processor. Now you can do much more with the device and not have to worry about overheating or its battery draining out too quickly.

Available around Malaysia, the Vivo V5 is going for RM1,299 while the Vivo V5 Plus is going for RM1,799. 

**"The V5 and the V5 Plus both come with the AK4376 Hi-Fi chipset, which enhances the music coming out from the device via headphones or loudspeakers."**



# VIVO VALENTINE CONTEST

vivo  
MALAYSIA



Vivo is a multinational technology company that designs, develops, and manufactures smartphones, smartphone accessories, software, and online services. Vivo also upgrades its sound quality of Hi-Fi to the broader concept of enjoying music. Apart from inheriting the brand's DNA - the ultimate "Camera and Music", vivo will be directing its focus to exploring the deeper connection between music and real life while reaching for innovations and new collaborations in interaction and content. The new tagline reflects vivo's new brand direction and strategy in its future products to bring in more surprises to the users.

**1 Grand Prize Winner** will stand a chance in walking away with a vivo V5. All you have to do is answer this question :

Q1. How many front cameras can be found on vivo V5?

\_\_\_\_\_

Q2. Count the white hearts in the picture.

\_\_\_\_\_ **WHITE HEARTS**

Q3. I want to win vivo V5 because...

\_\_\_\_\_

NAME : \_\_\_\_\_

IC NO. : \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT : \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# TWO NEW SAMSUNG VARIANTS MADE AVAILABLE IN MALAYSIA

The Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge now comes in 128GB, while the Samsung Galaxy Note 5 features 64GB

**T**o anyone who is looking for a new smartphone to purchase, check out Samsung's latest offerings on hand. They have announced two new refreshes to both it's Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge and the Samsung Galaxy Note 5 in Malaysia.

The new colour option for the Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge, Pearl Black, follows the two new colours that were introduced late last year – the colours being Blur Coral and Pink Gold. The new colour was designed to be modern and striking, which is perfect for those who are always on the edge and love to explore new trends. The new colour blankets all of the device – edge and all – to give it a stylish all-black aesthetic that can be seen from miles around.

Not only does the model receives a new colour, it also receives a new storage capacity, as Samsung has bumped the phone's internal storage to 128GB, on top of the expandability that is available through the included microSD slot.

On the other hand, if the S-pen is what you need – Samsung has that covered as well. Samsung also

announced a new version of the Galaxy Note 5 – now with 64GB of storage. Thanks to the trusty S-Pen, the Samsung Galaxy Note 5 will be the perfect companion for those who are looking for a productivity tool on the go. The S-Pen is an incredibly useful tool for jotting ideas and scribbling notes on the go – encouraging creativity and freedom of expressions beyond traditional text and static visuals.

The new Pearl Black Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge is now available for a retail price of RM 3,399, while the Samsung Galaxy Note 5 64GB is yours for only RM 2,399. These prices includes the pre-requisite GST. So head on to the nearest Samsung store or your favourite store to get yourself a unit of the new Pearl Black Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge or the Samsung Galaxy Note 5 with 64GB. [PC](#)



**"The new colour was designed to be modern and striking, which is perfect for those who are always on the edge and love to explore new trends."**



# ALL NEW ACER MONITORS READY FOR 2017

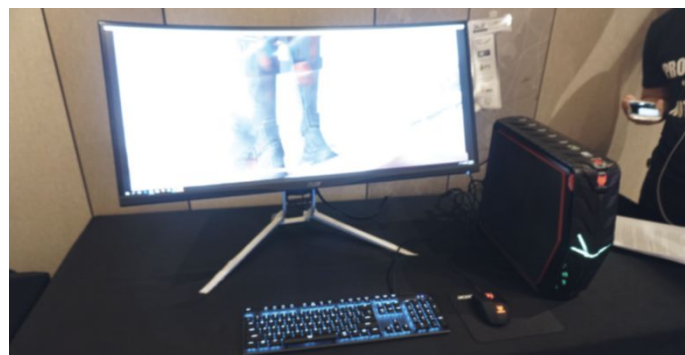
Latest range of monitors includes 43-inch 4K display and curved gaming panels

**A** new range of monitors kicks off Acer's year, as the three new models is set to bring entertainment to a new level in 2017. The three model ranges from a 34-inch curved display, a 32-inch Predator screen and the largest of them all – a 43-inch 4K display.

A premium gaming monitor is something that everyone should have – especially if it is as pretty as the Acer XR342CK. This monitor is a 34-inch curved gaming monitor with WQHD (3440 x 1440 pixels) resolution, which offers a premium visual experience. The 21:9 aspect ratio, 6-axis colour adjustment, and a 178-degree viewing angle – plus AMD's FreeSync technology for smooth, tear-free 75Hz gaming experience makes it a great gaming monitor to own.



**"This unique setting can be tweaked and saved in three custom profiles."**



If you are looking for something a bit more traditional, the Predator XB321HK features GameView technology which offers users an in-game advantage as it is designed to suit a wide array of gamers and games. This unique setting can be tweaked and saved in three custom profiles (modes) which users can easily switch between while gaming. NVIDIA's G-Sync technology will ensure smooth and clear gaming when you need it, and the 4K UHD resolution means no details will be spared.

Lastly, the the Acer ET430K monitor provides wide angle viewing experience, and is especially ideal for corporate presentations, graphic designing or as a home entertainment screen. The 4K UHD resolution has four times the pixel count than a standard 1080p display, so this equals to a more stunning and higher image quality than ever. The 100% sRGB colour gamut coverage also makes this monitor perfect for creative professionals who wants a large monitor for their studio.



Chris Lee, Autodesk Country Manager for Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei

# AUTODESK SWITCHES TO A SUBSCRIPTION MODEL

A simplified customer experience paired with a lower upfront cost is the new deal

**T**he famous software corporation that most engineers, architects and people in the entertainment industry would swear by, Autodesk has now fully transitioned into a subscription-based model, making it much easier for subscribers to enjoy a simplified customer experience. Aside from that, subscribers can also enjoy a lower upfront cost as well as the ability to to pay-as-you-go for Autodesk products and cloud services with a multi-year, annual, quarterly or monthly subscription terms.


Besides the transition, MIMOS Berhad, Malaysia's national research and development agency, along with Autodesk have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote the use of 3D

design and talent across the country. Funded by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI)'s social innovation (MSI) fund, which is under the ministry's Pre-Commercialisation Fund that serves to assist communities in translating knowledge and ideas into products or services towards enhancing the people's quality of life. Dubbed as "3D Smart Maker Labs", it will be managed by PERDA Advanced Technical Institute (PERDA-TECH), which is now officially open in Penang.

Autodesk also talks about future job opportunities in the year 2030 within the design and engineering spectrum. These jobs include an AR/VR Experience Curator who are not only familiar with the gaming and

movie industry but is also capable of incorporating the use of VR/AR into organisations that are new to this territory like architecture firms, manufacturers, vocational programs and schools. Robot Trainers will also be a job of the future as robotics will soon be working alongside human colleagues so having trainers around will be needed to demonstrate complex tasks for robots to learn and perform.

Other jobs include a Sensor System Integrator, which requires someone in that particular field to set up sensor networks in commercial buildings or integrating connected products in home, or even integrating sensor data during product development. The year 2030 will also be looking for

Generative Designers who will be changing how a designers works through algorithmic designs tools – which are becoming more prevalent and advanced – which will allow AI-based generative design software to create a solution set that will refine into the ultimate outcome, rather than coming up with a 3D model from scratch. A 3D Printing Specialist will also be a sought after occupation as the world is already facing a shortage of skilled machinists who can operate 'subtractive' manufacturing machines. Thanks to the boom in 3D printing – especially with the rise of 3D printed buildings will similarly require skilled specialists and add another huge category of employment in the years ahead. 



# YEAR OF THE ROOSTER TO BE A BETTER YEAR FOR MALAYSIA'S DIGITAL ECONOMY

Rising customer confidence to boost more spending on online and mobile platforms

**W**ith the turbulent 2016 passing us by, iPay88 expects 2017 as a better year for the country's Digital Economy. Based on the insights of tracking key 2016 online shopper's trends, the leading provider of online payment service solutions in ASEAN shares some information on what the market can expect from shoppers in the year to come.

The Executive Director of iPay88, Chan Kok Long says, "All the collective signs in our online payment gateway show that even after a turbulent 2016, the coming year of the fiery Rooster would be a better year – attributing to a few key predictive factors."

ipay88 sees the mobile shopping will be on the rise, as statistics shows that the total transactions generated by mobile commerce has

grown significantly by 148.9 per cent from 3.7 million in 2015 to 9.3 million in 2016. They also expect that in 2017, mobile application-based visits to the retail category would also finally surpass mobile web visits, while desktop visits would eventually see a decline in growth. The increasing number of mobile-payment services also contributes to the rising customer confidence on mobile shopping in 2017.

They also see that online banking payments will still be a popular choice of payment as consumers become warier on spending on credit thanks to the uncertain economy. On the other hand, they see the market may experience a potential shift from using physical credit cards to 'virtual' payment alternatives. The 'virtual' system works by having a one-time number for each



transaction rather than a fixed card number – which can lead to better fraud protection.

"Although the size of ASEAN's Internet users and digital buyers are comparable with Japan, it still remains less than one percent of the global eCommerce volume. This only shows that there is a huge

opportunity for ASEAN markets to demonstrate accelerated growth, with the right enablers – which we think that payment gateway solutions will play an important role in. We are confident that there will be continuous growth in eCommerce as a growing 'Services Sub-sector' in Malaysia in 2017," said Chan. **PC**

## FIRST EVER HACKATHON BY AIRASIA THIS COMING MARCH

AIRVOLUTION 2017 aims to spearhead more innovation in ASEAN

**A** new name in the hackathon field will be organizing their first event this coming March. AirAsia will be inviting twenty teams who will go head-to-head to create new applications and tools to address a travel-related challenge set by the company.

"Innovation is the lifeblood of AirAsia. We live and die by ideas, and this hackathon will provide the perfect environment for the best and brightest to explore new ideas. 2017 is the year where AirAsia emerges as a digital airline, and I believe this event can spur the kind of radical, creative

thinking that will ensure AirAsia remains on the leading edge," says AirAsia Group CEO Tony Fernandes.

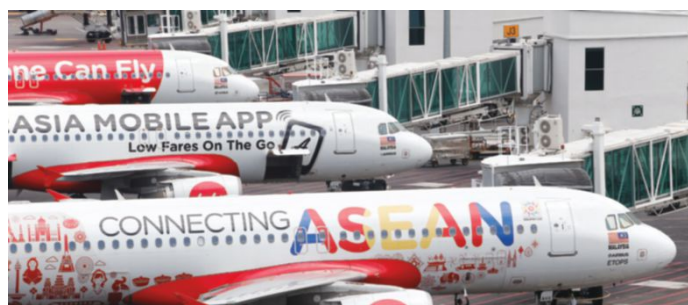
The hackathon is open to participants of any nationality residing in the 26 markets covered by AirAsia's extensive network. It is also sponsored by Microsoft, AirAsia Santan, AirAsia BIG Loyalty Programme and other companies who are looking for new blood and talent in the digital space.

Registration for the Hackathon is open from now until 19th of February, and the solutions submitted during the hackathon

will be reviewed by a panel of technology and aviation experts, who will select the best one based on originality, scalability and execution. Winners will receive a cash prize, AirAsia BIG Points and

free return flights to the AirAsia destination of their choice.

AIRVOLUTION 2017 will be hosted at our newly opened RedQ headquarters in Sepang, Malaysia on 18-19 March 2017. **PC**



# PROTECTING YOU FROM SHOCK

Schneider Electric introduces its ElectroSafety campaign to protect you from electrical shocks

In collaboration with the Energy Commission and The Electrical and Electronics Association of Malaysia (TEEAM), Schneider Electric launches its ElectroSafety campaign to raise awareness on electrical safety at home. This campaign aims to educate the public about the importance of implementing the right electrical protection and safety products to reduce the extent of electric shock injuries.


As part of the campaign, Schneider Electric introduces the RCBO (residual-current breaker with overcurrent protection) that helps to protect and switch the power off immediately when it detects an electric shock situation. The RCBO is a combination of both the MCB (miniature circuit breaker) as well

as the RCCB in a single device that serves as protection against short circuitry, overload and electrocution due to leakage.

"Most of us are unaware that our homes and office buildings are equipped with circuit breaker which only protects the device and we are exposed to danger as electrocution may occur if there's no proper implementation of the right electrical protection or safety products. They are usually caused by damaged insulation, overheating of cables or damp conditions. With the increasing number of electrical accidents in Malaysia, it is timely to launch ElectroSafety campaign by educating the public on the steps that can be taken following simple safety precautions and investing in the

right electrical fittings to reduce the number of electrically-related fires, fatalities, injuries," said Soo Pow Leong, Malaysia Country President of Schneider Electric.

"Modern living demands for more and more electrical appliances in the home. Today, it is very likely that we have at least two water heaters, a

microwave and a washing machine at home. The risk of electrical accidents in the home is much higher than before. By following a few simple safety measures and investing in the right equipment and ensuring proper installation, the risk of electrical damage and injury can be greatly reduced," added Pow Leong. 



Mazliazhar Abdul Latif, Senior Product Marketing Engineer of Schneider Electric Malaysia; Soo Pow Leong, Country President of Schneider Electric Malaysia; Ir Chew Shee Fuee, President of The Electrical and Electronics Association of Malaysia (TEEAM); and Mohd Elmi Bin Anas, Director of Electrical Safety Regulation of Energy Commission

# TAP TO PAY WITH YOUR GALAXY

Samsung Pay is now available in Malaysia, available to Maybank Visa card customers

Samsung Malaysia Electronics (SME) announced their cooperation with Maybank to offer their mobile payment service to Samsung Galaxy customers. Samsung Pay is the only mobile wallet that allows users to pay with their compatible Samsung smartphones at terminals that accept either NFC or MST payments, making shopping and dining more convenient than ever before.

"We are excited to be working with Maybank to accelerate the adoption of mobile payments and bring greater innovation into the marketplace, starting with Maybank's customers. As one of the largest banks with the widest customer base in Malaysia, this partnership will offer the hundreds of thousands of Maybank customers access to one of the most convenient mobile payment systems in the world. Since we introduced the early access programme exclusively for Maybank


Visa cardholders last month, Samsung Pay has been received positively and continues to gain momentum in customer adoption in the country," said Mr. Lee Jui Siang, Vice President of Mobile and IT Business Unit, Samsung Malaysia Electronics.

A secure and easy-to-use mobile payment service, Samsung Pay can be used to make purchases almost anywhere that credit, debit and prepaid cards are accepted. Users only need to swipe-up their eligible payment card on eligible Galaxy smartphones, scan their fingerprint and tap to pay. Samsung Pay uses three levels of security to enable secure payments — fingerprint authentication, tokenization and Samsung KNOX, Samsung's defense-grade mobile security platform. It is also compatible with the majority of existing and new terminals, allowing users to pay almost anywhere you can swipe or tap your card. The technology

used in the system revolves around Near-Field Communications (NFC) as well as Magnetic Secure Payment (MST).

"As a leader in the cards and digital banking segment, Maybank has always been at the forefront in leveraging technology to provide greater convenience and secured payment experience," said Maybank Group Chief Strategy Officer, Michael Foong. "As mobile technology and

banking converge even more, we will work harder to create value for all our stakeholders in the future, in line with our aim to be the digital bank of choice in the region."

Compatible with Samsung Galaxy S7 and S7 edge, S6 edge+, Note5, Galaxy A5 (2017 and 2016) and A7 (2017 and 2016), Samsung Pay can currently be accessed by Maybank Visa cardholders as part of an exclusive early access programme. 



From left: Michael Foong, Group Chief Strategy Officer of Maybank and Lee Jui Siang, Vice President, IT & Mobile Business Unit, Samsung Malaysia Electronics demonstrating how simple and secure transactions can be done with Samsung Pay.



# SHOP STRAIGHT FROM CHINA TO YOUR DOORSTEP

Lazada introduces top Chinese brands to shoppers through Oriental Pavilion

**J**ust in time for Chinese New Year, Lazada Malaysia has embarked to introduce several top brands from China through their purpose-built portal, the Oriental Pavilion, on the well-known shopping website frequented by many Malaysians. The portal is part of Lazada's initiative to introduce Chinese brands from TMall, China's most successful online retail platform which is operated by the Alibaba Group, which is Lazada's major shareholder.

"The synergy between Alibaba and Lazada created greater opportunities for reputable Chinese brands to expand into the South-East Asia market, particularly Malaysia. The launch of the Oriental Pavilion brings exciting prospects for Lazada Malaysia as we continue to enhance customer experience, and bring the best of online shopping through unbeatable



assortment, great value and convenience as we kick-start 2017," said Hans-Peter Ressel, CEO of Lazada.

The launch of the portal was in conjunction with Lazada's Chinese New Year campaign that carries the theme "Deals Louder Than Rooster" which ran between 17th to 19th February 2017. However, the Pavilion is set to be online until

the end of the month of February, as Lazada continues to deliver quality and branded products to customers, especially tailored for them from Chinese brands.

The four brands that was featured in the Oriental Pavilion – QCY, Puppyoo, Biando and Semir has seen brisk sales since their introduction into the Lazada

storefront, and expect their sales to be on the rise throughout 2017. When asked later why Malaysia is the first country to receive the pavilion, Ressel said that thanks to the mix of sophisticated and savvy consumer, plus the advance payment schemes available to Malaysians, vendors gets a better response from the consumer overall. **PC**

## NEW CHAPTER FORMED BY PIKOM TO SUPPORT RAPID GROWTH OF E-COMMERCE

Chapter also will leverage ASOCIO regional network to enhance e-commerce penetration in the region

**T**o drive the vision of a thriving e-commerce economy in Malaysia, PIKOM has announced the formation of a new e-commerce chapter to create a vibrant ecosystem in Malaysia that is globally competitive. The announcement is a timely initiative as the e-commerce market in Malaysia is at the cusp of great growth in the upcoming year, said PIKOM chairman Chin Chee Seong.

Named E-Commerce Malaysia, the new chapter will be the voice of the e-commerce industry in Malaysia, and includes objectives which aims local e-commerce players through regional and global initiatives. The chapter will also be the point of

contacts between members and the government on e-commerce-related matters and at the same time, play a role in increasing the awareness on the ease of online shopping.

"With the advent of ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015 and the move towards a single market, it is ripe to take advantage of this huge market of over 630 million consumers," said Chin.

At the same time, PIKOM also shared the appointment of David Wong Nan Fay, as the new ASOCIO chairman effective January 2017. The Asian-Oceanian Computing Industry Organization (ASOCIO) is a grouping of ICT industry associations representing economies in the Asia

and Oceania region established in 1984, with the objective to promote, encourage and foster relationships and trade between its members, and to develop the computing industry in the region.

"ASOCIO will work closely together with the industries and governments of the member countries to address issues and challenges faced by the market players," said Wong. **PC**



# PROTON REACHING NEW ALTITUDES

YES 4G and Proton come together once more

**S**ince the year 2011 where Proton and YTL Communications pioneered the introduction of in-car connectivity in Malaysia by offering always-on connectivity to Proton cars via YES 4G Huddle XS mobile hotspot device, both companies have since revolutionised the means on in-car connectivity with the collaboration seeing the 4G mobile hotspot being upgraded to the YES Altitude 4G LTE smartphone.

This collaboration also witnesses the introduction of an enhanced package known as the "PROTON YES Altitude Plan". This plan will provide customers with data usage of up to 16GB of 4G LTE per month for a period of 12 months. The package will be exclusively available to Proton valued customers and for all Proton cars of

Executive variants and above, subject to terms and conditions, unlike the previous offerings. "We see this as enhancing our customer experience with PROTON YES Altitude Plan which allows connectivity for all passengers through the mobile hotspot function with high-speed Internet connection," said YBhg Dato' Ahmad Fuaad Kenali, Chief Executive Officer of Proton.

"The offer is valid while stocks last and we are confident that this special offer of great connection through YES network which is a global frontrunner of 4G Internet, with two robust mobile networks (4G LTE with VoLTE and 4G Broadband) and has a coverage of 85% of the population nationwide, urban and rural landscape, will benefit customers," added Dato' Fuaad.

"The Company believes that technology and car development goes hand in hand. With the current trend of using a mobile device at our fingertips for conveniences, customers can now also download the MyProton application with the YES Altitude 4G LTE smartphone to test drive cars, book service appointments and get details on Proton cars and its offerings. The application is available for both iOS and the Android platform. It is definitely value adding to our customers," mentioned Dato' Fuaad.

"Mobile Internet is steering the future of driving, and connectivity in cars is becoming a highly-desired feature for a more convenient, enjoyable driving experience. More and more drivers today are relying on the Internet for navigation, communications, entertainment

and even ride-sharing. As the first nationwide all-4G service provider, we aim to bring a high performance connected lifestyle to Malaysians, and we are pleased to do so through the newly enhanced PROTON YES Altitude Plan exclusively for new Proton customers," said Wing K. Lee, Chief Executive Officer of YTL Communications Sdn. Bhd.

"We applaud the vision of PROTON as the industry leader to provide connected mobile lifestyle for its customers and we are very pleased to be part of this collaboration. As Malaysia transforms towards a digital economy, we believe this enhanced PROTON Yes Altitude Plan will further benefit Proton customers and empower them to thrive in the new age of connected world." Wing K Lee added. 



YBhg Dato' Ahmad Fuaad Kenali, CEO, Proton Holdings Berhad; YBhg Dato' Yeoh Soo Keng, Executive Director, YTL Communications; Rohime Shafie, CEO, Proton Edar; YBhg Dato' Radzaif Mohamed, Deputy CEO, Proton Holdings Berhad; Wing K Lee, CEO, YTL Communications; Jacob Yeoh, Deputy CEO, YTL Communications.



# DIGI CHALLENGE FOR CHANGE AWARDS WINNER WITH RM 70,000 FOR SIGN-LANGUAGE LEARNING APP

Three top teams have opportunity to further receive RM150,00 grant from Agensi Inovasi Malaysia

**E**DDY, a mobile app gamifying the learning of sign-language for those who have speech and learning impairment, has won the grand prize of Digi's seventh edition Digi Challenge for Change (DigiCFC7) programme. The team walked away with RM 70,000 in cash to help further develop the app. Two other teams also walked away with prizes totalling up to RM 60,000 to also help them further develop their app into a mass-market ready app.

According to Praveen Rajan, Digi's Chief Digital Officer, "The idea of gamifying learning of sign language with localised content helps make learning fun while addressing a need

in the community. Their ability to enable meaningful engagements with a scalable solution underscores our vision to leverage on digital connectivity for good."

While they have won the cash prizes from Digi, the three teams are also in the running to receive further grants from the Agensi Inovasi Malaysia over the next six months. The three finalists will be assessed for the positive impacts of their proposed solution towards their intended beneficiaries. Additionally, the teams will also need to demonstrate their ability to execute and sustain their mobile solution in the long run.

Launched in June 2016, DigiCFC7 received more than 250 ideas from the



public, out of which three winning ideas became the basis of 38 mobile solutions registered in the app development phase. DigiCFC is one of the flagship programmes for Digi Empower Societies, a commitment to

enable the internet for all communities to inspire a better Malaysia. DigiCFC7 is supported by Agensi Inovasi Malaysia (AIM), FB Start, Google Malaysia, MaGIC, MDEC, Microsoft Malaysia and UNICEF. **PC**

# 'BEAST MODE' THE PLAYLIST OF CHOICE FOR MALAYSIANS ON SPOTIFY

Top workout artists includes Drake, Rihanna, Calvin Harris and Sia

**F**itness usually goes hand in hand with great workout music, and Spotify has shared Malaysia's favourite tunes and artists they workout to, while listening to the 'Beast Mode' playlist.

Spotify data reveals that globally the 'Dance Workout' takes the top spot for workout playlist. Fitness fanatics turn to hip hop, with artists Drake, Eminem, Kanye West and Rihanna topping the list for artists most included on workout playlists.

Their most popular workout songs include "Till I Collapse" (Eminem), "Stronger" (Kanye), "Jumpman" (Drake) and "Work" (Rihanna).

In Malaysia, the most popular workout songs include "This Is What You Came For" (Calvin Harris), "Lush Life" (Zara Larsson) and "Light It Up (feat Nyla & Fuse ODG) – Remix" (Major Lazer).

"Music can be a great motivator for working out, so long as it's the right music," says Spotify's Trends Expert Shanon Cook. "Year after

year, our listeners have made Eminem's 'Till I Collapse' the most popular track to get sweaty to, so it's pretty clear a message of endurance resonates with them."

With over 25 million tracks to choose from, Spotify users can create an almost unlimited number of playlist combinations according to their mood, or even their fitness goals. **PC**



# BREAKING BAD PASSWORD HABITS

Kaspersky says online users need to protect themselves with better passwords

Internet users across the globe are yet to master how to use passwords effectively to protect themselves online. Research from Kaspersky Lab has shown that people are putting their online safety at risk by making bad password decisions and simple password mistakes that may have far-reaching consequences.

"Considering the amount of private and sensitive information that we store online today, people should be taking better care to protect themselves with effective password protection. This seems obvious, but many might not realise that they are falling into the trap of making simple password management

mistakes. These mistakes, in turn, are effectively like leaving the front door open to emails, bank accounts, personal files and more", says Andrei Mochola, Head of Consumer Business at Kaspersky Lab.


Among the findings were that almost one in five people have faced an account hacking attempt. In spite of the high number only 30% of internet users create different passwords for different services – which is the recommended way to go. Even more worryingly, 10% use the same password for all their online accounts – making them a ripe target to be exploited.

A weak password is also something of a concern – just a

bit under half of users is a mix of upper and lowercase letters, and two-thirds mixes up with letters and numbers. A worrying trend is that users are mistreating their passwords by sharing them with other people. Family members, friends and even close acquaintances – passwords should not be shared with anybody.

Kaspersky offers a secure password application called the Kaspersky Password manager, which securely stores all passwords, addresses and credit card details, and synchronises them across all devices so that users only need to remember one master password. Users no longer need

to practise bad password habits, thanks to the password manager.

Mochola continued, "The Internet has been around for a while now but people are still making simple mistakes when it comes to online passwords. The best passwords cannot be found in the dictionary. They are long, with upper and lowercase letters, numbers and punctuation marks. However, with people having so many online accounts today, it's not easy to remember a secure password for everything. Using a password management solution can help people remember and generate strong passwords to minimise the risk of account hacking online." 







# MALAYSIA IT SPENDING TO REACH RM 70.2 BILLION IN 2017

Gartner forecasts spending will increase globally by 2.7 percent

**C**ompanies in Malaysia are forecasted to spend up to RM 70.2 billion in the upcoming 12 months, according to research data supplied by Gartner. Worldwide, we are expected to see up to USD 3.5 trillion (about RM 15.6 trillion) – which is an increase of 2.7 percent over 2016, but falls short of the projected three percent.

"2017 was poised to be a rebound year in IT spending. Some major trends have converged, including cloud, blockchain, digital business

and artificial intelligence. Normally, this would have pushed IT spending much higher than 2.7 percent growth," said John-David Lovelock, research vice president at Gartner. "However, some of the political uncertainty in global markets has fostered a wait-and-see approach causing many enterprises to forestall IT investments."

The worldwide IT services market is forecast to grow 4.2 percent in 2017. Buyer investments in digital business, intelligent automation, and

services optimisation and innovation continue to drive growth in the market, but buyer caution, fuelled by broad economic challenges, remains a counter-balance to faster growth.

"The range of spending growth from the high to low is much larger in 2017 than in past years. Normally, the economic environment causes

some level of division, however, in 2017 this is compounded by the increased levels of uncertainty," said Mr. Lovelock. "The result of that uncertainty is a division between individuals and corporations that will spend more — due to opportunities arising — and those that will retract or pause IT spending." **PC**

# Gartner®



CATCH THESE BLOCKBUSTER MOVIES NOW AT

## mmCINEPLEXES



Book your tickets @

**mmcineplexes.com**

Level 2, eCurve, PJ | Level 5, City Square, JB



**2** 016 has been a challenging year for politics, public sanity and celebrity longevity, but at the same time for individuals and companies, a testing time in terms of online security. Pitted against increasingly sophisticated and targeted cybercriminals, it's not been easy going, as these notable security incidents from the past 12 months reveal.

## DYN DDOS ATTACK

In October, cybercriminals launched major DDoS attacks, disrupting a host of websites, including the likes of Twitter, Netflix, PayPal, Pinterest and the PlayStation Network, amongst many others.

The attack was staggering for its size, at one time measuring close to 1 Tbps. The group behind the attack did this by compromising thousands of endpoint IoT devices (initially thought to be 100,000 – later downscaled to nearer 20,000 by security researchers), transforming them in a botnet and essentially flooding traffic to DNS hosting provider Dyn (recently acquired by Oracle).

Of course, this attack had a short-term effect on some of the world's most popular sites but that's not what makes it significant, nor too the attack method (DDoS remains in the toolkit of every cybercriminal).

No, the attack was staggering for its size, measuring close to 1 Tbps at one time, which was not dissimilar to the DDoS attack which targeted Brian Krebs' website one month earlier (more on this later). And with Gartner predicting that there will be 20.8 billion 'connected' things talking to each other by 2020, you can be sure that this kind of DDoS attack is just the start.

## TESCO BANK CUSTOMERS LOSE REAL MONEY

Approximately 40,000 Tesco Bank accounts were compromised in a cyberattack in early November, but this in itself was not hugely significant – after all we have seen bigger data breaches (think Target in 2013).

Instead, it was the tale of thousands of customers losing physical money from their accounts – a rarity in a cybercrime age where most damage is naked to the human eye.

The bank, which has more than seven million customers, reported that roughly 9,000 customers had as much as £600 (approximately \$763) siphoned from their accounts, and pledged to refund those losses within 24 working hours.

The precise nature of the attack was unclear, with some suggesting the compromise of a third-party retailer and others pointing to cybercriminal activity. One customer said that cash had been withdrawn from his account in four separate transactions, with all of these coming from Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.

Needless to say the attack has far-reaching consequences not only for the customer but for Tesco too, with the UK's Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) preparing to issue a potentially huge fine.

## DDOS AUTOMATING SYSTEMS IN FINLAND

The Dyn DNS attack rightfully grabbed the headlines for IoT security (or lack of it) in October, but one month later there was another

security incident that had arguably far bigger consequences.

In an attack that once again illustrates the danger of connected IoT devices, cybercriminals in Finland were able to halt the heating in two buildings in the city of Lappeenranta.

Local reports suggest that cybercriminals were not only able to compromise the building automation system used across the two buildings by flooding it with bogus traffic – forcing devices to restart every few minutes – but also denying administrators remote access to the device.

This meant that technicians had to physically visit the buildings and remove the affected hardware from the internet until the malicious traffic could be filtered out.

IT management company Valtia said that there is strong evidence that vulnerable and internet exposed devices manufactured by the local tech manufacturer Fidelix were to blame for the incident.

## US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EMPLOYEES LOSE OUT

In February, cybercriminals reportedly angry about US ties with Israel breached the US Department of Justice's database.

The attack highlighted how big government agencies can suffer from the same issues as enterprises CNN reported the attackers released data on 10,000 Department of Homeland Security employees one day, and then released data on 20,000 FBI employees the next day. Information stolen and released included names, titles,



phone numbers, and email addresses, although the Department of Justice said it did not believe other sensitive information, such as social security numbers, were obtained.

The method of attack remains a mystery, but what is significant about it is that it revealed that not only can cybercriminals compromise a big government agency, but also drew attention to the fact that they suffer from the very same issues as enterprises.

After all, the cybercriminals — apparently tweeting from the account @DotGovs — claimed it took one week for the Department of Justice to realize that their systems had been compromised.

## ADULTFRIENDFINDER.COM GETS ATTACKED ONCE MORE

X-rated adult website AdultFriendFinder has now been hit by cybercriminals in consecutive years, with this year's attack in November involving far more people than before.

This time, the amount of accounts compromised was immense — approximately 412 million users had personal information stolen and published in criminal marketplaces on the dark web.

The breached data included email addresses, passwords, VIP member status, browser info, last IP address to log in, and purchases. LeakedSource was responsible for finding and reporting the breach to the public's attention.

What can we learn from this? Organizations will continue to ignore security if they see breaches as good PR, and online privacy can never be guaranteed — wherever you go on the web.

## NO 'PEACE OF MIND' FOR LINKEDIN, TUMBLR AND MYSPACE

Back in June, a cybercriminal going by the name of 'Peace' came to prominence after data on millions of LinkedIn, Tumblr and Myspace users was made available online. All in, there were more than half a billion passwords posted.

Indeed, Peace's dark web store has plenty of merchandise. According to Wired, his store includes 167 million user accounts from LinkedIn, 360 million from MySpace, 68 million from Tumblr, 100 million from the Russian social media site VK.com, and most recently another 71 million from Twitter, adding up to more than 800 million accounts and growing.

These collections of data thefts resulted in the social media takeovers of Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, popstars Katy Perry and Drake, and Twitter cofounder Biz Stone to name a few.

But quite how he — if he indeed did it alone — managed to clock up such a data pool remains a mystery. There's some suggestion that this is old

data dating back to 2012 and that the severity of these attacks has been magnified through people reusing passwords.

## KREBS SITE HIT WITH DDOS

Security journalist and researcher Brian Krebs is a respected name in the industry, outing cybercrime groups and revealing data breaches long before the affected companies themselves even knew of them.

But such efforts can put you at the hands of the wrong people, as Krebs found out in September when his website, arguably far more secure than most, was hit by a (then) record DDoS attack measuring in at between 620 and 655 Gbps.

The attack, though unsuccessful thanks to the efforts of the DNS provider Akamai, was stunning because the previous record-high DDoS attack was 363 Gbps. Not only that but, whilst the smaller attack was reliant on a technique to essentially 'amplify' a smaller attack into a bigger one, the Krebs' attack turned out to simply be launched by a huge botnet of compromised devices.

What did we learn from this? Well, DDoS attacks are growing at a rapid rate in terms of size, and they are no longer just an entry-level attack to launch another attack, or to further infiltrate the network.

## YAHOO SUFFERS FROM MASSIVE DATA BREACH #1

In September, search engine, email provider and one-time Google rival Yahoo was hit by what was later described as the 'biggest data breach in history'.

The company was forced to admit that up to 500 million customers may have had data stolen, including sensitive details such as names, email addresses, phone numbers and hashed passwords. While the size of attack was significant, it was notable too that fingers were being pointed at a state-sponsored actor.

This was not Yahoo's first embarrassment as far as cybersecurity is concerned — it was breached in 2014 too — but what is particularly intriguing is that Yahoo may have known about the attack since August, two months prior to the breach being reported.

## YAHOO SUFFERS FROM MASSIVE DATA BREACH #2

We often write ahead in the industry, meaning that this security incident didn't even make the

first draft of this feature. But, there you go — you can never rest on your laurels when it comes to cybercrime.

This unprecedented data breach made the front pages of websites all over the world on December 14th and 15th. Yahoo announced that this time around, up to one billion user accounts were thought to have been compromised — and, more devastatingly, it was revealed that this was a different incident to that related to 2014's data breach.

According to Bob Lord, chief information security officer at Yahoo, it is believed that this data breach goes back as far as August 2013. While names, email addresses, phone numbers and hashed passwords were accessed, no bank account and payment data was compromised (it's not stored on its system).

ESET's Mark James commented: "So what can you do about the breach? NOTHING! Sorry, but it's true, there is nothing you can do about that particular data breach but you can try and limit any further damage as a result of your data going missing."

Accordingly, he offers some really useful and insightful security advice, so please do read his article. What does this mean for the security industry? It's too early to say, but what is certain is that this marks a tipping point.

## PHILIPPINE ELECTION VOTERS TARGETED BY ANONYMOUS

It may not have made front pages in the western hemisphere, but in April this was one of the most poignant and devastating cyberattacks of 2016.

A breach of the database for the Philippine Commission on Elections (COMELEC) resulted in the loss of personal information on every single voter in the Philippines — approximately 55 million people. Allegedly breached by Anonymous Philippines, the information was made public online by Lulzsec Pilipinas.

Anonymous' actions were allegedly an effort to push COMELEC to turn on security features in the vote counting machines before the national elections on May 9th. This comes at an interesting time, and suggests politics could well be more influenced by outside forces than we like to admit.



ENJOY SAFER  
TECHNOLOGY™

# A SECURITY ASSET

Internet security trends with ESET

**P**rotecting yourself while being online has become a need, especially when you never know when danger lurks. Malicious software and even people can even conceal themselves to make it look like you're safe...in actuality, it just makes you let your guard down.

As internet threats get more and more diverse, users need more complex internet security suites with features based on individual preferences. PC.com speaks to **Roman Kovac, Head of Security Research Lab of ESET HQ Slovakia** to find out what the company is about and some of the many threats that lurks online.

**PC.com: Tell us about your role in ESET.**

**Roman Kovac:** I'm responsible for the Security Research Lab, or shortly, Virus Lab. The department has several roles including malware analysts, researchers, and detection engineers. Our method of detecting new threats can be done through technology, which involves proactive detection. We can detect threats through the samples we have even before it happens, though not all the time. In some cases, you need to create different layers of protection to be able to catch them.

**PC.com: What should consumers be concerned about when it comes to Internet security?**

**Kovac:** I would say one of them would be ransomware. As the name suggest, there will be some sort of ransom involved, which we don't recommend "paying". Some people unfortunately do. The best

way is to have a proper backup system in place – even if you're infected with ransomware, you'll have no issue since you can just use the backup files. However, most consumers don't have a system in place; I don't think the vast majority are aware of the need. Another concern would be banking Trojans.

**PC.com: How is this different from those banking email scams and why is it happening?**

**Kovac:** This isn't something new but it's continuously evolving and coming back all the time. Recently, there had been several cases in Europe where a malware called Remote Access Trojan (RAT) was stealing Internet banking credentials. It was targeting users of European online banking.

This is still happening because users are not careful about the links they click and freely provide their information to pages that look legitimate without checking the authenticity. It's definitely a challenge for users to distinguish some of them as some of them look like the real deal, right down to the 'Secure' certification on the browser. Unless you click on the 'Secure' lock icon and check the details of the certificate, you'll be fooled into thinking that it is really the bank's online banking login page.


**PC.com: How about things like adware? Should consumers be concerned about this as well?**

**Kovac:** Adware is something is quite prevalent but it isn't as dangerous as ransomware or banking Trojans. It can definitely affect the users experience and the performance of your computer.

**"Our method of detecting new threats can be done through technology, which involves proactive detection."**

**PC.com: How can consumers protect themselves from these threats?**

**Kovac:** First and foremost, you should do regular updates on the operating system and the applications you use due to the various evolving exploits. This is especially so in an office setting, where your browser should also be regularly updated.

Secondly, it's always recommended to have a good security solution in place like an anti-virus. You don't need an overly complicated security solution in place to protect yourself. For basic needs, we have the ESET Internet Security. If you're looking for a suite, the new version 10 of our ESET Smart Security Premium is built upon the award-winning NOD32 technology that offers the optimal mix of detection, speed and usability. 







# GIZMOS

## VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL



## GIFTS FROM THE HEART

### YOUR VALENTINE'S DAY GIFT GUIDE

Stuck in a rut of what to give for Valentine's Day? Chocolates and jewellery to cliché? Well, here's our Top 10 gadgets and gizmos for the occasion...well, any occasion really.





GIZMOS

# Moto M

[www.lenovo.com.my](http://www.lenovo.com.my) | RM1,199



## Ultimate Combination of Power and Style

When it comes to choosing style or performance in a smartphone, you don't have to compromise anymore. Introducing the magnificent new Moto M, a device marvellously encased in fine metal, while being a powerful smartphone that reflects one's personality, attitude, speed and makes them look good, no matter what they're doing. This majestic smartphone that's all metal and mettle, is available in stores now, retailing at RM1,199.



# Honor 6X

[www.vmall.my](http://www.vmall.my) | TBA



## Ultimate Combination of Power and Style

Built for the cost-conscious yet uncompromising Internet-minded millennial, the Honor 6X is the perfect technological budget beast. Embodying the "double or nothing" motto that millennials live and breathe, the Honor 6X features a premium dual-lens rear camera, extended battery life and rock-solid performance. Designed to offer the young and bold consumers around the globe a superb internet experience, the Honor 6X is a powerful and versatile all-rounder packing top-of-the-shelf features.





# OPPO R9s

[www.oppo.com.my](http://www.oppo.com.my) | RM1,798

## Clear is Here

Last year, the OPPO F1s rose to success, thanks to its superb selfie-snapping ability. The new R9s carries forward that brilliant suite of front camera features and rounds them off with a rear photography experience that elevates its predecessor's. With its head-turning design, powerful performance and superb all-around photography experience, the R9s is set to let users capture their lives in style at a cool RM1,798 price point.



# Withings Steel HR

[www.withings.com](http://www.withings.com) | TBA

## Be Healthy and Stylish

Withings Steel HR, a connected health watch with fully-featured activity tracking, heart rate monitoring and smartphone notifications, continues to spearhead the unique category of beautifully designed trackers within fashionable timepieces.

It marries classic French design with advanced heart rate monitoring and a 25-day battery life. Steel HR can automatically measure continuous heart rate during workouts, average heart rate during the day at the click of a button, and night heart rate while sleeping, whilst also offering a dynamic digital screen that displays your overall health data and smartphone notifications.



# Kanex GoPlay Sidekick

[www.kanex.com](http://www.kanex.com) | RM1,199



## Gaming Anywhere

Kanex unveils its GoPlay Series of portable wireless game controllers for iOS at CES 2017. The GoPlay SideKick, the first in the series, is a pocket-sized wireless game controller for iPhone, iPad and Apple TV. Certified by Apple, this portable controller works with almost any controller-supported game on the App Store. The rechargeable battery provides 20 hours of gameplay and uses Bluetooth 4.0 to connect to your device. The patent pending, innovative clamshell case protects your controller and serves as a stand to prop up your device and experience console-like gameplay wherever you go.



# Genius MT-20 Speakers

[www.geniusnet.com](http://www.geniusnet.com) | TBA



## Theatre Audio On-The-Go

Genius reveals its Mobile Theater MT-20 speakers, which offer superb theater-like surround sound audio effect and with finest design and texture. With specially tuned high-quality 2.1 channel speakers, the MT-20 delivers 360-degree sounds with deep immersive bass for unrivalled movie theater experience and enjoyment, no matter where you are! With a full charge to MT-20, you can continuously watch more than 10 hours of movies (approximately 5 to 6 movies) without the need to recharge.







# Sony SRS-XB10 Wireless Speaker

[www.sony.com.my](http://www.sony.com.my) | RM1,798

## All About the Bass

For those really on the go, the Sony SRS-XB10 offers EXTRA BASS sound, incredible loudness and punchy bass in a tiny body. Take advantage of its super-compact size and portability and enjoy the music anywhere. Thanks to a long battery life of approximately 16 hours, it's possible to keep the party going all night long and well into the next day - in rain or shine.



# ASUS ZenPad 3S 10 LTE

[www.asus.com/my](http://www.asus.com/my) | TBA

## Premium Entertainment

Deemed to be the ultimate Android-powered tablet for cinematic entertainment on the go, the elegantly simple ASUS ZenPad 3S 10 LTE is crafted with a slim, compact 5.8mm-thin aluminum chassis and features a stunning 9.7-inch QXGA (2048 by 1536) 2K resolution touchscreen. ZenPad 3S 10 LTE offers a comprehensive set of entertainment-focused features, including ASUS Tru2Life video-enhancement technology and an incredibly loud, clear and immersive audio system with virtual 7.1-channel surround-sound support.



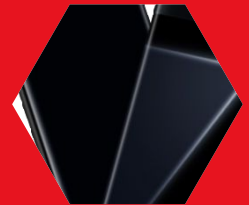
# Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge

[www.samsung.com.my](http://www.samsung.com.my) | TBA



## Black Beauty

Exuding a mysterious yet enthralling vibe, the glossy new colourway of Black Pearl for Galaxy S7 edge subtly radiates quality and luxury in the palm of your hand. The latest colour variant of the highly popular Galaxy S7 edge, the Black Pearl colour also comes with 128GB internal memory, in comparison with the standard 32GB variant currently in the market. While those were largely inspired by calming, natural hues, Black Pearl is designed to be modern and striking, perfect for those who love exploring the latest trends. The sleek black finish blankets the entire device – edges and all – and adds depth to its glass design.



# Kolibree Ara

[www.kolibree.com/en](http://www.kolibree.com/en) | TBA



## Show Me That Smile

The Kolibree Ara is the first toothbrush with embedded AI (artificial intelligence), which features patented deep learning algorithms embedded directly inside the toothbrush on a low-power processor. Raw data from the sensors runs through the processor, enabling the system to learn your habits and refine accuracy the more it's used. Ara even knows precisely where in your mouth you are brushing, even when not connected to the app on a mobile device.







# CES 2017: Innovations Galore

The world-renowned consumer electronics tradeshow and global platform for innovative launches celebrates 50th anniversary Drones have steadily become a force to be reckoned with over the past few years and we're here to tell you why.

By Teh Wi-Liam

**C**elebrating the show's 50th anniversary, CES 2017 opened early January 2017 with a record-breaking exhibit floor spanning more than 2.6 million net square feet. Boasting of more than 3,800 companies launching innovative products at the event, including an unprecedented 600 start-ups in Eureka Park, the showcase was essentially a massive congregation of all things consumer technology.

**“W**hat an incredible way to celebrate the 50th anniversary of

CES – with the largest show floor in our history showcasing the next generation of innovation that will revolutionise our world,” says Gary Shapiro, president and CEO, CTA.

“The products and services unveiled at CES 2017 will touch nearly every single global industry. From the latest in virtual reality, smart home, self-driving vehicles, robotics, wearables, health and fitness tech and more, CES 2017 is unveiling the future of the connected experience and what it means for consumers around the world.”

Prior to the actual show days, more than 2,000 members of the press got a sneak peak of the innovation to be launched. The quintessential CES Unveiled – an annual exclusive for media affair – featured the latest in virtual reality, companion sensing robots, wireless headphones, sleep trackers, smart lighting, wearables and much more.

In addition to CES Unveiled, CES 2017 introduced two full Media Days, where a wide array of companies – both large and small – took the opportunity to introduce its latest products to the global market. The range of launches set the stage for the week filled with innovation

as 28 companies hosted pre-show news conferences and major product announcements. Here are just some of our picks:

### **Samsung**

Samsung Electronics unveiled its vision for 2017 and how it is reaching higher with a wide range of innovations to provide consumers with their best experience yet at the CES 2017. Key product announcements included the stunning new QLED TV line-up, FlexWash + FlexDry laundry system, Samsung's first-ever gaming laptop – the Samsung Notebook Odyssey, and updates to the Gear S3 smartwatch.

Additionally, the consumer tech giant bagged more than 120 awards at CES 2017 in the home entertainment, home appliance and mobile categories. Among Samsung's notable wins are 34 CES 2017 Innovation Awards, including its new QLED TV line-up; a new Lifestyle TV designed to appear just like a picture would appear on a wall, the Samsung FlexWash + FlexDry, as well as its Chromebook Plus and Pro.

### **Honor**

Following its launch in the China market end of last year, the honor 6X made its global debut at CES 2017. George Zhao, President of honor, shared the growth of honor in the

United States since its inception into the market last year – with the honor 5X.

The honor 6X features a Bézier curved-inspired design that is reminiscent of the Earth's horizon. Its 5.5-inch FHD display with 2.5D curved glass protection is paired with a Huawei Kirin 655 Octa-core processor and Mali-T830 MP2 GPU. The 6X is currently running on Android 6.0 Marshmallow with its proprietary EMUI 4.1, with upgrades to Android 5.0 Nougat and EMUI 5.0 to be rolled out within 2017Q1/2. The model comes in two variants: 3GB RAM with 32GB storage or 4GB RAM with 64GB storage.

While all the details of the model had been out for some time now, availability and/or pricing outside of China wasn't made available until its product launch event in Las Vegas today. Malaysia is included in the list of countries where the honor 6X will be made available sometime this month.

Only the international pricing has been made available: US\$249.99 and US\$299.99 (RM1,125 and RM1,350) for the 3GB and 4GB variants respectively. Given the price difference between the US market and China market (999 Chinese Yuan and 1,599 Chinese Yuan / RM647 and RM1,035 respectively), we anticipate it be fall somewhere in the middle. Perhaps

**LG OLED TV**



CTA President and CEO Gary Shapiro signs commemorative book celebrating the 50th anniversary of CES





Exhibitor Scott presents its products at the first ever CES (1967) held in New York City, United States.



Qualcomm demonstrates new product to media during its CES News Conference.

similarly priced as the honor 5X, between RM800 to RM900.

Also available on display was the honor Magic, a new generation smart device that integrates Tobii Eye Tracking features. The device is only currently available in China with no indications of release into other markets.

### Faraday Future

Autonomous cars are gaining traction, and Faraday Future plans to bank on this upward trend. The company unveiled the FF 91, its first production vehicle, building upon its Variable Platform Architecture (VPA). The FF 91 is essentially a fully-electric, fully-connected, self-driving, keyless vehicle experience with a "driverless valet" function that allows the car to park itself from your smartphone.

It represents a bold new breed of electric mobility that combines supercar performance, precise handling, the comfort of an ultra-luxury passenger vehicle, and a unique collection of intelligent internet features.

Faraday Future's proprietary VPA is a flexible powertrain system featuring a monocoque vehicle structure in which the chassis and body are a single form – providing measurable improvements in overall vehicle rigidity, safety and handling.

An available all-wheel drive system offers greater traction, control and precise power distribution. The VPA also houses class-leading battery technology, multiple motor and battery configurations, as well as the company's first patent: the FF Echelon Inverter.

Through its strategic partnership with LeEco, a global Internet company that seamlessly blends devices, content, applications and distribution into a first-of-its kind ecosystem, FF 91 offers the ultimate in-car connectivity. FF EcoSystem integrates users' digital lives into FF 91, giving access to the apps and content, while learning user's preferences over time to create a smarter, more personalised experience.

### LG

LG Electronics (LG) took the stage at CES 2017 as it unveiled the newest top-of-the-line LG SIGNATURE OLED TV W - the pinnacle of the brand's new line-up of flat-panel TVs. Deemed as "The Wallpaper TV", the series features Dolby Vision and Dolby Atmos sound, with a total of 10 different models. Its 77-inch model boasts of being ultra-thin, in addition

to winning the 2017 CES Best of Innovation Award.

The brand also highlighted an expanded line-up of audio products to appeal to a wide range of consumers from avid audiophiles to casual listeners who prioritise portability and versatility. LG's newest audio devices, namely the LG SJ9 sound bar and LG LOUDR CJ98, implement emerging technologies to maximize synergy with LG's premium TVs and to broaden the possibilities of where consumers can take their favourite music.

### ZTE

Using the ever-popular crowdsourcing platform Kickstarter, ZTE introduced Project CSX (Crowd Source X), which entails the ZTE Hawkeye – the world's first crowdsourced phone. The idea, design and name of the phone came directly from consumers, who are engaged in the different phases of the project, from selecting materials, colours and help contribute software for the device. Essentially, ZTE has given the reigns to consumers of what to build for 2017.

Following a round of voting by consumers representing 176 countries globally, the consensus was to develop a hands-free experience for a mobile device. The key features, submitted by a team of four creative designers who won the Project CSX competition, allow an experience that does not require the use of hands to navigate through common smartphone applications:

- Scrolling based on Eye-Tracking  
By recognising movement of the eyes, pages can scroll automatically up-down or left-right based on movement. Voice commands can be used to navigate between pages.
- Stick to Walls and Surfaces with Self-Adhesive Case

With an optional case, the phone can be mounted to a vertical surface, freeing up the need to hold the phone.

These unique features give consumers the opportunity to continue use of their phone and applications in times when one or both hands are otherwise occupied.

### Casio

Casio Computer Co., Ltd. announced the second addition to its Smart Outdoor Watch category, now featuring water resistance and tough performance for outdoor activities. The new WSD-F20 runs on Android Wear 2.0 and is equipped with low-power GPS with a new colour map functionality that can be used offline.







Its predecessor, the WSD-F10, was well-received as a truly practical wrist device that delivers the unique advantages of a wearable device for the outdoors. Further improving on its success, the all-new WSD-F20 now supports a wide range of outdoor and water activities and can be used in areas without cellular service, freeing up users to fully enjoy their adventures.

In terms of design, button guards, a protective bezel, and side buttons of varying sizes enhance operability and toughness, making the WSD-F20 an even more useful piece of outdoor gear. The WSD-F20 is positioned in the PRO TREK Smart series, the latest addition to the PRO TREK brand of outdoor watches by Casio that are designed for total appeal to outdoor enthusiasts.

The WSD-F20 will be available in the U.S. market on 21 April 2017, retailing for US\$500. Its global release will possibly happen sometime in May this year. No indications if Malaysia will be in the list.

### **Royole**

The Royole Moon, a 3D virtual mobile theatre combining 1080p AMOLED displays at over 3000ppi resolution that simulate a giant 800-inch curved screen, with stereoscopic 3D and noise-cancelling headphones for a completely immersive experience.

### **Panasonic**

The Panasonic Lumix GH5 mirrorless camera was announced there, that excels at shooting video and has 4K and 6K capabilities.

### **Qualcomm**

The first 10 nanometer mobile processor, the Qualcomm Snapdragon 835 has enhanced power efficiency that helps to create thinner phones with longer battery life.

### **Toyota**

Concept-i, a self-driving car allowing passengers to interact with the car's artificial intelligence agent named "Yui," which anticipates drivers' needs, measures emotions and responds automatically.

### **Razer**

Dubbed Project Valerie, the system is the world's first portable laptop with three built-in monitors. Its Project Ariana, on the other hand, takes environmental information from within a video game and intelligently projects it around a room, virtually engulfing a player in real-time action previously reserved for on-screen entertainment only.

Unfortunately, at the end of CES 2017, Min-Liang Tan – CEO of Razer – announced on his Facebook page that both Project Valerie prototypes were stolen from the show floor while the crew were packing up for the day. The whereabouts of the units are still sketchy at best, with rumours that one of the two units appearing for sale on a Chinese online shopping portal.







## Dell

Bagging seven 2017 CES Innovation Award Honorees, Dell was certainly on a streak even before the actual show. At the annual showcase, the company unveiled a series of world-first innovations that are redefining personal computing. The entire Dell PC portfolio features Windows 10 and new 7th Gen Intel Core processors, helping people maximise productivity and creativity while enjoying lifelike viewing experiences. The unveiling include the Dell Canvas - world's first horizontal smart workspace of its kind with touch, totem and pen capabilities; Dell Precision All-in-One provides best sound of any AIO in the market; Dell UltraSharp 32 Ultra HD 8K Monitor - world's first 32-inch 8K display; Dell Precision 7720 - its most powerful VR-ready mobile workstation; the world's first wireless charging 2-in-1 delivers the ultimate "no wires" experience.

## ShowStoppers LaunchIt

Entrepreneurial companies exhibiting at Eureka Park, the home for start-ups at CES 2017, also had a chance to showcase their expertise. As the official pitch event for the showcase, the ShowStoppers LaunchIt, saw 12 start-ups pitching their products to a standing room-only crowd. First prize was awarded to Nonda, makers of a family of connected, app-enabled devices for the vehicle.

Kino-mo, developer of high tech smart holographic displays, took second place. Third place was awarded to In&Motion, creator of a smart wearable that aims to reduce the risk of serious injury due to falls.

## NVIDIA

Another notable event running con-currently with all the media events include the Welcome Keynote by NVIDIA founder & CEO Jen-Hsun Huang. Taking centre stage, Huang made multiple ground-breaking announcements based on the company's leadership in developing advanced graphics processors and artificial intelligence.

Mass Effect: Andromeda, a popular video game made by BioWare, was previewed by NVIDIA along with GeForce NOW, a streaming service that turns any PC into a powerful gaming PC from the cloud.

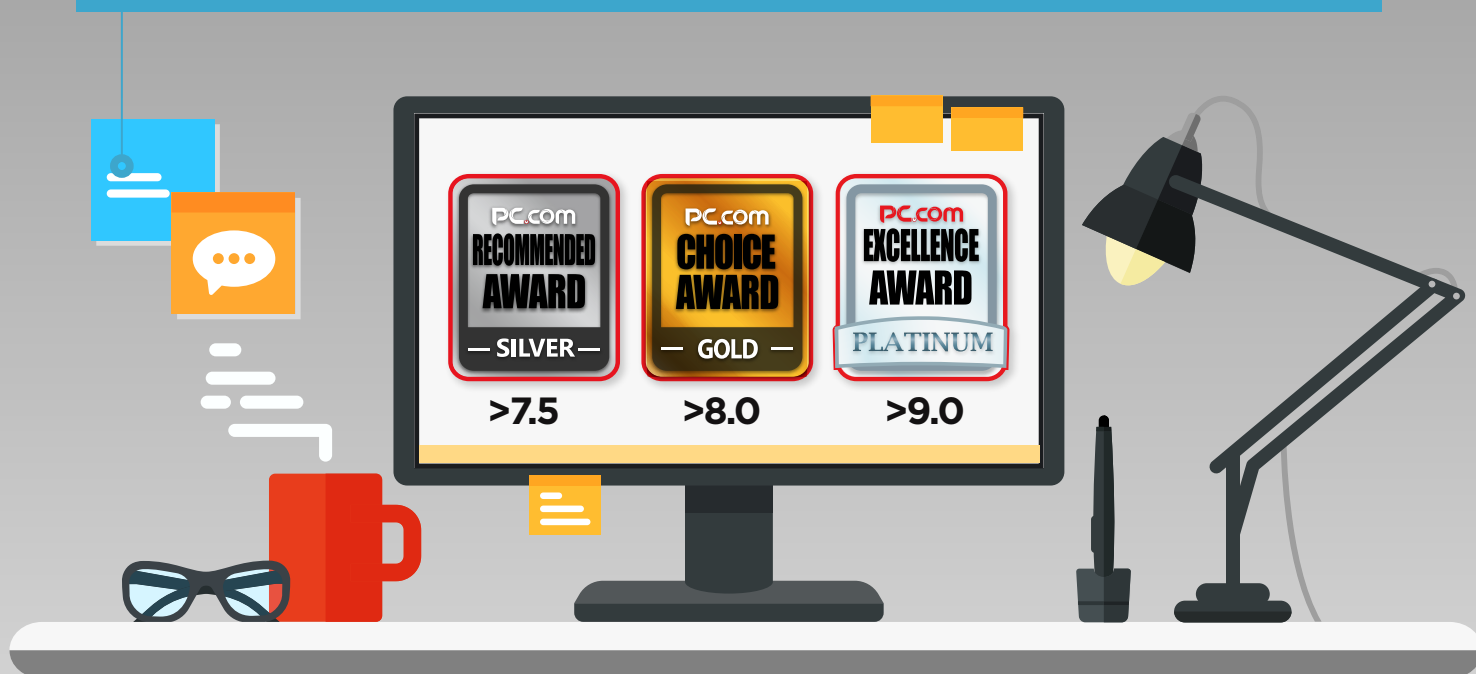
Huang also unveiled a new version of the Shield TV - now just called Shield - which will support 4K HDR for both games and movies making it the world's first 4K HDR entertainment platform.

To support Shield's Artificial Intelligence (AI), Huang introduced NVIDIA SPOT, a plug-in device that understands natural language and complex patterns to help build a user's AI experience.

In the same vein, he announced an AI car supercomputer called Xavier used in NVIDIA's own self-driving car BB8 and a new capability on the NVIDIA AI car computer called AI Co-Pilot, which provides drivers with road alerts and recognizes facial expressions and voice recognition to improve drivers' experience.

He further announced an expanded partnership with Audi to develop artificial intelligence for a new generation of self-driving cars, with plans to have vehicles on the road by 2020. He also provided details on partnerships with mapping companies HERE and ZENRIN; and two of the world's largest automotive suppliers, ZF and Bosch. 

- V Value** | Expensive does not always means good.  
.....
- P Performance** | A measure of how well the product stands up to our testing.  
.....
- F Features** | The best gimmicks and flashy parts get the top score.  
.....
- D Design** | Aesthetics are important. The nicer it looks, the more points it gets.  
.....
- U Usability** | The best for day-to-day tasks are valued higher.



⊕ **TESTED** ⊕

IF IT EXPLODES, WE'LL LET YOU KNOW.

reviews by atifi, wi-liam, syafiq, sharil and andrew





# TEST LAB GUIDE



Starting this year, we are improving our internal testing methodologies for all components and devices. Also, starting this month we are introducing a new Editor's Choice award for the best product in each category such as PCs, inkjet printers, smartphones and DSLR cameras.



2. Lab Testing

5. Draw A Conclusion

1. Identify Experiment Subject

3. Form a Hypothesis

4. Experiment and Benchmark

## TEST TOOLS





| TESTED

# Go for Pro

## Sony Playstation 4 Pro



### Same-same but Different

The PS4 Pro sports a similar slanted body form factor, but instead of two, it consists of three layers of blocks

### Landslide Popularity

Given that the Sony PlayStation 4 Pro (PS4 Pro) made its debut in Malaysia just six months ago, this particular variant of the ever-popular gaming console has gained immense popularity. So much so that it is currently (at the time of print) sold out through the country, with distributors taking in pre-orders slated for delivery sometime in 2017Q1. I can certainly see the appeal of the PS4 Pro as oppose to the concurrently launched PS4 Slim.

### All About 4K

The PS4 Pro comes with upgraded performance and system architecture, thanks to its CPU and GPU, to fully deliver better graphics and visuals. If you already have a 4K TV or monitor, the system will automatically render or upscale your PS4 titles to a higher quality gameplay experience. The higher frame rate also contributes to better graphic, which I can appreciate in more visually detailed games. Its streaming applications can also now support 4K video playback through Netflix and YouTube, if you're keen. So far, I can't seem to tear my eyes away from FFXV.

### Not Yet Upgraded?

Even if you don't own a 4K display, fret not, the PS4 Pro is still a worthy investment. HD TV owners will too be able to enjoy enhanced gameplay experience. Its delivery of 1080p resolution is complemented with a higher and more stable frame rate for some supported titles. Be warned though, older legacy titles may not look less awe-inspiring due to this "clarity". I was re-playing Tales of Zesteria, and it looked very dated graphically.



## 24 HOURS EXPERIENCE

### FIRST IMPRESSION

"Do I really need 4K capabilities in gaming?"



### 4 HOURS

"Forget I even asked that question. FFXV looks amazing."



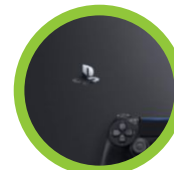
### 12 HOURS

"Let's play a different game. Tales of Zesteria doesn't look as nice anymore."



### 24 HOURS

"Time to sleep? Really?"







### One More Wouldn't Hurt

It also has an extra USB port in the rear; you can't have one too many USB ports

### VR-Ready

It comes with two USB ports in the front, made for connecting additional devices including the PlayStation VR virtual reality system

### Future-proof Gaming

According to Sony Interactive Entertainment (SIE), this is the first time in the PlayStation history that a higher-end system was introduced in the middle of the platform's lifecycle. And rightly so, seeing as 4K digital imaging is fast becoming a norm in today's TVs and displays. The introduction of the PS4 Pro is a move that ensures the console remains future-proof and relevant with the fast adoption of better imaging quality.

### One Size

The PS4 Pro only comes with a 1TB storage option to accommodate more games and content



**VERDICT: "The PS4 Pro futureproofs your console, but at a price" - Atifi**

#### SPECS

**PRICE:** RM 1,799  
**DIMENSIONS (HXWxD MM):** 295 x 55 x 327 mm  
**WEIGHT:** 3.3 KG  
**MAIN PROCESSOR:** Single-chip custom processor  
**CPU:** x86-64 AMD "Jaguar", 8 cores  
**GPU:** 4.20 TFLOPS, AMD Radeon based graphics engine

**MEMORY:** GDDR5 8GB  
**STORAGE SIZE:** 1TB  
**PORTS:** Super-Speed USB (USB 3.1 Gen.1) port x 3; AUX port x 1  
**NETWORKING:** Ethernet (10BASE-T, 100BASE-TX, 1000BASE-T) x1; IEEE 802.11 a/b/g/n/ac; Bluetooth 4.0 (LE)  
**AV OUTPUT:** HDMI out port (supports 4K/HDR); DIGITAL OUT (OPTICAL) port

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

**8.8**



| TESTED

# Flexible Companion

## Fitbit Flex 2

### All-in-One

Unlike the other Fitbit models, the Flex 2 comes packaged with two band sizes

### Auto Recognition

The SmartTrack feature allows the Flex 2 to auto recognise and records the exercise you do to the app – from running, cycling to swimming; a nifty feature since it doesn't have a display

### Colour-Coded

The vertical LED display uses colour-coded lights to show progress toward your daily goal, and keeps you connected with call and text notifications



### Track Your Day

Brandishing a fitness tracker is all the rage now and I too have joined the bandwagon. I am no closer to losing any weight, but tracking my day has given me a sense of achievement (and justification to have dessert). The Fitbit Flex 2 is a great gateway into having a tracker, especially if you still prefer wearing your good ol' watch and don't need a heart-rate monitor.

### Slimmer, Sleeker

The Flex 2, as the name suggest, is the second generation of the popular model. It is 30% slimmer than its predecessor and deviates away from the conventional band-style fitness trackers. The tracker itself can be popped in and out of the sleek elastomer band with ease, yet still remain secure when intended. It is also water-resistant and swim-proof of up to 50 meters. I've taken it into the shower and the pool – it works swimmingly well.

### Accessorise Your Tracker

The pill/tablet design on the tracker allows you to interchange between accessories as easy as 1,2,3! Aside from the classic elastomer wristbands, Fitbit released some luxury accessories that will transform your Flex 2 from sporty to chic in no time. My favourites are the luxe pendants and bangles – a great way to jazz up your outfit while still tracking your day. That said, for the pendants, features like SmartTrack and auto sleep tracking are disabled. **PC**



**VERDICT:** "The vertical LED display uses colour-coded lights to show progress toward your daily goal, and keeps you connected with call and text notifications." - Atifi

SPECS

**PRICE:** RM450

**DIMENSIONS:** 31.7x8.9x6.8mm (tracker only)

**WEIGHT:** 23.5g (tracker only)

**SENSORS & COMPONENTS:** 3-axis accelerometer; Vibration motor

**DISPLAY:** LED display with 5 indicator lights

**CONNECTIVITY:** Bluetooth 4.0

V .....  
P .....  
F .....  
D .....  
U .....

8.6



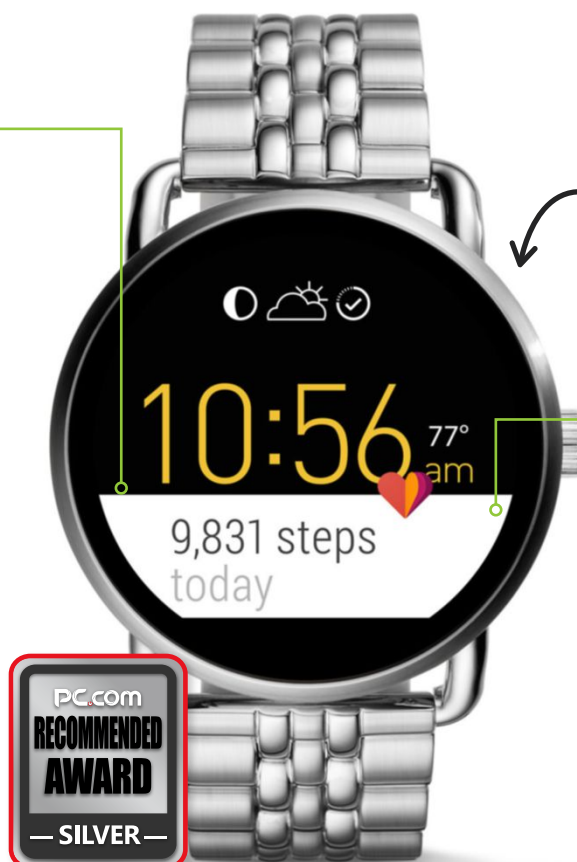


# Classy Android Wear

## Fossil Q Wander

### Wireless Charging

Charging the Q Wander is easy – just dock the watch to the included wireless charger and charge away



A CHICK MAGNET  
RIGHT HERE :)

### Simple Health Tracking

Unfortunately, the Q Wander does not have any heart-rate monitor – so you are limited to steps taken in Google Health. the side of the device

### Comfortable Operations

Thanks to the design of the watch, the Q Wander feels very comfortable when worn on the wrist. The Q Wander features a metal bracelet design, which is a bit more stylish to some when compared to a rubber strap design. The size of the watch may not be for all watch aficionados as the watch face is a bit big for slim wrists, so this may not appeal to those with smaller statures.

### Pretty Smart

Thanks to the Android Wear OS, the Fossil Q Wander is one of the best second screen experience for smartphone users currently. The phone connects to both Android and iOS, so users can easily sync their life onto the small screen on their wrist. The 4GB of storage also means that the Fossil Q Wander will have enough space to install all of the apps, watch faces and other important bits that they expect in a smartwatch.

### Touch and Gesture Everything

Controlling the Q wander, users have several options literally on their wrist. The 1.42-inch touch screen is intuitive enough that all you need to do is to just swipe up/down/left/right to get to the important bits that you need at that particular time. There is also gesture-based control – where one just need to flick your wrist in the four directions to scroll through the cards that appears on screen. There is also a button on the side of the watch, which acts like a back button. The faux-crown is there just for design unfortunately.



**VERDICT:** “A smartwatch that looks smart? The Fossil Q Wander ticks all the right boxes.” - Sharil

SPECS

**PRICE:** RM1,379  
**CASE SIZE:** 45mm  
**CASE THICKNESS:** 14mm  
**WEIGHT:** 72g  
**STORAGE (ROM):** 4GB  
**OPERATING SYSTEM:** Android Wear  
**DISPLAY:** 1.42-inch 320x290 pixels

**CONNECTIVITY:** Bluetooth Smart Enabled / 4.1 Low Energy, Wi-Fi 802.11 b/g/n  
**BATTERY:** 360mAh

V .....oo  
P .....oo  
F .....oo  
D .....oo  
U .....oo

7.8



| TESTED

# Almost Depressing

## Sony Xperia XZ

### Bringing Back The IP Rating

What Sony failed with the Xperia X Compact, it definitely made up for it with the Xperia XZ as it comes with an IP68 certified rating, ensuring it is completely dust proof and water-resistant

### Same Old, Same Old

One feature that Sony has been disappointing over and over again is its similar, laclustre design featured on all its devices; the Xperia XZ looks way too much like the Z-Series aside from the name

### Staying Away From The Competition

While most devices have its fingerprint scanners located either on the home button or at the rear right below the camera, Sony keeps itself unique by placing the fingerprint scanner on the side of the device



### Crisp, Sharp & Clear

Being a former Sony Xperia Z3 owner, one thing I am proud to say that Sony does really well is its LCD display screens. Dating back to the older Z-Series until the current X-Series, Sony always outdo themselves and the Xperia XZ is no exception. Although it is a 1080p screen, the 5.2-inch display isn't FHD or even QHD for that matter but you won't really notice the difference as Sony ensures the colour contrast in the Xperia XZ is lively, vivid and downright outstanding.

### Stick To What You're Good At

When it comes to creating DSLR or even mirrorless cameras, Sony has done a very good job for itself on that front. Sadly, the same can't be said for the cameras featured on its smartphone devices as none of which have been particularly enjoyable to use. Although the Xperia XZ does come with a 23-megapixel rear camera with an electronic image stabiliser (EIS), it doesn't do itself justice when it actually comes to snapping pictures as compared to the likes of Huawei and Samsung. buttons are easy to access... for right-handers (sorry southpaws!).

### Lasting Longer Than Usual

Much like most smartphone devices these days, the Xperia XZ comes with an unremovable 2,900mAh battery within its core. Although not the biggest, it does hold its own well enough to last throughout the course of the day before needing a recharge. What is disappointing about the Xperia XZ is that it doesn't come with any Fast Charging capabilities, unlike its competitors so that makes it a bit of a tougher pill for customers to swallow. **PC**

#### BENCHMARK

Antutu 3D Benchmark - 116118

PCMark Android Benchmark - 5047



**VERDICT:** "The Sony Xperia XZ doesn't live up to the expectations of its price due to its unreliable camera and average battery lifecycle." - Wi-Liam

**SPECS**

**PRICE:** RM2,699  
**DIMENSIONS (HxWxD):** 146 x 8.1 x 72mm  
**WEIGHT:** 161g  
**PROCESSOR:** Qualcomm MSM8996 Snapdragon 820  
**MEMORY (RAM):** 3GB  
**STORAGE (ROM):** 32/64GB (up to 256GB via microSD)

**OPERATING SYSTEM:** Android OS v6.0.1 Marshmallow  
**DISPLAY:** 5.2-inch IPS LCD  
**GRAPHICS:** Adreno 530  
**CONNECTIVITY:** Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g/n/ac, Bluetooth v4.2, GPS, NFC  
**PORTS:** USB v2.0 Type-C

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

**7.2**





# Lightweight Snapper

## Canon EOS M10 Kit (EF-M15-45mm IS STM)



### Get Creative

There are seven built-in creative filters to create some fun moments. It's easier accessed through the on-screen toolbar

### Side Card

Unlike most digital cameras, the EOS M10 has a dedicated memory card slot on the side instead of next

### Small, Light and Compact

The Canon EOS M10 is an entry-level mirrorless camera within the brand's M-series, so to say that it is can be compared to the likes of EOS 5D or 7D is a bit of stretch. However, for users who want a fuss-free device that's sits comfortably in between a point-and-shoot and a prosumer camera, the M10 does the job and more thanks to its feature-packed disposition.

### Vlogger's Best Friend

The M10 features a 180° tilt-able touchscreen LCD that makes taking selfies a breeze. If you're into recording daily vlogs, this particular camera will not only make your task easier, the quality of the video (and photo) is above average for uploading. Personally, I hardly used the tilt feature throughout the review, but can definitely see the merits if I was a vlogger (or a selfie addict, hmm).

### Giving Choice

Canon offers users three variants of the M10 kit - the difference between the three are the lenses that comes bundled with them. The common denominator is the EF-M15-45mm IS STM lens that comes with all three of them. In most cases, this particular lens good for wide portraits shots. Taking just this to a big scale event like CES 2017, while convenient, made me realise that the kit zoom lens would've come in handy. However, that'll set you back another RM1,200, which could get you the EOS M3 Kit with EF-M18-55 IS STM (and some change).



**VERDICT: "Selfie and Vloggers should take a look at this camera" - Atifi**

**SPECS**

**PRICE:** RM 1,999

**DIMENSIONS (HXWXD MM):**  
108 X 66.6 X 35.0mm

**WEIGHT:** 301g (with battery)

**SENSOR:** 18-megapixel APS-C size CMOS sensor; Hybrid CMOS AF II

**VIDEO RECORDING MODE:**

1920 x 1080 (30 fps/24 fps)

1280 x 720 (60 fps);

640 x 480 (30 fps)

**STILL IMAGE RESOLUTION: 3:2 MODE:** 18M (5184x3456)/12.4M (4320x2880)/5M (2880x1920)/5M (2304x1536)/ SD (720x480)/ RAW (5184x3456)

**MEMORY SLOT:** SD Memory Card; SDHC Memory Card; SDXC Memory Card

**DISPLAY:** 3" 1,229K dots TFT LCD Screen

**CONNECTIVITY:** Wi-Fi

**V** .....oo  
**P** .....oo  
**F** .....oo  
**D** .....oo  
**U** .....oo

**8.0**



| TESTED

# The Everywhere Compact

## Sony RX100 IV



### Built-in ND Filter

The 3-stop ND filter allows for longer exposure times during the day and full use of the lens' capabilities wherever you go

### Precise Composition

The pop-up electronic viewfinder reveals the subtlest details during composition due to a high resolution of 2.3 million dots

### Pocket Friendly Design

This small, magnesium-alloy camera fits into pockets easily and the smooth, grip-less metal means the camera means there's less for your fingers to hold on to but the RX100 IV is fairly easy to handle. However, a wrist strap is definitely recommended to avoid heat of the moment accidents. Despite its small stature, the manual control dial on the back and a wheel around the lens means allows you to have full-on manual control.

### Lightning Fast Sensor

Sony's new stacked sensor is a world first and features higher signal processing quality which translates to a sensor so fast, it goes beyond human perception. This allows for a shutter speed of 1/32000 sec, 40x super slow motion video and a burst mode capable of 16fps. The incredibly fast shutter speed allows for photos that utilise a large aperture under extremely bright conditions.

### Eye-Opening Video

The RX100 IV will record 4K video at a very impressive bit rate of 100Mbps if you have a card fast enough but fret not as there a plethora of resolution and bitrate options for those who don't wish to upgrade to a speedier card. If you do have a fast card, the high frame rate mode allows you to shoot at 3 speeds, 250, 500 and 1000 frames per second in Full HD!



## 24 HOURS EXPERIENCE

### FIRST IMPRESSION

"I'm in love with the small form factor and super sharp EVF. The build feels really nice and solid despite being fairly light."



### 4 HOURS

"The high frame rate video mode has caught my attention. Fires have been lit in several places and water balloons have been popped. Everything looks better in slow motion."



### 12 HOURS

"Finally went through the RAW stills and very impressed with the image quality and colour processing."



### 24 HOURS


"For someone who's such a DSLR fan, I love the ease and power of this tiny camera. Definitely bringing this with me everywhere I go."







## Speedy AF

The camera's autofocus system benefits greatly from the stacked image sensor which basically means the camera is now able to lock on faster than before with Sony claiming that their AF system focuses in 0.09 seconds. The Lock-on AF tracks much faster which allows you take full advantage of a photo opportunity. Eye AF is finally available in continuous AF mode giving a fast and easy way to capture faces on the fly. 

## Swivel Screen

The 180° tiltable LCD screen is perfect for taking selfies, framing overhead or low-angle shots and other creative compositions



## Micro-USB Charged

The ability to charge with your mobile charger or even a battery packs extends the range of use for this camera



**VERDICT: "A very capable camera that fits in a pocket." - Amir**

### SPECS

**PRICE:** RM 3,799

**DIMENSIONS (HXWXD MM):**

58.1 x 101.6 x 35.9mm

**WEIGHT:** 240g (with battery)

**SENSOR:** 1.0"-type (13.2 x 8.8mm)

Exmor RS<sup>®</sup> CMOS sensor, aspect ratio 3:2 (20:1 MP)

**LENS:** ZEISS<sup>®</sup> Vario-Sonnar T\* 24-70mm lens with F1.8-2.8 aperture

**VIDEO RECORDING MODE:** 3840 x 2160 (30p, 25p, 24p); 1920 x 1080 (60p/60i/24p)

1280 x 720 (60p/30p/24p/120p); 1440 x 1080 (30 fps); 640 x 480 (30 fps)

**STILL IMAGE RESOLUTION: 3:2 MODE:** 20M (5,472

x 3,648)/10M (3,888 x 2,592)/5M (2,736 x 1,824); 4:3

mode:18M (4,864 x 3,648)/10M (3,648 x 2,736)/5M

(2,592 x 1,944)/VGA; **16:9 MODE:**17M (5,472 x

3,080)/7.5M (3,648 x 2,056)/4.2M (2,720 x 1,528); 1:1

mode: 13M (3,648 x 3,648)/6.5M (2,544 x 2,544)/3.7M

(1,920 x 1,920); **SWEEP PANORAMA:** Wide (12,416 x

1,856/5,536 x 2,160); Standard (8,192 x 1,856/3,872 x 2,160)

**MEMORY SLOT:** Memory Stick Duo; Memory Stick

PRO Duo; Memory Stick PRO Duo (High Speed);

Memory Stick PRO-HG Duo; SD Memory Card; SDHC

Memory Card; SDXC Memory Card

**DISPLAY:** 3" 1,229K dots TFT LCD Screen

**CONNECTIVITY:** Wi-Fi & NFC

V .....  
P .....  
F .....  
D .....  
U .....  
U .....

# 8.4



| TESTED

# Gearing Up For Greatness

## Illegear Z5

### Large Touchpad

Another great thing about the Z5 is its large touchpad, which is great for people like me

### Still Great

The Z5 comes with the GeForce GTX1060 GPU, which is currently the middle of the pack for modern gaming GPUs

### Not Enough Ports

With only 3 USB ports available, it's not nearly enough for someone like me who prefers to use an external keyboard and mouse while also charging my device and having an external hard drive plugged in

Big AS Heck




### Trying To Keep Up

One of the things I admire about Illegear is its passion towards gaming laptops, especially when I had a personal hands-on experience with the D9X. Sadly, the same can't be said for the Illegear Z5 as it just isn't on the same. Although it is in the more affordable range as compared to the D9X, it just barely made the cut after running it through the benchmarks tests. However, running it on non-graphic heavy games like Dota 2, CS:GO and Overwatch, the Z5 performs exceptionally well with no frame rate drops or frame stuttering.

### Sleek Metallic Design

What the Z5 lacked in gaming performance (which isn't really much; I just have insanely high standards), it makes up for in its unique design. It's 15.6-inch Full HD display comes with anti-glare capabilities, removing any strain from your eyes. It's entire body is wrapped in metallic silver with black accent finishing, giving off a rugged look that says "don't even think about messing with me."

### Great Keyboard

I am not a fan of laptop keyboards in general, I've always preferred the use of an external keyboard due to my love for mechanical switches. With that being said, the keyboard on the Z5 does hold its own quite well, making it quite comfortable for me to type and even game in. This is partially due to the large palm rest on the body as I have abnormally large hands. 

### BENCHMARK

3DMark Fire Strike - 9608

PCMark 8 Creative Accelerated - 4732



**VERDICT:** "Personally, I'm still a fan of the Illegear D9X rather than the Z5." - Wi-Liam

SPECS

**PRICE:** RM6,099  
**DIMENSIONS (HXWXD):** 30.9 x 387 x 274.5mm  
**WEIGHT:** 2.5kg  
**PROCESSOR:** 6th Generation Intel® Core™ i7-6700HQ Processor (2.60GHz)  
**MEMORY:** One changeable 2.5" HDD/SSD, 7mm(H) / 9.5mm(H), SATA interface (RAID 0/1 support)  
**STORAGE:** (Factory Option) One M.2 2280 SSD, SATA or PCIe Gen3 x4 interface  
**OS:** Windows 10 Home  
**DISPLAY:** 15.6-inch Full HD Anti-glare Display (1920 x 1080)

**GRAPHICS:** NVIDIA® GeForce™ GTX 1060 GPU with 6GB GDDR5  
**CONNECTIVITY:** Built-in Gigabit Ethernet LAN, Intel Dual Band Wireless-AC + Bluetooth, M.2 interface  
**PORTS:** 1x HDMI output Port, 1x Mini DisplayPort, 2x USB 3.1 Gen. 2 Ports (1x USB Type-C), 2x USB 3.1 Gen.1 Ports, 1x Audio Jack, 1x RJ-45 LAN (10/100/1000Mbps)

V .....  
P .....  
F .....  
D .....  
U .....

8.0





# Dual Camera for everyone

## Honor 6X

DUAL CAMERA  
Goodness

### Metal build

Even at its price, Honor opted to build the phone in metal - very classy

### Not so futureproof

Unfortunately Honor decided to still use the standard microUSB for power and data - no USB Type-C here



### Tap to unlock

Honor 6X has one of the fastest fingerprint scanner - just tap and in 0.2 seconds it unlocks!


### Value performance

Thanks to the HiSilicon Kirin 655 processor, the Honor 6X blazes through normal apps like it is designed to be a faster processor. The eight cores certainly helps in this regards, as well as the 3GBs of RAM. The combination of two ensures that the phone does not feel laggy - even while playing intensive games on the go. Plus, you get an eight-core processor at this price! A steal!

### Dual camera magic

Not only you get a very decent 8-megapixel camera sensor at the front for (almost) flawless selfies, the dual camera sensor at the back gives you a different take on mobile photography than before. The 12-megapixel sensor takes the image, while the secondary 2-megapixel sensor records depth information - so you can emulate lens bokeh in the phone! Artsy images here we come.

### Large screen entertainment

The large 5.5-inch full HD display on the front means that every multimedia file you have stored in the phone will look gorgeous and expansive, thanks to the large screen. While it is no AMOLED display, the IPS panel reproduces colour vibrantly and consistently - making it a dream using it even in the bright sunlight. 

### BENCHMARK

AnTuTu 3D Benchmark - 57430  
PCMark Android Benchmark - 5047

Slingshot Extreme - 381  
Ice Storm Unlimited - 12132



**VERDICT:** "If you are looking to step into the dual camera world, the Honor 6X is not a bad way to go. Good performance, more than average camera (front and back) as well as a great value for its price - the phone is worth more than the sum of its parts" - Sharil

### SPECS

**PRICE:** RM  
**DIMENSIONS (HXWXD):** 150.9 x 76.2 x 8.2 mm  
**WEIGHT:** 162g  
**PROCESSOR:** HiSilicon Kirin 655  
**MEMORY (RAM):** 3GB  
**STORAGE:** 32GB (up to 256GB via microSD)  
**OS:** Android OS v6.0 Marshmallow  
**DISPLAY:** 5.5-inch IPS LCD  
**GRAPHICS:** Mali-T830MP2

**CONNECTIVITY:** Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g/n/ac, Bluetooth v4.2, GPS  
**PORTS:** microUSB

**V** ●●●●●●●○  
**P** ●●●●●●●○  
**F** ●●●●●●●○  
**D** ●●●●●●●○  
**U** ●●●●●●●○

# 7.6



| TESTED

# Play & Listen All Day

## Kworld S25 Earphones

### Easy Multimedia Controls

You can now adjust the volume controls with the volume slider; there is also a bass switch and you can even answer calls



### Memory Foam Earbuds

The S25 comes with memory foam earbuds so it can mold itself into the shape of your ear canal, making it that much more comfortable for you

IT WILL FOLLOW THE SHAPE OF YOUR EAR CANAL

### Playlist

1. Serenade in G Major: Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, K. 525: I. Allegro - **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**
2. Bohemian Rhapsody - **Queen**
3. Master of Puppets - **Metallica**
4. Donald Trump - **Mac Miller**
5. Strobe - **deadmau5**

### Built For Your Games

The sound quality of the Kworld S25 gaming earphones are surprisingly amazing; I could pick up every subtle note perfectly clear, making it a great accessory to have when you're gaming. For Counter Strike: Global Offensive (CSGO) in particular, these earphones are a lifesaver as you can even pick up the footsteps of your enemies around you, giving you that slight advantage over them.

### Great For Music As Well

Although the S25 isn't a noise-cancelling pair of earphones, it does hold itself up pretty well when it comes to drowning out unnecessary noise. Running it through my own personal playlist, it was particularly great when it comes to heavy metal as well as electronic music. However, it didn't do so well for R&B and Hip-Hop but it was good enough to meet my expectations.

### The Size Of A Bullet

The size of the earcups are literally 9mm in diameter, making it the same size as a bullet. Although the design of the S25 isn't for anyone, it did strike an appeal for me as it definitely stands out from the various other earphones that you will find in the market. The earphones are also pretty sturdy so you know for sure it can handle a beating without wearing out quickly. **PC**



**VERDICT:** "A great pair of earphones to have, whether you're planning on using it to game or just to catch up on your playlists." - Wi-Liam

SPECS

**PRICE:** TBA  
**DIMENSIONS (HXWDXD):** 34x32x43.5cm  
**WEIGHT:** 5.22kg  
**SPEAKER TYPE:** Dynamic/Active (choose one)  
**OUTPUT SOUND:** Stereo

**FREQUENCY RESPONSE:** 20Hz - 20kHz  
**IMPEDANCE:** 16ohm  
**SENSITIVITY:** 98db  
**CONNECTIVITY:** 3.5mm wired  
**CABLE LENGTH:** 1.2m

**V** .....oo  
**P** .....oo  
**F** .....oo  
**D** .....oo  
**U** .....oo

9.2





# Primed & Ready

## Wiko UFeel Prime

### Snap Away

The rear camera on the UFeel Prime comes with a 13-megapixel Sony 258 IMX Sensor and 5P lens, making it a worthy competitor if you're looking for a great camera smartphone

### To The Left, To The Left

Swiping to the utmost left of the screen and you'll reach the 'My Smart Left Page' where you can access not only your contacts but also your favourite apps and also the Google searchbar alongside various other news updates



### Selfie For Days

The front-facing camera also comes with 8-megapixels and a Selfie flash so even in low-lighting conditions, your selfies will look flawless (not to say I ever needed it)




### How Does It Fair?

Having already placed themselves in the top 5 of smartphone brands across Europe, Wiko is steadily taking over the globe, one continent at a time. It has now set its sight upon Asia as its next target with the Wiko UFeel Prime, it's premium flagship device with entry-level to mid-range specifications. We take the UFeel Prime for a run through the lab to see how it would fair.

### Not Quite What I Expected

To hear of a brand that broke into the top 5 smartphone brands in Europe, you would expect it to be within the same grasp as the other frontrunners. Sadly on that front, Wiko still has much to do. Although the benchmark scores say otherwise (its very subpar), day-to-day usage of the UFeel Prime is perfectly fine, capable of running multiple apps at once without any lag issues.

### Easy Access To Your Apps

One feature from the UFeel Prime that I did find quite useful was its customisable fingerprints, which allows you to allocate one fingerprint for a specific app. Now you can have five apps ready and raring to go with just a touch. However, I don't agree with the placement of the fingerprint scanner as I am far more accustomed to it being at the back of the device rather than the front. 

#### BENCHMARK

AnTuTu- 44091

3DMark Sling Shot Extreme - 294

PCMark 8 Work 2.0 Performance - 3456



**VERDICT:** "As much as I would want to like the Wiko UFeel Prime, its still lacking that added kick to take it above and beyond." - Wi-Liam

#### SPECS

**PRICE:** RM899  
**DIMENSIONS (HXWXD):** 142.5 x 69.9 x 8.7 mm  
**WEIGHT:** 150g  
**PROCESSOR:** Qualcomm Snapdragon 430  
1.4GHz octa-core  
**MEMORY:** 4GB RAM  
**STORAGE:** 32GB ROM

**OPERATING SYSTEM:** Android v6.0 Marshmallow  
**DISPLAY:** 5-inch IPS FHD  
**GRAPHICS:** Adreno 505  
**CONNECTIVITY:** Wi-Fi 802.11 b/g/n, Bluetooth v4.1  
**PORTS:** 2.0 USB

**V** .....oo  
**P** .....oo  
**F** .....oo  
**D** .....oo  
**U** .....oo

**8.0**



| TESTED

# Identified Gaming Object

## Acer Predator G1

### Easy Headphones Storage

The G1 comes with two retractable headset cradles on both sides of the PC, allowing you to store your headphones with ease and not leaving them lying around on the table



Mouse + Keyboard INCLUDED!

### Sound-Reactive Growl Lights

You can now customise the multi-colour LED panels located at the front of casing to react to your music or games

### Straight Out Of A Sci-Fi Movie

Looking much more like an alien rather than a predator (fans of the movie will get what I mean), the Acer Predator G1 comes with a ferocious outlook, much like an alien spaceship from the distant future. Its casing is somewhat reminiscent of the exoskeleton you can see in the Transformers movie series, particularly the Decepticons due to its menacing and evil outlook. Although great to look at initially, it did slowly grow on me and I got accustomed to it.

### Behaves Like A Predator

This pint-sized behemoth is not to be messed with; the outstanding component would be the inclusion of the NVIDIA GeForce GTX 1080 GPU, giving you VR-ready capabilities so you can game with a next-level immersive experience. The G1 is also packed with the 6th Gen. Intel Core i7-6700 quad-core processor for even quicker and smoother daily usability. In terms of storage, the G1 is capable of holding up to 512GB of SSD storage while also coming with standardised 2TB HDD.

### Putting It Through The Test

It was pretty exciting to run the G1 through the benchmarks tests to see how well it would fair and sadly, it didn't really live up to the expectations I've come to set from Acer. Although I'm pretty sure the G3 and G6 would've done a much better job, the G1 just pales in comparison as even running it through the Rise of the Tomb Raider benchmark, it topped up at just under 60 FPS, which is pretty disappointing for a system running on the latest GPU.



## 24 HOURS EXPERIENCE

### FIRST IMPRESSION

"This thing looks like gaming monster"



### 1<sup>ST</sup> HOUR

"That reactive lights just made an elevated gaming experience for my self"



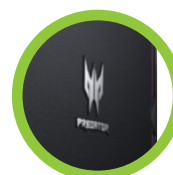
### 4<sup>TH</sup> HOUR

"Will definitely show this off to my friends"



### 23<sup>RD</sup> HOUR

"total carnivore when it comes to gaming."







## Not Enough Ports

Thanks to the inclusion of the GTX 1080 GPU, it makes the G1 VR-ready, which means more ports will be taken up for the VR headset and such. With only four USB ports located at the back of the casing and an additional port located at the front, it surely doesn't seem like much. The silver lining is the inclusion of the USB Type-C port located at the front of the casing, allowing you to charge your smart device without having to move from the PC.



## Quicker and Easier Networking

Thanks to the installation of the Killer DoubleShot Pro, the G1 can intelligently split your LAN data between cable and wireless connections for optimised Internet connectivity

## Unorthodox Power Source

Much like laptops, the G1 is powered by two separate power bricks, which must be plugged into the back of the casing for it to work

## Boost Your Sound

In order to take the advantage on the battlefield, the G1 comes equipped with the SoundBlaster X-Fi MB5 with 7.1 channel audio.



## Superior Gaming Out of the Box

Unlike the typical generic accessories that you will usually get (which I hate), the G1 provides you with the Predator Flare mechanical keyboard with customisable backlight keys and a Predator gaming mouse. Although not as audible as Cherry MX switches, the keys on the Predator Flare are much softer than expected; it also makes typing much easier. Personally, I'm not a fan of the Predator gaming mouse as its much smaller compared to plenty of other brands so my palm fully covers the mouse, making my movements slow and uncomfortable. PC

### BENCHMARK

3DMark Time Spy 1.0 - 6,119

PCMark 8 - 4,091

Rise of the Tomb Raider - 59.9 FPS



**VERDICT:** "If you're willing to fork out more than you should, it'd be best to get the Predator G6 instead of its younger sibling." - Wi-Liam

### SPECS

**PRICE:** RM5,289

**DIMENSIONS (HXWXD):** 16.5 x 13.7 x 4.3-inch

**WEIGHT:** 7.98kg

**PROCESSOR:** 6th Gen. Intel Core i7-6700 quad-core processor 3.40GHz

**MEMORY:** Up to 64GB DDR4 RAM

**STORAGE:** 2TB HDD ; Up to 512GB SSD

**OPERATING SYSTEM:** Windows 10 Home Edition

**DISPLAY:** -

**GRAPHICS:** NVIDIA GeForce GTX 1080

**CONNECTIVITY:** IEEE 802.11a/b/g/n/ac, Gigabit Ethernet, Bluetooth v4.1 LE

**PORTS:** 1x HDMI, 1x DVI, 1x DisplayPort, 5x USB 3.0, 1x USB Type-C

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

7.8



| TESTED

# Covering All Angles

## Aztech Full HD Wireless IP Camera w/ Pan & Tilt (WIPC411HD)

### Direct Recording

You can record video either on a MicroSD card (up to 128GB), through your smartphone (when prompted) or using the Aztech PSD500 Personal Storage Dongle



### Day & Night

It doesn't just provide clear and crisp footage in good lighting, the WIPC411HD has a built-in infrared LED, which means night time monitoring is possible


### Easy Installation

Setting up a wireless monitoring or surveillance system for your office or home has never been easier. The Aztech Full HD Wireless IP Camera w/ Pan & Tilt (WIPC411HD) proves just this as it took me less than 10 minutes out of the box to fully set the camera up. All you need to do is plug the power in, connect the camera to your router using the WPS button or Ethernet cable, download the Aztech IP Cam App on your smartphone to set-up.

### Flexible Monitoring

The Aztech IP Cam App allows you to connect four wireless IP cameras. They don't all have to be in the same location; in theory, you could connect the ones in your office and a home simultaneously – as long as their IP addresses have been registered to your app. This makes monitoring or surveillance much easier.

### Up, Down, Left, Right

The WIPC411HD is useful to have if you'd like an eagle-eye view of its surrounding. It can pan up to 355° and tilt 120°, which can be controlled through the app in real time, so you'll be able to see most angles. If you catch your colleague dozing off, there is a built-in speaker to gently remind them that "big brother is watching". Well, they could also try to give their excuse back at you since the camera has an internal mic. 



**VERDICT:** "Simple to use, easy to set-up equals a piece of mind to anybody who wants to monitor something remotely." - Atifi

SPECS

**PRICE:** RM480  
**DIMENSIONS (LXWXH):** 115x90x115mm  
**WEIGHT:** 275g  
**INTERFACES:** RJ45 10 / 100MB Self - Adaptive Ethernet Port; SD Slot (Up to 128GB TF / SD Card); Internal Microphone; Audio Input Interface  
**ANGLE OF VIEW (AOV):** Horizontal: 85°; Vertical: 45°  
**PAN COVERAGE (HORIZONTAL):** 355°  
**TILT COVERAGE (VERTICAL):** 120°  
**LENS:** CMOS image sensor 1920x1080 pixels (2.0 Megapixels), 4.2mm focal length

**VIDEO:** H.264 Video  
Compression Type: Triple  
stream: (1920 x 1080), (640 x 352), (320 x 176); Frame  
Rate: 1-25 fps (50HZ), 1-30  
fps (60HZ)  
**NETWORK:** 802.11b / g /  
n Wireless Standard

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

9.4

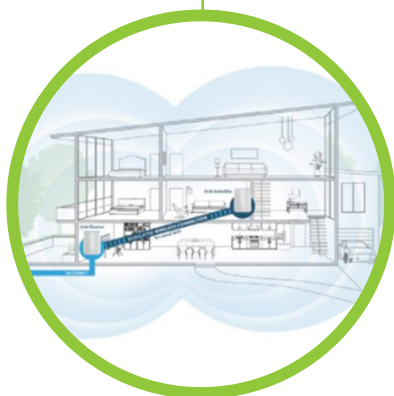


# Extending your wired net, wirelessly

## Netgear Orbi (Dual kit)

### LED notification

The top of the units glow in RGB colour to show status of connectivity



### Simple design

The Orbi units will not look out of place in any modern home



### Wide Wi-Fi range

Thanks to the Tri-Mesh system, the Orbi will extend your network further than before


### Base + Satellite = Good internet

The kit comes in two units – the Base and the Satellite units. The Base becomes the router for the internet connection you have currently, and will sit next to your modem. Connect everything, and then set up the Satellite unit somewhere else. It works to extend the Wi-Fi connectivity as well as your wired too!

### One-touch setup

Simply follow the included setup guide, and you will be connected in no time at all. The units are designed to look great in any location it is placed, and the simple to understand LED notification system that is built-in the device makes it easy to see if you are online or just hanging around.

### Fast speed transfers

Thanks to high speed Wi-Fi connectivity protocol included in the Orbi, you will get fast transfer speeds in your network. The Gigabit ethernet ports on both units will ensure even your wired devices will get fast data speeds wherever it is in the house/office. Plus, connect your storage / printer to the Base station to share it in the network. 



**VERDICT:** "As the saying say – two is better than one. In this case the Netgear Orbi will definitely fit the bill in extending your home network wirelessly. It is easy to set up and it works without a hitch" - Sharil

### SPECS

**PRICE:** RM  
**DIMENSIONS (HXWXD):** 169.4 x 225.8 x 59.9 mm (each)  
**WEIGHT:** 889g each  
**WIRELESS:** 802.11 a/b/g/n/ac  
**WIFI:** Triband (1 x 2.4GHz, 2 x 5GHz)  
**MEMORY (RAM):** 512MB

**PORTS:** Four (4)  
10/100/1000Mbps Gigabit Ethernet ports  
1 WAN + 3 LAN for Router  
4 LAN for Satellite  
One (1) USB 2.0 port

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

# 7.8





| TESTED

# Feeling Youthful? I Think Not

## Gamdias HEBE M1

### Smart Remote

The M1 comes with an in-line smart remote that can control the volume, microphone, vibration and even illumination on its earcups

### USB Connected

Unlike most headphones, the M1 is USB connected rather than the usual audio jack so be sure your device has enough USB ports to accommodate your peripherals

### Noise-Cancelling Microphone

Hidden in the left earcup, the in-line microphone is equipped with noise-cancelling so you can use the M1 for calls without having to worry about any disruption.

### Playlist

1. Serenade in G Major: Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, K. 525: I. Allegro - **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**
2. Bohemian Rhapsody - **Queen**
3. Master of Puppets - **Metallica**
4. Donald Trump - **Mac Miller**
5. Strobe - **deadmau5**

### Booming Bass Drops

Whether it's listening to electronic, heavy metal or even EDM, the Gamdias HEBE M1 has a booming bass drop that just can't be found in any other pair of headphones. Even when gaming, the M1 gives great audio feedback, allowing you to catch even the faintest hints of your surroundings, making it almost impossible for your enemies to sneak up on you.

### Insanely Huge Driver Unit

The M1 comes with a 50mm HD driver unit, providing realistic sound effects with a rich bass. They weren't lying when they said it was HD; running the M1 through my playlist never sounded so good before. I tested out the M1 for Skyrim and Uncharted 4; the ambience noise is amazing on them. Pristine and crystal clear, you can pick up birds chirping from afar while still being totally focused on the mission.

### Too Damn Huge

One thing I thoroughly dislike about the M1 is its size. Although it does perform well on a day-to-day basis, it's far too heavy to have on one's head for long hours, especially if you're a hardcore gamer like me. Not even after an hour I could feel the pressure around my ears as well as my head due to its sheer weight and size. **PC**



**VERDICT:** "I am not a big fan of overly bulky headphones, especially one's that weighs enough to cause headaches." - Wi-Liam

**SPECS**

**PRICE:** TBA  
**DIMENSIONS (HXWXD):** 230 x 104 x 188mm  
**CABLE LENGTH:** 2m  
**SPEAKER TYPE:** Dynamic  
**DRIVER DIAMETER:** 50mm  
**DRIVER MAGNETS:** NdFeB

**SENSITIVITY:** 119±3dB  
**IMPEDANCE:** 32ohm +/- 15%  
**CONNECTIVITY:** USB

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

**7.6**



# Sound is Vital

## Zowie Vital

### Enhance Your Sound

The Zowie Vital comes with a built-in Hi-Fi chip in it so everything you hear through the sound card sounds a lot better than it usually is



### Pocket-Sized Power

Roughly the size of a deck of cards, the Zowie Vital packs a mean punch especially when it came to music and gaming



### Playlist

1. Serenade in G Major: Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, K. 525: I. Allegro - **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**
2. Bohemian Rhapsody - **Queen**
3. Master of Puppets - **Metallica**
4. Donald Trump - **Mac Miller**
5. Strobe - **deadmau5**

### Plug-and-Play Instantly

With most generic USB sound cards coming with drivers and programs that have to be installed before being able to use them, the Zowie Vital comes with a quick plug-and-play method so you don't have to waste time looking for the driver or program. On the touchscreen display, you can adjust the volume, microphone, treble and bass levels of your headset with just a push of a button.

### Not As Interactive As You Think

Although it does sound like a great device, the Zowie Vital has a lot to work on before it becomes a hit. For one, the response time for the interactive touchscreen is pretty slow; I have to press on bass a few times before it actually responds and don't get me started on how I managed to control the volume. Although not as annoying as most people would think, I'd like to be able to change my audio settings quickly and without any delay.

### Take Your Pick

If you prefer to not have your headset blaring but your speakers instead, you can choose to latter as the Zowie Vital comes with 3 audio ports in total for your headset, microphone and of course your speakers. To switch, just press the speaker button on the touchscreen and your music will be redirected to the speakers that are plugged in. You can also lock the screen to reduce the amount of light coming from it or even mute your microphone.



**VERDICT:** "As the saying say - two is better than one. In this case the Netgear Orbi will definitely fit the bill in extending your home network wirelessly. It is easy to set up and it works without a hitch" - Sharil

**SPECS**

**PRICE:** TBA  
**DIMENSIONS (HXWxD):** 100 x 60 x 20 mm  
**FREQUENCY RESPONSE:** 20 - 20kHz  
**HEADPHONES IMPEDANCE:** 16ohm - 250ohm

**POWER SUPPLY:** USB bus powered 300mA/5V  
**POWER CONSUMPTION:** 1.5-Watts  
**PORTS:** USB (B-Type), Microphone (3.5mm)

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

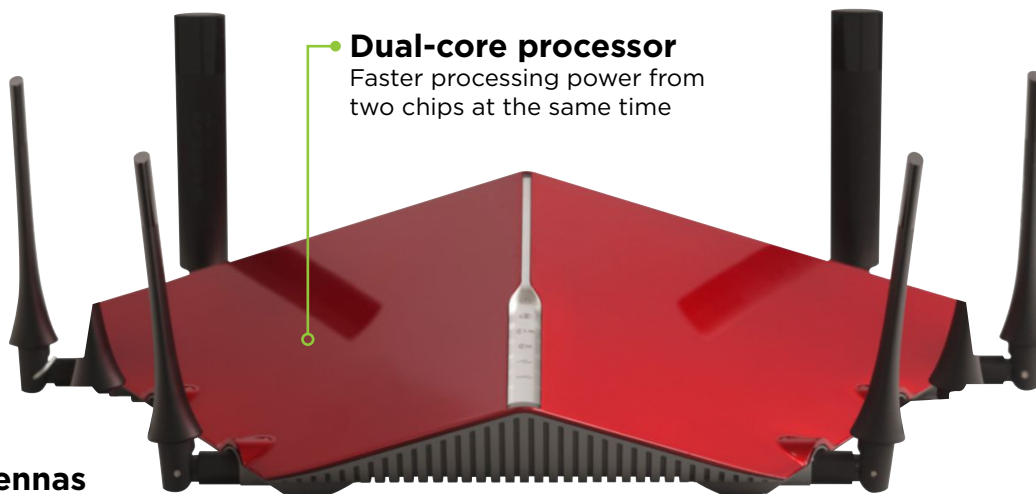
**7.8**



| TESTED

# Let The Alien Secure Your Network

## DLINK AC5300



### Dual-core processor

Faster processing power from two chips at the same time

### Multiple antennas

The eight antenna helps with the data throughput through the router to be stable even at high speeds



### SmartConnect

The AC5300 allocates the best possible band for optimal performance


### MIMO King

1000Mbps is the theoretical speed that the AC5300 can deliver over the 2.4GHz band – of course it is depending on the wireless card that you have in your device. The upside of this high connectivity is that the data stream is constant and consistent even at high transfer loads. Plus, the router supports Multiple In Multiple Out (MIMO), and the eight antenna helps (it is not just for show!).

### Connectivity King

You get not two, but three Wifi Band – 2.4GHz and two 5GHz bands for better data transfer with high-performance devices. Of course, there is also the ports at the back when you need wired connections. You get four Gigabit ethernet ports, a USB 2.0 and USB 3.0 port and a physical switch that allows the AC5300 to work as a router or a range extender.

### Customization King

Not only the router works great with the included software, it is also able to support DD-WRT OpenSource Linus that allows advanced users to install custom firmware when it is needed. The standard UI is simple to use but also feature an extensive amount of customization to configure your network into something that is bulletproof – almost. 



**VERDICT:** "While it looks like an alien is just about to land on earth, the AC5300 is one of the best routers to own, thanks to its multi-data stream connectivity, the eight antennas as well as the extensive customization." - Sharil

SPECS

**PRICE:** RM  
**DIMENSIONS (HXWXD):** 262.6 x 417.3 x 149.6 mm  
**WEIGHT:** 3.1kg  
**WIRELESS CONNECTIVITY:** 802.11 a/g/n/ac wireless LAN  
**ANTENNA:** Eight high performance antenna with amplifiers  
**PORTS:** Four (4) 10/100/1000Mbps Gigabit Ethernet ports  
1 WAN port / 1 x USB 2.0 port / 1 x USB 3.0 port

V .....  
P .....  
F .....  
D .....  
U .....

7.6





# Controlled Chaos

## Logitech G900 Chaos Spectrum

### Great For All Users

The G900 comes with an ambidextrous design so it's great for all right-handers as well as southpaws



### Have It Any Way You Want

Whether the G900 is connected wirelessly or through the USB cable, its performance will not be hindered so you can game whichever way you see fit



### Customisable LED Lighting

With 16.8 million colours to choose from, you can now customise the LED lighting on the G900 to suit your environment.


### Micro-manage Your Gameplay

With the help from Logitech Gaming Software, you can now program up to 11 different macro buttons and commands from the G900 Chaos Spectrum to suit your style of gameplay. The G900 also comes with a mechanical pivot button design, giving the mouse a clean and crisp click feel with rapid click feedback. This design further reduces the amount of force needed to click, allowing you to get more done in a shorter amount of time.

### Game Longer Without Wires

Thanks to the wireless capabilities on the G900, you can now game up to 32 hours straight on a single charge. This is because of the exclusive clock-tuning technology, which significantly reduces power consumption. Although it didn't last me the full 32 hours (mainly because I kept forgetting to turn it off), it did last a bit over 24 hours before having to recharge so it does live up to its name of being long-lasting.

### Perfect For The Pros

If you're ever considering of breaking into the pro scene, the G900 is a great mouse for that. Its dpi ranges from 200 to 12,000 with zero smoothing, filtering or acceleration so you have complete control over your movements. This is great especially for FPS gamers as movement, precision and accuracy is the key difference between winning and losing. 



**VERDICT:** "Although the Logitech G900 Chaos Spectrum is much pricier compared to its competition, its daily performance usage is second to none." - Wi-Liam

#### SPECS

**PRICE:** RM699  
**DIMENSIONS (HXWXD):** 130 x 67 x 40mm  
**WEIGHT:** 107g  
**BUTTONS:** 6 - 11  
**RESOLUTION:** 200 - 12,000 dpi  
**USB REPORT RATE:** 1ms  
**CONNECTIVITY:** Wired/Wireless

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

# 8.2



| TESTED

# Bombs Away!

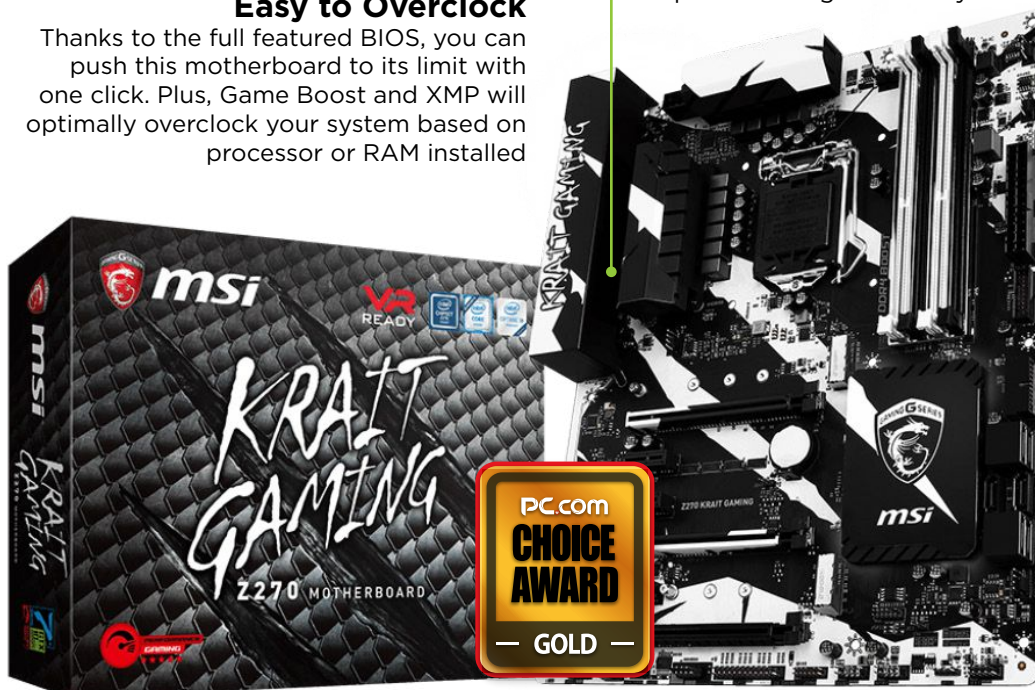
## MSI Z270 Krait Gaming

### Easy to Overclock

Thanks to the full featured BIOS, you can push this motherboard to its limit with one click. Plus, Game Boost and XMP will optimally overclock your system based on processor or RAM installed

### Full sized options

The motherboard is fitted with three full-sizes PCIe slots for additional cards. The slots are also reinforced by MSI's steel armour for protection against heavy cards



### Soldier On

The MSI Krait Gaming is a full sized ATX motherboard. It comes in a normal sized box featuring some cool looking snake scales on the front, which make sense since a Krait is a type of snake.

We love the MSI Krait Gaming motherboard colour scheme. It has a nice balance of black and white. This means that it should nicely fit either black or white casing. It accepts any socket 1151 processor, which means the new Kaby Lake as well as Skylake processors can be used.


### Black or White

It also features dual channel DDR4 support. What's cool is that all of the four DDR4 slots are aluminium encased, dubbed steel armor by MSI. With Intel Xtreme Memory Profile (XMP) you can overclock your RAM up to 3800Mhz.

The motherboard is fitted with some awesome white LEDs which gives it a rather cool looking glow. Also fitted on this board is the realtek ALC 1220 based Audio Boost 4 solution which gives gamers the outmost best in audio quality

### Simple to Use

The BIOS was easy to navigate and as expected from the Z270 chipset features a plethora of overclocking options. You can overclock just about everything, from BCLK to single core speed of your processor.

But if you are not that overclocking savvy, MSI has include two large button in the bios. One is Game Boost, which will optimally overclock your processor depending on which processor you use, and XMP, which overclock your RAM depending on the built in memory profile. 

### BENCHMARK

PCMark Home: 3714

PCMark Creative: 3834

PCMark Work: 3816



**VERDICT:** "The MSI Z270 Krait Gaming is one one great Z270 based motherboard. The ease to overclock as well as the great design makes this a winner in our eyes. Krait On." - Din

### SPECS

**PRICE:** RM 849  
**SOCKET:** Intel Socket 1151  
**CHIPSET:** Intel Z270  
**MEMORY:** Dual Channel DDR4 2133Mhz  
**DIMM SLOTS:** 4

**MAX MEMORY:** 64GB  
**PCI-E X16 SLOTS:** 2  
**USB:** Six USB 3.0 + Four USB 2.0  
**FORM FACTOR:** Full Sized ATX

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

# 8.6



# Minimalist

## Segotep GP600G Modular PSU



### Colours of the Wind

There is surprisingly a lot of modular selections for the GP600G modular PSU here. Included in the box are eight SATA connectors split into two cables, six molex connectors split into two cables, four eight pin GPU power connectors split into two cables, as well as two four pin motherboard power connectors and one 24 pin power connectors

### Powered On

Segotep is a Chinese PC peripheral company that is making inroads in South East Asia. There seems to be an official store on Lazada as well as an Facebook page, altho the official website is still entirely in Chinese. While they are mostly known as a casing manufacturer, they also make power supplies as well, and in our labs today we have the Segotep GP600G modular power Supply.

### Black Box

The power supply comes in a matte black rectangular box. The GP600G is prominently featured in gold letterings all over the box, as well as an 80 Plus Gold logo.

Note that there is no specs or features AT ALL on the box. Only the name and a link to Segotep's official WeChat account.

### Open Sesame!

Opening the box, we are greeted with the Segotep GP600G PSU inside a velvet like tie bag. Since this is a modular power supply, there is a second box that contains all the cables that you would connect the PSU with. We took out the PSU and upon closer inspection, we were surprised that it's actually rated at 500W. With all the GP600G branding all over the box, we would have sworn that this is a 600W PSU. Nope.



**VERDICT: "Cheap and does the job" - Din**

**SPECS**

**PSU RATED:** 500W  
**SATA:** 4 headers x2  
**MOLEX:** 3 headers x2  
**GPU POWER CONNECTER:** 2x 8 pin headers x 2  
**4 PIN MOTHERBOARD CONNECTER:** 2  
**24 PIN MOTHERBOARD CONNECTER:** 1

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

**7.8**





| TESTED

# Capture everything in 360 degrees and 4K

360fly 4K

## Futuristic design

The angular design of the 360fly 4K is surprisingly comfortable in the hand, as there are no real sharp corners



## Magnetic charging

Powering the 360fly 4K is easy – dock it onto the included magnetic base and it will charge of a microUSB connection

## Live-stream in 360

Connect the 360fly 4K to your smartphone, and then stream the video as a live stream – in 360 degrees

## Standard mountings

The 360fly 4K is one of the many 360-degree cameras that is now flooding the market. What makes this camera different is the design – the lens is situated on the top of the device and captures everything with only a single lens. Plus, the camera comes with a standard 1/4inch thread so it can be screwed into any tripod with ease

## All-around photo

Connect the 360fly 4K to your smartphone, and snap away. Our big comment is that the pairing step can take a bit of time to establish – we once had to wait over 30 seconds for the app to see the camera. But once it is set up, the image taking is as simple as pressing a button.

## Simple operation

The 360fly 4K is easy to use, as there is no other button than the power/record button on the unit itself. It is purely done with the app, so the operator can be away from the device as it records. Plus, the 64GB of internal storage means that your 4K video files will have enough space in the device even if you are away from a computer for the day.



**VERDICT:** “This ball of a camera will capture all your memories in surround imagery – 360 degrees in fact. It is a bit slow, but it is easy to use once the app connects to your phone.” - Sharil

SPECS

**PRICE:** RM  
**DIMENSIONS (HXWXD):** 169.4 x 225.8 x 59.9 mm  
**WEIGHT:** 172g  
**WIRELESS:** 2.4GHz & 5GHz 802.11 b/g/n  
**BLUETOOTH:** Bluetooth Smart Device (BT LE)  
**STORAGE:** 64GB

**VIDEO FORMAT:** H.264  
**VIDEO RESOLUTION:** 2880 x 2880 @ 30FPS Max @ 50Mbps  
**SUPPORTED MOBILE O/S:** iOS 9+, Android 4.4+  
**ENVIRONMENT RESISTANCE:** Dust (IP6X), Water (1ATM), Shock (1.5m)

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

7.8



# Oh, Brother

## Brother MFC-L5900DW



### Two in One

The MFC-L5900DW is able to do dual sided scanning in one pass, saving you time

### Deck the Printer

Like many business laser printers, you can customise the number of trays to your needs



### Laser Quality Text

If you're looking for a constantly smooth and crisp printing for documents, the monochrome multifunction printer Brother MFC-L5900DW is your best bet. The printer certainly makes printing out a 30-page test document (i.e. my report) a breeze. The first printout seems to be fairly quick at 7 to 8 seconds, with the subsequent pages following suit right after without a hitch.

### A Tad Disappointing

However, when it comes to printing out images, pictures and graphics, there were a lot of details lost when it is converted to monochrome. If you're thinking of printing presentation slides in black and white, you may want to do a quick test print before proceeding with the lot. That said, in a traditional office setting, printing out images in monochrome isn't a norm so this

### Connecting Woes

I had intended to connect the MFC-L5900DW to our office network through Wi-Fi, but due to some incompatibility with our router at the time, it was proving to be a challenge. I personally feel that to maximise its potential in bigger offices, technicians from Brother need to be the ones setting up the system. It is definitely not for small-to-medium businesses who want a plug-and-play kind of device. **PC**

## VERDICT: "Cheap and does the job" - Din

### SPECS

**PRICE:** RM2,999  
**DIMENSIONS:** 495 x 427 x 486 mm  
**WEIGHT:** 17.7kg  
**TECHNOLOGY:** Monochrome Laser  
**MEMORY:** 1 GB  
**DISPLAY:** 3.7" TFT Colour LCD

**FUNCTION:** Multifunction Centre with Print, scan, copy and fax. Fast print speed of 40ppm, Full Automatic 2-sided Monochrome laser with Ethernet Gigabit Ethernet and Wireless connectivity and USB direct Printing  
**INTERFACE:** Hi-Speed USB 2.0, Ethernet 10Base-T/100Base-TX/1000Base-T, Wireless LAN IEEE 802.11b/g/n

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

# 7.8



| TESTED

# Maximising Print Productivity

Canon MAXIFY MB5470



## Convenient Display

The 3.5" LCD touchscreen is designed for easy slide-and-swipe touch operation

## Quick Response

Thanks to its Quick First Print technology, the first printout is ready in just 6 seconds




## Maximum Speed

The MB5470 delivers fast print speeds: printing a 30-page monochrome report was done in about a minute with minimal warm-up. It comes equipped with a wider print head, and this is paired with a unique overlapping paper feeding technology. The printer draws the second sheet to be printed and overlaps it with the first sheet, which increases the print speed. A very good performance for something its size.

## True to Colour

The MB5470 delivers more than just crisp and darker than black ink printouts, its coloured printing is no lightweight either. The colours are vibrant without oversaturating the paper. While the first printout for colour takes a little longer but significantly faster than its competitors. At most, you'll have to wait for 10 seconds before it comes out.

## Easy Set-Up

What I found to be a boon for the MB5470 is how easy it was to set-up. Connecting a new printer and have it seen across the network – especially wirelessly – can be a pain in the arse. The instructions provided were more than sufficient for me to set it up as a network printer via Wi-Fi connectivity quickly and swiftly. 



**VERDICT:** "This ball of a camera will capture all your memories in surround imagery – 360 degrees in fact. It is a bit slow, but it is easy to use once the app connects to your phone." - Atifi

SPECS

**PRICE:** RM 1,264  
**DIMENSIONS:** 463 X 394 X 351mm  
**WEIGHT:** 12.9kg  
**TECHNOLOGY:** Monochrome Laser  
**MEMORY:** 1 GB  
**DISPLAY:** 3.5" TFT Colour LCD

**PRINT PAPER SIZE:** A4, A5, B5, Letter, Legal, Oficio, B-Oficio, M-Oficio, Foolscap, Legal (India), Executive, 4 x 6", 5 x 7", 8 x 10", Envelopes (DL, COM10, C5, Monarch)  
**NETWORK:** Wired LAN, Wireless LAN  
**SOLUTIONS:** Apple AirPrint, Microsoft Mobile Print, Mopria, Google Cloud Print, Canon Print Service, Canon Print Inkjet/SELPHY

**V** .....  
**P** .....  
**F** .....  
**D** .....  
**U** .....

8.8





# Communicating Without Wallet Busting

Our journey continues with the search for the best value for money smartphone.

A communication device for quarter of the price of a flagship? Bring it on!

**S**o, you have only about 700 ringgit in your pocket, and you need to find a smartphone to replace the one that just tanked in your hands. You go to the shops and expect at that price range, you may get a lemon – you would be surprised. The market for phones under the RM 700 ringgit mark has grown to the point that some models have features that was previously only available in flagship devices. Brands Like Samsung, Wiko, HTC, Xiaomi, Honor and Lenovo all has models that is available for less than a quarter of a top-tier flagship – and they are capable smartphones of their own as well. How do they fair? Do read on dear readers.



# Samsung J2 Prime

**T**he entry from the largest smartphone manufacturer is also the larger models in this month's showdown. The Samsung J2 Prime brings to the table a few features that is not shared with the other competitors in the list. Unfortunately, one of the feature that Samsung used in this phone is the non-HD screen – at only 540 x 960 pixels ; this low-resolution screen may be a detractor for some potential customers to purchase this phone for their use.

Other features that the phone offers are almost similar with the rest. It has a 5-inch display that is becoming the accepted benchmark for smartphones these days. The screen itself supports 10-point multitouch so you are ensured that your experience using the phone will be good – regardless where you touch on the screen.

At 160 grams, it is the heaviest among the entrants in this showdown – and we wish that Samsung could have slimmed it down a bit more so it can be lighter in the hands. The processor on the Samsung Galaxy J2 Prime is a quad-core processor from MediaTek, running at 1.4Ghz. It is more that enough to power your apps, listen to music and take photos.

Talking about taking photos, the Samsung galaxy J2 Prime features an 8-megapixel rear camera, that is paired to a f/2.2 lens that helps in low-light imaging situations. The low megapixel count makes the J2 Prime trailing in the rear for image quality but if you are only looking to take a quick snap for simple social media sharing – it just covers the basic.

Other notable features include dual SIM standby, with one of the SIM tray doubling as the memory slot for a microSD slot – if one needs to expand the internal 8GB storage. On the selfie front – the J2 Prime comes with a 5-megapixel camera sensor that includes both a fast f/2.2 lens as well as a front LED flash as well to brighten up your selfie game. So go ahead and take your selfie in a dark place – the wide aperture lens and the LED flash will give you more backup for great selfies with your friends or loved ones.

Using the J2 Prime is like any other Samsung – the TouchWiz interface overlaying Android 6.0 Marshmallow is simple to use and looks great on the screen. Samsung did say that the phone will be getting Android 7.0 Nougat at the time of printing, so the phone is futureproof for buyers who are purchasing them today.











# Wiko ufeel Go

**F**or something a bit different, we present to you the Wiko ufeel Go. The smaller of the two latest phones from Wiko represents a nice smartphone that anyone can jump onto if they are looking to invest in their first smartphone. Not only the price point for this model is attractive, it has features and even looks like it is taken from a high-end smartphone model.

Underneath the seemingly metal body is the MediaTek MT6735 processor, which is a quad-core chip making it a good fit for most apps on the Google Play Store. You do get only 2GB of RAM, but to some it is more than enough if they do not open too many apps at the same time.

You get a 5-inch screen that is a 720p panel – which is decent enough for usage by most users out there. It is not a full HD screen, but on the upside, it gives the phone better battery life thanks to the lower resolution that it needs to draw on screen.

It is also one of the heaviest in the bunch at 172 grams and even then it comes with a party trick – you can remove the whole back of the phone. This is a feat seeing that the phone's back is made from metal. Underneath the removable back is a non-removable battery, as well as the slots for two SIM cards as well as a microSD card.

MediaTek supplied the MT6735 processor for the phone, which consists of four Cortex A53 cores. The chip also gives the phone LTE capabilities that is useful when you are on the go. Not only that, there is a 4000mAh battery powering everything so you are sure to enjoy a whole day of using the phone while you are out and about.

Imaging with the Wiko is also good, thanks to the 13-megapixel camera at the back of the phone. It can also take full HD video, but no 4K footage. For selfies, the 5-megapixel shooter serves the purpose to capture you and your friends when you are out and about in the city.

Surprisingly the Wiko ufeel Go feels very substantial in the hand as the curve and design of the phone is very conducive in give the most comfortable handhold. There are no sharp edges on the phone, and the 2.5D glass looks like it is taken straight from a high-end device. Plus, the Wiko even comes with a fingerprint scanner, making it one of the few mid-tier smartphones to feature it at its price point.



# Xiaomi Redmi 3S

**I**f you are ok with a name that is always associated with China, check out the Xiaomi Redmi 3S. This phone is the company's current small offering, but don't let the small size fool you. The Xiaomi Redmi 3S looks smart, has high-end features and can last for a long time on a single charge – which what users want to see in a smartphone these days.

With a 5-inch display, it is par for the course for the Redmi 3S when compared with the other phones in the line-up. The screen is thankfully a 720p variant, so the resolution of content on screen will still be generally legible. While it is no high-resolution screen, the screen gives a balance between quality and battery life as the phone will not draw too much power thanks to the lower resolution screen.

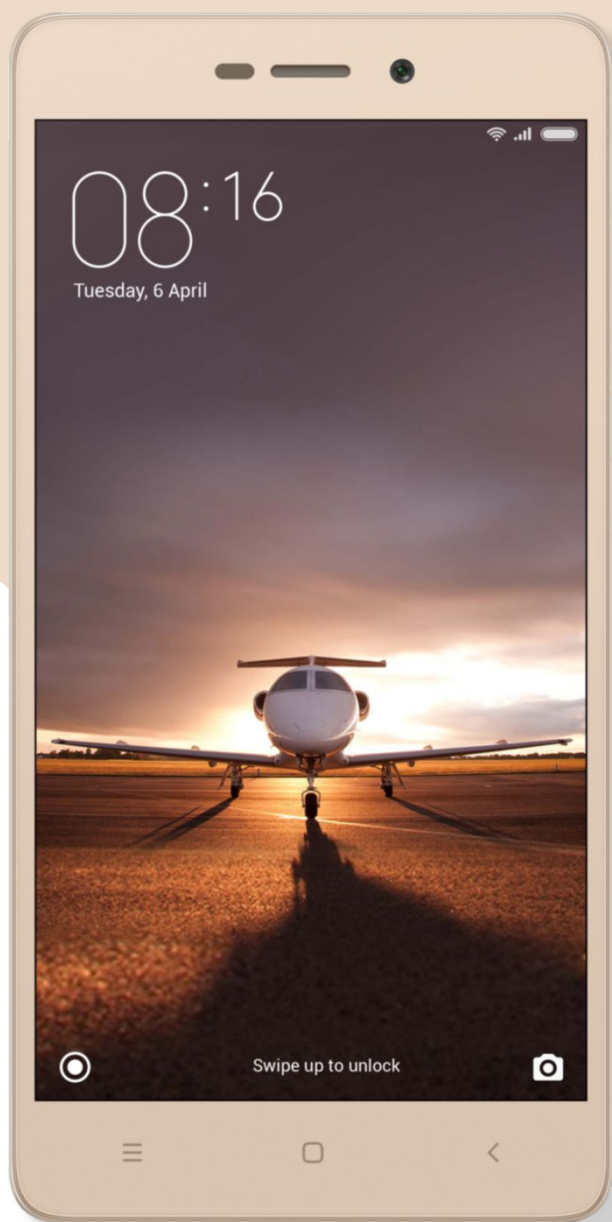
Qualcomm's Snapdragon 430 beats in the heart of the phone. It is one of the few phones at this price point that is pushing its 64bit processing capabilities, so it has a bit of a leg up when you need to use an app in a higher bit mode. At 144 grams, the Xiaomi Redmi 3S is quite light in the hand, and the all metal build makes it feel like it is a higher tier phone rather than the mid-tier phone it is.

Imaging with the Xiaomi Redmi 3S is generally a good one thanks to the 13-megapixel camera at the back that also features Phase Detect Auto Focus (PDAF) system, which promises a better autofocus lock when used. In practise, it is quite remarkable that the images that it takes are of very acceptable quality, although it is not the best that we have seen so far. The f/2.0 lens helps in low light situations as well.

The Redmi 3S comes with a dual-SIM solution, which gives the phone the ability to tap into two different lines at the same time. It also accepts external additional storage through the microSD slot, but this will take up one of the two SIM slots in the hybrid dual SIM tray that Xiaomi elected to use with this phone.

Security is paramount these days for smartphone users – this is why the fingerprint scanner that is on the Xiaomi Redmi 3S is fast and accurate. This will give users a piece of mind over their sensitive information on their smartphone. Plus, you can also add layers of security with smart features like App lock, Hidden folders and Hidden notes that is tied to a fingerprint scan.









# Honor 5A

**T**he Honor brand has a good amount of following in Malaysia, so it is no surprise that they are actively pushing their branding through their smartphone here in Malaysia. One of the segments they are strong in is the mid-tier market, and their offerings for this market is almost second to none. The Honor 5A is their model in this every growing market, and what it brings to the table is something interesting to all parties to consider.

At 5.5-inch, the Honor 5A has the largest screen among the contenders here, but it shares the 720p resolution with many of its competitors in the market. While this is an IPS display, the larger screen does mean that the screen clarity is not as sharp as a phone with a smaller display. However, Honor has managed to create a balance between quality and sharpness for day-to-day use.

Huawei has elected to fit the Honor 5A with its own silicon. The Kirin 620 from HiSilicon is an eight-core SoC, built with 64bit computing in mind. The SoC has a good power consumption rate that ensures the battery of the Honor 5A does not die too fast throughout the day. The battery at 3100mAh is not the largest in the line-up, but it can last for a whole working day with no problem at all, thanks to the Kirin processor.

With 2GB of RAM and 16GB of storage, the phone has enough memory to run all of your apps that you need. Of course, if you need to have more storage, the microSD slot can support up to 128GB for more space for your multimedia or apps, which the large screen is definitely suitable thanks to its large size. Plus, if you need to have two lines running at the same time, the dual SIM slots will give you the ability to plug in the lines that you need, which is especially convenient when travelling.

Imaging with the Honor 5A is good, thanks to the 13-megapixel sensor on the back, and 8-megapixel sensor for selfie purposes. It is par for the course at least on paper, and the photos taken with the cameras are not too shabby either.

The large size of the phone may turn off some users, but others may see the advantage of having a larger screen as well. Smaller hands may want to use this phone with two hands, but for the most part, the phone is comfortable to use in the hands. We wish the design is a bit less blocky though – more curves would be nice.





# Lenovo A6600 Plus

**O**ne of the biggest manufacturer of computer products in the world, Lenovo has fingers in just about every pie out there – from desktop workstations to portable machines for the office worker on the go. Their brand of smartphones are not too bad as well, with good performers in every level. The Lenovo A6600 Plus is one of the models we are quite happy with, thanks to its mix of performance, specs and looks.

The front of the phone is a curious mix of both Lenovo as well as the company that they bought over – Motorola. There are hints of design here and there, the A6600 Plus is still a handsome phone to look at and to be seen with. Its 5-inch screen is similar to the other phones in the line-up, and feature the same 720p resolution as the other phones. More than decent for normal daily use we reckon.

Running everything is the MediaTek MT6735p processor. This is a quad-core chip and is just enough for most apps to run with. It is not the fastest or the greatest chip in the bunch, but it does what it does without too much complaint.

You will get 2GB of RAM with each A6600 Plus, and 16GB of on-board storage for your media files and apps. Par for the course really. Also, the phone features a microSD slot for times you need to expand your storage for more content to be displayed on your screen. Like the others here, the A6600 Plus also feature Dual SIM capabilities, so you can have two lines running at the same time.

142 grams weight means that A6600 Plus will not stand out too much in this crowd, but the small 2300 mAh battery will. In the time where users routinely see 3000 mAh batteries as norm, the small battery capacity will be a sore point. Fortunately Lenovo has opted to have the phone feature removable batteries so that you can have a spare battery charged up to swap as the main one dies in the middle of the day.

Using the phone is quite ok, as the mid-tier size means that the phone will not feel too off in the hands, and there are enough design elements that gives the phone a more handsome look and feel in the hands. It will not win any pageant, but it should work without too much fault on a daily basis.





| SHOWDOWN

# COMPARISON



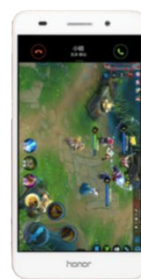
**Samsung J2 Prime**



**Wiko uFeel Go**



**Xiaomi Redmi 3S**



**Honor 5A**



**Lenovo A6600Plus**

**RM 499**

**DIMENSIONS:**  
144.8 X 72.1 X 8.9MM

**OPERATING SYSTEM:**  
ANDROID 6.0

**DISPLAY:**  
5-INCH 540P

**PROCESSOR:**  
MEDIATEK MT6737T

**GPU:**  
MALI-T720MP2

**MEMORY:**  
1.5GB

**ON-BOARD:**  
8GB

**CAMERA:**  
PRIMARY - 8MP  
SECONDARY - 5MP

**RM 599**

**DIMENSIONS:**  
144.4X71.6X9.7MM

**OPERATING SYSTEM:**  
ANDROID 6.0

**DISPLAY:**  
5-INCH 720P

**PROCESSOR:**  
MEDIATEK MT6737

**GPU:**  
MALI-T720MP2

**MEMORY:**  
2GB

**ON-BOARD:**  
16GB

**CAMERA:**  
PRIMARY - 13MP  
SECONDARY - 5MP

**RM 599**

**DIMENSIONS:**  
139.3X69.6X8.5MM

**OPERATING SYSTEM:**  
ANDROID 6.0.1

**DISPLAY:**  
5-INCH 720P

**PROCESSOR:**  
SNAPDRAGON 430

**GPU:**  
ADRENO 505

**MEMORY:**  
2GB

**ON-BOARD:**  
16GB

**CAMERA:**  
PRIMARY - 13MP  
SECONDARY - 5MP

**RM 699**

**DIMENSIONS:**  
144.2 X 72.5 X 9 MM

**OPERATING SYSTEM:**  
ANDROID 5.1

**DISPLAY:**  
5.5-INCH 720P

**PROCESSOR:**  
MEDIATEK MT6735P

**GPU:**  
MALI-T720MP2

**MEMORY:**  
2GB

**ON-BOARD:**  
16GB

**CAMERA:**  
PRIMARY - 13MP  
SECONDARY - 5MP

**RM 479**

**DIMENSIONS:**  
141 X 71 X 8.8 MM

**OPERATING SYSTEM:**  
ANDROID 6.0

**DISPLAY:**  
5-INCH 720P

**PROCESSOR:**  
MEDIATEK MT6735P

**GPU:**  
MALI-T720MP2

**MEMORY:**  
2GB

**ON-BOARD:**  
16GB

**CAMERA:**  
PRIMARY - 8MP  
SECONDARY - 2MP

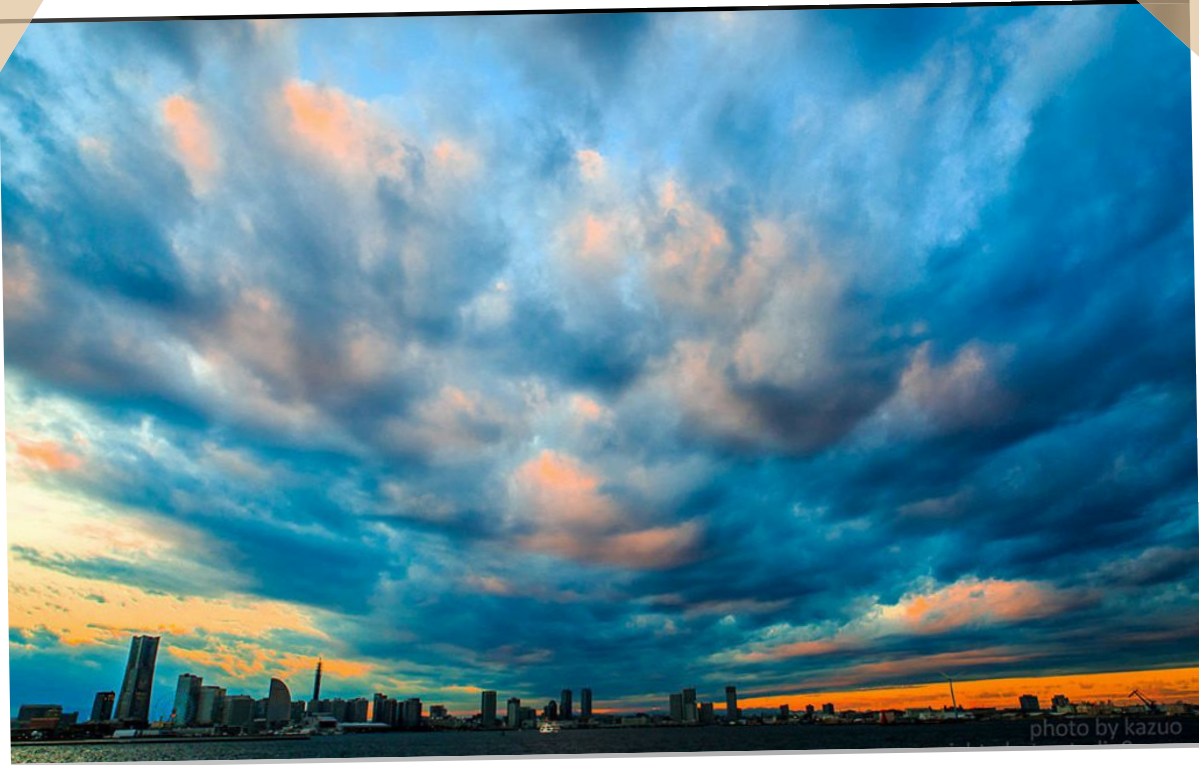
# CONCLUSION

The field of mid-tier smartphones is a big one, as while the flagships will rule the roost, it is the mid-tiers where all the pickings and peckings happen. Consumer who are not looking to spend thousands of ringgit in a smartphone will gravitate to the mid-tier market to fulfil their needs of a communications device that will not drain their wallet or their bank account. Because of that, the choice of which is the best model is a tough one to make, but after considerations and a discussion among peers, we have chosen the **Xiaomi Redmi 3S** as the winner of the showdown for the month. The main reason is that the model offers the best value for the buck, and at the same time gives the best performances for the price one pay for the phone. The rest were close, but this model edges the competition just that bit that it won the showdown in PC.com. If you need a second option, the Wiko ufeel Go is a great purchase as well, thanks to its combination of performance, price and looks.





# | PIXELS



## EXPLORING WIDE ANGLE LENSES **PART 2**

### COMPOSITION TECHNIQUES FOR WIDE-ANGLE LENSES

While wide-angle lenses are able to capture a wider range than standard lenses, they have the rather unique characteristic of perspective exaggeration that appears due to the special effect of convergence. In Part 1, I explained the different photographic effects of wide-angle lenses. Here in Part 2, I will help you get a better grasp of the characteristics of wide-angle lenses by showing you various photos that were taken in wide angle.

BY STUDIO9

STUDIO9 IS A PHOTOGRAPHY WEBSITE ESTABLISHED IN JAPAN IN 2011. THIS PC.COM  
PIXEL SERIES IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY CANON ASIA.

## HAVE FUN WITH STRONG PERSPECTIVE EXAGGERATION

To enjoy the characteristics of wide-angle lenses to the fullest, try approaching your subject from the diagonal. By composing the subject such that it protrudes into the frame as you approach, it will appear to come from the edge of the image, creating a strongly exaggerated perspective.

A nightscape of a factory in Kawasaki city, taken with my wide-angle lens (FL: 23mm). I got right up close to the fence, which would normally be an irritating obstruction. The distance between my lens and the fence was almost zero in this photo. When up close like this, the intense perspective exaggeration of the fence has a strong impact, which might even be overpowering for the viewer. On the other hand, the factory in the distance, near the centre of the image, does not evoke as strong a sense of perspective exaggeration.



EOS 5D Mark III/EF16-35mm f/2.8L USM/ f/16 / 20sec / ISO 800

I took a shot of a plate of oysters at an oyster bar (FL: 16mm). Here too, I got right up close until my lens was just about touching the shells in the foreground. The exaggerated perspective is stretched across the plate from the foreground into the background.



EOS 5D Mark III/EF16-35mm f/2.8L USM/ f/2.8 / 1/15sec / ISO 1600

## SUGGEST EXPANSE WITH EXAGGERATED PERSPECTIVES

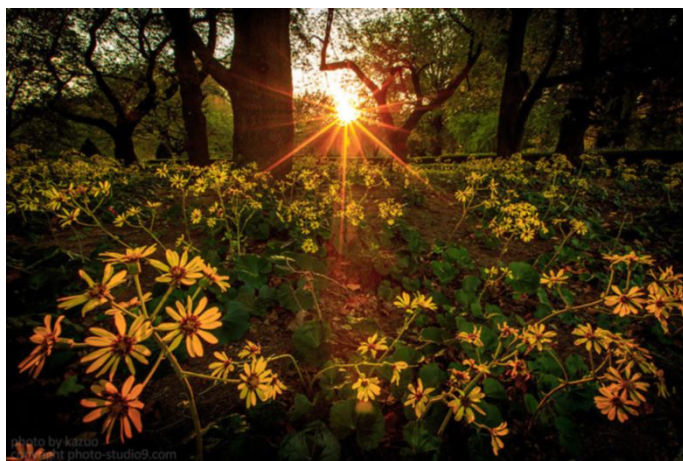
Creating perspective exaggeration with a wide-angle lens evokes a sense of expansiveness in your photos. When you use a wide-angle lens in a scene of plants growing en masse, such as when taking photos of flowers, the resulting photos will evoke a greater sense of expansiveness than that which you can see with your own eyes.



EOS 5D Mark II/EF24-105mm f/4L USM/ f/5.6 / 1/1250sec / ISO 200

In this example, the photo somehow gives the impression that it was taken in an entire field of flowers - yet it was actually a cluster of small planters with a depth of around 30 to 40cm inside a park. I took this shot right up close to the flowers with a focal length of 24mm.

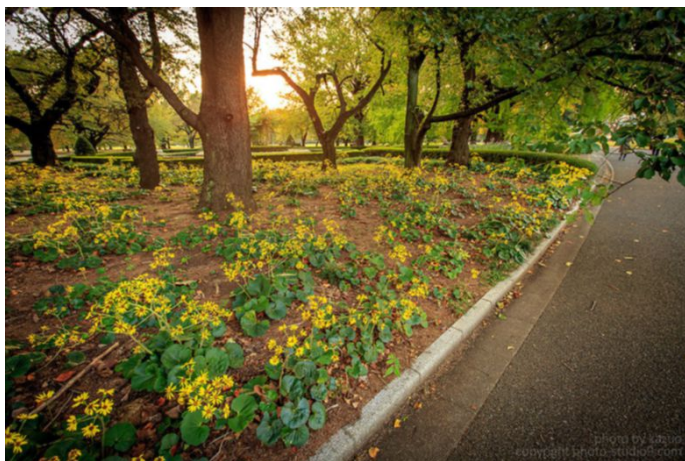
Next, I also took this close-up shot of flowers using a wide-angle lens (FL: 16mm). The perspective is thoroughly exaggerated from the foreground towards the background, giving the impression of an expansive garden of flowers.



EOS 5D Mark III/ EF16-35mm f/2.8L USM/ f/13 / 1/80sec / ISO 640

Incidentally, the image here is of the same location seen from further back. I actually took this shot using the same focal length of 16mm while standing up. However, the photo looks completely different. While the photo shows the overall appearance of the park, it is not clear what the subject of the shot is.

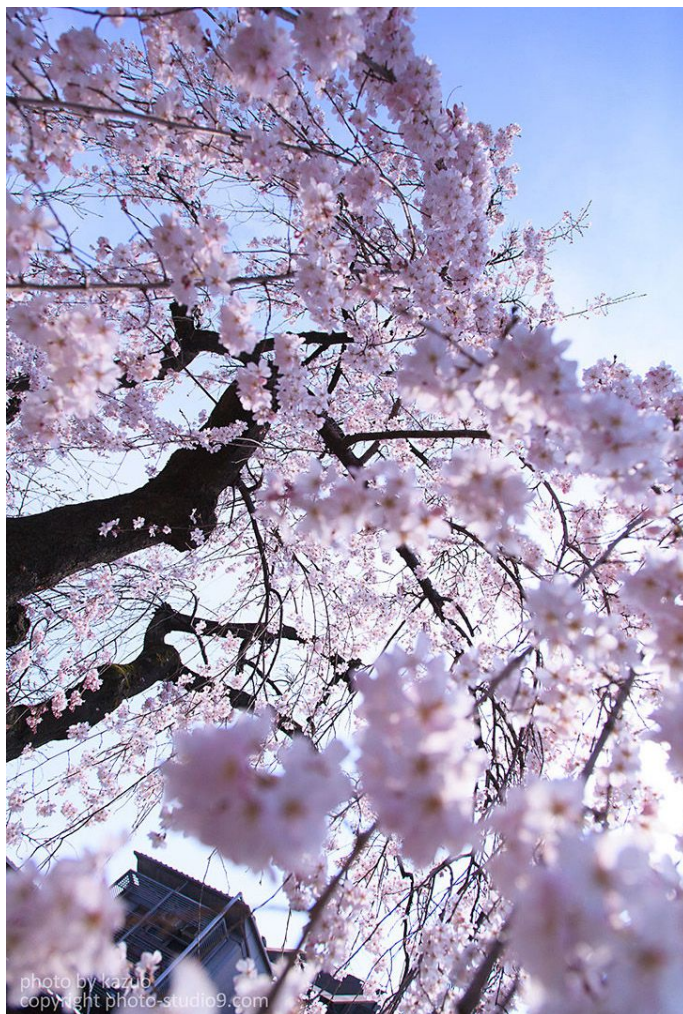




EOS 5D Mark III/ EF16-35mm f/2.8L USM/ f/5.0 / 1/100sec / ISO 100

I used the same lens for both photos. The only difference was how up close I took the photos.

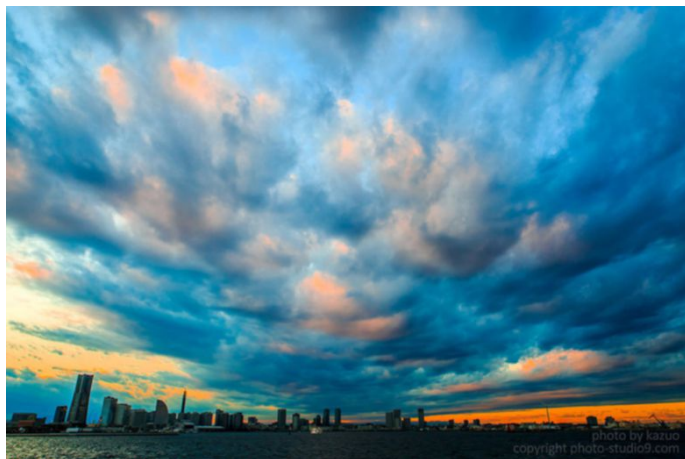
Japan's famous cherry blossoms are in full bloom around April, which is a good time to try getting right up close to the flowers with a wide-angle lens (FL: 24mm). You will be able to take photos brimming with cherry blossoms.



EOS 5D Mark II/ EF24-105mm f/4L USM/ f/5.6 / 1/5000sec / ISO 400

### CAPTURE AN EXPANSIVE SKY

When you take photos of a cloudy sky with a wide-angle lens, the sky will appear big and expansive. This is because of exaggerated perspective caused by the downward stretching that occurs from the top edge of the image. On a clear day the exaggerated perspective is not as apparent due to the lack of contrast in the sky, whereas, it is more pronounced when beautiful clouds are present. Therefore, you might want to actively place the sky in view when composing your shots.



EOS 5D Mark III/ EF16-35mm f/2.8L USM/ f/9.0 / 1/60sec / ISO 500

This shot is of the Minato Mirai area in Yokohama, taken from a boat at sunset (FL: 24mm). If the clouds look appealing, try taking in as much of the sky as you can using a wide angle. You need not worry about placing the horizon on the line dividing the lower third of the photo from the upper two thirds.



EOS 5D Mark III/ EF16-35mm f/2.8L USM/ f/10 / 1/800sec / ISO 250

Landscape in New Mexico, United States (FL: 16mm). An extremely vast sky is captured here.





### TRY USING A LOW SHOOTING POSITION

It is interesting to use a low shooting position with wide-angle lenses that create strong exaggerated perspectives of subjects in the foreground. Taking shots from a low position means that you inevitably have to get close to the ground, and therefore can have fun with the expansiveness of the ground.



EOS 5D Mark II/ EF24-105mm f/4L USM/ f/8.0 / 1/250sec / ISO 200

I took this shot with the camera placed on the ground (FL: 16mm). This gives the floor an expansive appearance. However, when shooting in a low position, take careful note of your surroundings beforehand so as not to have your intentions misunderstood. Particularly for low position, low angle shooting around town, a good idea would be to make sure that no one is nearby.

### MAKE LEGS LOOK LONGER AND BETTER SHOW OFF A SUBJECT'S FIGURE

You can make the most of the extreme perspective exaggeration of wide-angle lenses to make people's legs appear longer. For example, here is a low-angle shot looking up at a standing boy, with an exaggerated perspective in the upward direction from the feet at the bottom edge of the image. This makes his face appear smaller, thereby making the legs appear larger than they actually are.

In such cases, you should be careful not to place the face in the outer periphery of the image, as the face might become unnecessarily distorted. This is because perspective exaggeration is not as strong in the centre of the image. This technique is used to better show off a subject's figure and sense of style in portraits.

In this article, I introduced several characteristic photos taken using a wide-angle lens. I'm sure that once you have mastered perspective exaggeration, you'll have fun shooting with wide-angle lenses.



EOS 5D Mark III/ EF16-35mm f/2.8L USM/ f/4.0 / 1/40sec / ISO 800

Incidentally, low shooting angle and low shooting position are two very different things. Low angle refers to shots that are taken at an angle looking upward (as opposed to high angle), whereas low position simply refers to the camera being in a position lower than eye level. In the photo above, the camera is not only in a low position, but it is also pointing down towards the ground, making it a low-position, high-angle shot.



EOS 5D Mark III/ f/4.0 / 1/160sec / ISO 1250

# SUBSCRIPTION FORM

## RM114

1 YEAR - 12 ISSUES

Peninsular Malaysia

& Sabah and Sarawak (RM137)

Subscribe  
Now &  
Save Up  
to 20%

## RM203.50

2 YEAR - 24 ISSUES

Peninsular Malaysia

& Sabah and Sarawak (RM243)

### ORDER HOTLINE

Call us to get the next issue delivered  
right to your doorstep

## 03-7880 2611

(Mondays to Fridays, 9.00am-6.00PM)



Plus! Two lucky subscribers stand a chance  
to win an Audio-Technica ATH-C100G  
Headphones



YES! I would like to subscribe to PC.com

### Peninsular Malaysia & East Malaysia

- ☐ 1 YEAR (12 ISSUES) RM114 / RM137(EM)    ☐ NORMAL POST (FREE)  
☐ 2 YEAR (24 ISSUES) RM203.50 / RM243(EM)    ☐ SPECIAL COURIER RM78 / RM96(EM)  
☐ RENEW/EXTEND MY CURRENT SUBSCRIPTION USING THIS OFFER

Complete the Slogan in not more than 20 words

I LIKE PC.COM BECAUSE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INDICATE EITHER ☐ HOME OR ☐ OFFICE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_

NRIC NO \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

MOBILE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**DELIVERY** Please allow approximately 4-6 weeks for first issue to be delivered.  
**CANCELLATION** You may cancel at any time and receive a full refund on all  
unmailed copies minus RM30.00 for cancellation and processing charges.

### PAYMENT DETAILS

☐ MASTERCARD ☐ VISA    EXPIRY DATE  /  /

CREDIT CARD NO:

LAST 3 DIGITS STATED ON BACK OF THE CARD

NAME ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

CHEQUE NO \_\_\_\_\_

MONEY/POSTAL ORDER NO \_\_\_\_\_

All cheques must be crossed and made payable to

"Reach Publishing Sdn Bhd"

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: **REACH PUBLISHING SDN BHD**  
No. 15-3, Block F1, Jln PJU 1/42,  
Dataran Prima, 46500 Petaling Jaya,  
Selangor





Johnny Loy, Senior General Manager, Sales at Fuji Xerox Asia Pacific Pte Ltd (Malaysia Operations) and Toru Nakazaki, General Manager, Marketing at Fuji Xerox Asia Pacific Pte Ltd (Malaysia Operations)

# WORK FASTER AND SMARTER

Fuji Xerox comes out with 14 multifunction devices known as the new Smart Work Gateway concept

In conjunction with this year's Fuji Xerox Innovation Showcase, Fuji Xerox Asia Pacific launches its new line of innovative document management solutions, powered by the new Smart Work Gateway Concept. This new concept by Fuji Xerox supports diverse workstyles to enable business persons to perform their utmost capability by collaborating with cloud service partners while also offering various communication tools tailored to suit individual needs and preferences.

Through the Smart Work Gateway concept, Fuji Xerox is also introducing

14 models of cloud-friendly, digital colour multifunction devices under its ApeosPort-VI C / DocuCentre-VI series. This new series creates a communication environment that improves productivity in the workplace by integrating the Cloud Service Hub – a new platform that links the multifunction devices with multiple de facto standard cloud services. You can now log into the cloud services through a single sign-on, which then allows you to scan or save the documents from the cloud. The documents can also be cross-searched across the cloud services linked to the Cloud Service Hub,

thus contributing to the business process improvement.

What makes all of this possible is through the Fuji Xerox Direct Management Console, a free software that displays the contents of the Fuji Xerox Direct – a portal that provides Fuji Xerox's various Internet services – on client PCs. Through the software, you can now purchase, download and install apps for multifunction devices from the Internet in a centralised manner. With the Fuji Xerox Direct Management Console being used from a PC, multiple multifunction devices can be simultaneously managed and configured, providing rapid adaptation

in the event of sudden changes in working processes.

"The Smart Work Gateway was developed in response to the rapidly growing demands of our customers – demands that conventional multifunction devices alone are unable to meet," said Masashi Honda, President and Chief Executive Officer, Fuji Xerox Asia Pacific. "Based on this concept, Fuji Xerox underscores its role in accelerating business efficiencies. We will continue to expand the ecosystem through collaborations with more partners, enhancing the role of a multifunction device into a communications portal." 





# DIGITAL DATA MANAGEMENT KEY IN ADVANCING DIGITAL ECONOMIES WITHIN ASEAN

Pro-growth digital data management policy important in developing the regional economic vision

**A** new report titled 'The Digital Economy and the Free Flow of Data: Advancing the ASEAN Economic Community' was presented in collaboration by the US-ASEAN Business Council and Deloitte to the Malaysian government and the local business community. The reports highlights steps that can be taken by ASEAN member states to advance their digital economies and the ASEAN Economic Community through pro-growth data digital management policies.

Speaking at the event, Ambassador Michael Michalak, Senior Vice President and Regional Managing Director of the US-ASEAN Business Council said, "The digital economy plays a strategic role as a critical enabler for deepening ASEAN regional integration and as well as helping drive next generation

domestic demand led growth for startups and SME's."

"Regional integration and the digital economy are both big opportunities in what is one of the world's fastest growing regions. All manner of business, from the start-up to the regional champion as well as the multinational, will benefit

if the AEC framework puts the digital economy front & center. Now is the time to do so," Jeff Pirie, AEC Leader, Deloitte Southeast Asia, added later.

The US- ASEAN Business Council and Deloitte forum was hosted at Microsoft's office, and included a panel discussion on Malaysia's digital

economy and how the findings of the report can best be applied to support growth and innovation in Malaysia. The report was developed by the US-ASEAN Business Council and Deloitte, with support from Cisco, Citi, Google, MasterCard, Microsoft, and Seagate. **PC**



From left: Nur Sulyna Lim Abdullah, Chief Officer Corporate Strategic Sector, MCMC; Jasmine Begum, Director, Legal, Corporate & Government Affairs, Microsoft Malaysia & New Markets; Ambassador Michael Michalak, Senior Vice President and Regional Managing Director of the US-ASEAN Business Council; Jeff Pirie, AEC Leader, Deloitte Southeast Asia and Claudia Chan, Regional Director, Government Affairs, Asia Pacific for Seagate, at US-ASEAN Business Council report launch

## IT DECENTRALIZATION GAINING TRACTION FOR DIGITAL BUSINESS INNOVATION IN MALAYSIA

VMware introduces Evolved Cloud Strategy to address the matter to the local market

**G**uided with insight from the "VMware State of the Cloud 2016" research report, VMware highlighted that IT departments are being sidestepped by business leaders who adopt their own cloud-based technologies to innovate faster and meet growth objectives. VMware shared that one of the most significant impediments to digital business innovation in Malaysia is the decentralization of IT and its detrimental effect on enterprise operations.

VMware's State of the Cloud 2016 research found that enterprises in Malaysia face high levels of IT decentralization, with more than 85 per cent of local respondents – one of the highest in the Asia Pacific and Japan region – agreeing that the purchasing and management of IT are taking place outside of IT's purview.

"As Malaysian companies race to compete in the global digital economy, the research findings validate what we've been hearing from our customers across the region – most organizations

have a hybrid cloud environment, with workloads and applications across different platforms. The challenge for local CIOs is to continue enabling their companies to innovate and meet growth objectives, and yet effectively manage and secure applications dispersed across multiple cloud environments. VMware Cross-Cloud Architecture responds directly to this challenge by offering cloud freedom and control," said Alex Loh, country manager, Malaysia and Brunei, VMware.

To help businesses, VMware has extended the company's hybrid cloud strategy with the VMware Cross-Cloud Architecture, enabling customers to run, manage, connect, and secure their applications across clouds and devices in a common operating environment. In addition, VMware Cloud Foundation offers a new "as-a-service" option that delivers the full power of the software-defined data center (SDDC) in a hybrid cloud environment. **PC**

# FORTINET URGES COMPANIES TO REVIEW NETWORK SECURITY IN PREPARATION OF INTERNET OF THINGS (IOT)

Increased security risks expected in the new era of interconnected devices


**F**ortinet, the global leader in high-performance cyber security solutions, warns that the IoT revolution is poised to bring new challenges to network security. Connectivity is no longer limited to high-end technology consumers (watches and drones), but nearly everything - from children's toys to kitchen appliances and media devices. Purchasers of these new technology-enabled products are far from security experts or even security aware.

Market researcher Gartner predicts that by 2020, humans will each have 26 connected devices that gather, send, and correlate data. For enterprises, this means the security risks related to this new

era of technology personalization are both significant and unplanned. With the advent of IOT, employees will simply sync their personal smart devices, connect to the corporate WiFi network and even remotely connect to the cloud-based services deployed across the corporate network.

"The emergence of IoT is pushing security from being a network afterthought and bolt-on technology to an integral, persistent, omnipresent part of the network. The 1980s approach to install an MDM client on smartphones and tablets, which we still do today, just isn't an option for IOT devices. Secured, trustworthy networking is preferred over networking plus security. To

limit the scope and exposure of an exploited device, we need to create even smaller security domains," said Michelle Ong, Country Manager for Fortinet Malaysia.

In light of things, Fortinet advises network security professionals to adopt several key strategies, which includes a tighter network access for IoT devices, preparing for data breaches, segmenting networks to contain potentially disruptive IoT devices, and to use tools that scale dynamically, are provisioned easily, and that work together as a cooperative security fabric in order to share threat intelligence from across the company's distributed environment and coordinate a response to a threat. 



# DATA CENTRES: DIGITAL ENABLERS OF THE ECONOMY

Malaysia ripe to take advantage of regional data centre growth

**E**very post you hit 'Like' on Facebook or every picture you post on Instagram requires a place to store all that data and information. Everybody knows it is thanks to the Internet, but where does all that information go? The most popular answer would be 'cloud', when in fact, everything is stored in many centralised repository locations known as data centres.

With more information being created every second around the world, more storage space is required, which in turn demands the creation of more data centres.

In light of this, Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) highlights how Malaysia needs more data centres built locally in order to


further attract international companies to invest in the country. During his presentation, Tan Tze Meng, Head, Data Cloud, Digital Enablement, MDEC mentions that Malaysia's data centre services market currently stands at less than RM1 billion (bn) but hopes for it to reach RM2 bn by 2020, based on a research done by Frost & Sullivan.

He also highlighted that there are eight key criteria's that an organisation would need to consider when it comes to data centre and cloud investments, which includes connectivity, land, energy, ease of doing business, water (for cooling purposes), avoidance of risk, as well as financial/non-financial incentives and a data-friendly regime.

For Malaysia, Tan states that the biggest challenge are connectivity

and high cost of bandwidth. However, this issue may be solved with the involvement of the Dark Fibre Model, which is slowly being practiced at Malaysia's own data centre hub, Cyberjaya.

The Dark Fibre Model will reduce expenditure cost by buying the fibre

that transmits information to other data centres, instead of 'renting' the connection. This will not only save cost, but will also make way for new data centres to be born, ultimately boosting the country's attractiveness as a major data centre player on the global stage. 





# A SMARTER WI-FI FOR SUNWAY UNIVERSITY

Top Malaysian university leads thanks to Ruckus Wireless Solutions

**R**uckus Wireless announced the deployment of 450 Ruckus ZoneFlex R700 802.11ac wave 2 Smart Wi-Fi Access Points (AP) at Sunway University in Subang Jaya, Selangor. Part of Brocade, the deployment is set to deliver high-quality wireless connectivity to over 17,000 staff and students across the Subang campus.


"We chose the Ruckus solution because the set-up and maintenance was so much easier than other networks," commented Tan Siao Yuan, Senior Manager, IT Operations at Sunway Education Group. "The Wi-Fi had to integrate seamlessly into our broader IT environment, and the Ruckus products delivered this."

The university found that the Ruckus delivered the best in term of performance, ease of configuration

**"We chose the Ruckus solution because the set-up and maintenance was so much easier than other networks," says Tan Siao Yuan.**



as well as offering the strongest Wi-Fi signals in the high density-areas during their testing period. Ruckus also delivered the best coverage out of the systems Sunway University tested out.

"We're delighted to have provided smarter Wi-Fi to Sunway University in Subang Jaya," commented Michael Lok, Managing Director, ASEAN at Ruckus Wireless. "We know that students and staff around the world now view stable, secure wireless connections as a standard utility in lecture halls and study rooms and Sunway is clearly delivering that. The Ruckus Wireless solutions, including the ZoneDirector 5000 controllers, are designed to simplify onboarding and management, and deliver robust connections without compromising security." 

## SIMPLE AND EASY DEPLOYMENT FROM DELL EMC


ProDeploy gives customers a peace of mind for new system rollouts

**T**o meet the demand of customers who are looking to deploy PCs faster in their organization, Dell EMC has announced the launch of the ProDeploy Client Suite, which gives the companies greater control and flexibility to choose specific services to meet the need of their organization.

"Our differentiated services are a big reason customers buy from Dell. ProDeploy Client Suite provides IT managers the flexibility to outsource time-consuming deployment tasks that divert IT staff from more critical initiatives," said Jeff Clarke, Dell vice chairman, Operations and president, Client Solutions Group. "They can now focus on delivering a great end-user

experience and increase productivity by putting a fully-configured system in their employees' hands."

The ProDeploy Client suite is set up to deliver to the customers from day one an easy to manage deployment platform that can handled through TechDirect, a self-service portal that allows customers and partners to easily and confidently direct deployment projects, from defining the scope, to making changes, to configuring systems or checking status. Projects can be executed faster and with less risk of mistakes, making the entire engagement more efficient and effective.

For clients who are looking to have ProDeploy as part of their organization, it is now available in over 70 countries, including Malaysia. 

### ProDeploy Client Suite



Deploy PCs with greater speed and less effort.



A photograph of Johnson Seet, the Director of Products from Acer, speaking at a podium. He is wearing a white blazer over a dark patterned shirt and has a small microphone clipped to his lapel. He is holding a small object in his hands.

# ACER TELLS IT LIKE IT IS

JOHNSON SEET, THE DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTS FROM ACER TELLS  
US ALL ABOUT ITS NEW LINEUP OF PRODUCTS.

By Teh Wi-Liam

**N**ot too long ago, Acer rolled out its new lineup of products, starting off with the Acer Swift 7, an ultra-portable laptop holding the title as the slimmest laptop in the world. Aside from that, Acer also brought forth the Swift 3 in a brand new colourway, the Spin 5 that comes with 360-degree hinges, the Acer Predator Z35 gaming monitor that is 35-inches wide and the Acer C Aspire 22.

We sat down with Acer's Director of Products, Johnson Seet to get more information out of him about Acer's new products.



**PC.com: Where did the idea of the Acer Swift 7 come about? Not more than a few months earlier did HP launch its Spectre and ASUS with its Zenbook 3. Was the Swift 7 meant to level the playing field in terms of an ultra-portable laptop while still meeting the ever-increasing lightweight design and portability?**

Seet: As a company, we are pursuing our effort to transform into a hardware, software and services company. Acer is constantly innovating and we have always been at the forefront and technology and development, being the first to market in several products that challenge the industry on what technology can achieve for customers. From the world's first ultrabook, the Aspire S3 launched in 2011 to the recently-introduced Predator 21 X, the world's first curved screen notebook, Acer leads the way in design, productivity and power in devices.

We are focused on building innovative, premium products, and over the years, our product range has continuously become more stylish while retaining all its performance. This includes the ultra-portable, elegant Swift 7. What we offer is high-quality products with meaningful innovations and real value. The Swift 7 is the most innovative ultra-slim laptop we have ever developed with its outstanding portability, elegant design, and superb performance. It shows our investment, commitment as well as capability in research and development in producing the best products for our customers.

Acer is one of the early adopters of the 7th Gen Intel Core processors for our ultra-slim Swift series, again demonstrating that we are in the forefront of providing cutting-edge technology for our users. We believe that by designing products that meet the real needs of people, it proves and supports our ambition to deliver technology into the hands of many.

Besides being the world's first laptop to be under 1cm thin, the Swift 7 is also the perfect complement to any lifestyle with its sturdy build and excellent battery life of up to nine hours - ensuring that users gain more productivity from this laptop without having to lug the charger and cables around!

**PC.com: Aside from the Swift 3 coming out with a brand new colour, can you tell us about**

**the Swift 3 that makes it different from its predecessor?**

Seet: The Acer Swift 3 was introduced in October last year in its Sparkly Silver colour whilst the new colour unveiled in November was the Luxury Gold. The elegant Luxury Gold colour adds a touch of luxe to this irresistible laptop which is ideal for modern working professionals and students who seek a stylish productivity device to complement their personality.

Powered by 7th Gen Intel Core i5 processor, the Swift 3 features Acer Fingerprint Reader that is paired with Windows Hello to offer an efficient, convenient and secure way to access user's Windows account. Also, it comes with 2x2 MU-MIMO 802.11ac technology and fast 256GB SSD, the Swift 3 offers 4GB of memory and up to 10 hours of battery life, delivering solid results in a small package. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. We believe both colours will have their own groups of fans.

**PC.com: The whole idea of 360-degree hinges have been around for quite some time like the Lenovo Yoga 900S and the HP Spectre x360 for example. What makes the Acer Spin 5 different from the rest?**

Seet: The 360-degree hinge is not a new technology to Acer, as we already have the convertible Aspire R14 which was launched early last year. The Aspire R14 can be transformed into four different modes for a variety of needs, making it easier and more convenient to use and perform at work or play.

No doubt, the hinge technology has become more advanced over time. The whole idea is about the usability of the device. The Spin 5 features Acer's patented 360-degree dual-torque hinge, providing wobble-free touch experience and high level of convenience via its easy convertibility to the four useful modes; as a laptop or tablet, in a space-saving display mode, or in tent mode with great viewing angles for sharing presentations or watching movies. The flexible and sturdy hinge also makes it easy to open but prevents toppling over when using the 13.3-inch Full HD IPS touchscreen display. The convertible Spin 5 is offering ultimate flexibility to allow users to use it per their

requirements, while maximizing productivity.

Apart from the hinge technology, the Spin 5 is powered by 7th Gen Intel® Core™ i3, 4GB DDR4 memory and up to 128GB of SSD storage for best-in-class performance and fast computing experience. Furthermore, no charging is needed when you are out all-day for work or play with up to 10 hours of battery life.

**PC.com: The Acer Predator Z35 monitor is relatively larger (35-inches total) compared to the 27-inch for the Z1. What would you say differentiates the Z1 from the Z35?**


Seet: Predator Z1 is the first 27-inch, curved monitor with NVIDIA® G-SYNC™ technology. What makes this monitor even more interesting is its Tobii eye-tracking technology, which allows new interactions like aiming, identifying enemies and taking cover simply by looking at objects on the screen. With this cutting-edge technology, gamers will be able to interact with the characters more realistically and enjoy a much more immersive and seamless gaming experience. Their eyes and intuition will be their greatest weapon now.

On the other hand, the Predator Z35 is a 35-inch 21:9 UltraWide Full HD (2560x1080) curved gaming monitor with a curvature of 2000R featuring NVIDIA G-SYNC for immersive, dynamic and wrap-around gaming experience. It supports overclocking to a lightning-fast mode of up to 200Hz refresh rate. Size does matter. It depends on the users on what do they want to use their laptop for. At the end, everything goes down to the reason they acquire the devices.

**PC.com: In terms of the AIO Acer C Aspire 22, will there be any significant upgrades brought to it in the near future?**

Seet: Not at the moment.

**PC.com: Is there anything we can expect from Acer in 2017?**

Seet: At this point, I can only say: please wait for our announcement. One thing for sure is that Acer will always be moving forward to offer our innovative products which will never fail to excite the users. 





# THE FUTURE OF ECOMMERCE: RETAILERS MUST EVOLVE NOW OR EVENTUALLY FALL BY THE WAYSIDE

By: Yvonne Chang

**T**he world of retail is undergoing an unprecedented wave of innovation. 'The Future of eCommerce: The Road to 2016' whitepaper, commissioned by Criteo and published by Ovum, found that technology, new business models and evolving consumer behaviour are the key drivers of disruption in retail.

With more than 21,090,000 local internet users contributing US\$2.3 billion (RM 10.2 billion) to the nation's revenue in 2015, Malaysia has become one of the leading eCommerce markets in Southeast Asia. Interestingly, given that three in five Malaysians have only started shopping online in the past three years, public acceptance of online technology and the consistent growth

of smartphone users is set to raise the demand for online shopping platforms and experiences in the months ahead.

Online shopping today is largely driven by price and convenience – a good deal on products that are delivered quickly. By 2026, these fundamental desires will still exist, but expectations of the shopping experience would have changed drastically. Millennials and Generation Z consumers, for example, will be demanding more from eCommerce providers, such as the ability to discover in real-time unique goods they will not find in big-box retail chains.

Undeniably, with the rise of eCommerce—in Malaysia and globally, the retail sector is becoming more

competitive. For online and offline retail businesses to stay relevant 10 years from now and beyond, here are two key developments that must be considered:

## **The Term 'Online Pure-Play' Will Be Eradicated By 2026**

For many customers, one initial trial is both required and sufficient to build the trust necessary to make future purchases without having to physically see and feel each new product. As such, while new entrants to retail will no doubt start from an online pure-play perspective, they will inevitably move to test out physical retail space with pop-ups, complemented by collections or showcase stores to facilitate product discovery and trial.

ZALORA is a prominent example of an eCommerce brand in Asia that has already done this.

Once they turn into established brands with a significant consumer following, pure-play online retailers must further develop their physical presence, to enhance fulfilment and customer service. For most, this will take the form of partnerships along the lines that are emerging today, such as the 'click-and-collect' model.

Retailers in Malaysia can perhaps draw inspiration from the UK – where brands like ASOS and Boots, and eBay and Argos, have started collaborating and implementing click-and-collect models. Another example is MatahariMall.com in Indonesia, which has combined its online





levels of interactivity and engagement that traditional programmes cannot match. In technologically advanced markets like Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan, mobile advertising is already firmly in the advertising mix and will become the dominant (but not exclusive) channel for most brands by 2026.

With more than 44 billion mobile users, digital advertising and content is emerging as a key customer engagement channel for retailers in Malaysia. In 2016, Malaysian businesses invested a total of RM 1.37 billion in digital advertising. As businesses start to derive more value and even more consumers come online, annual investment in digital engagement is expected to exceed RM 2 billion by 2020.

As a natural extension of mobile becoming mainstream, 'contextual location' will become an integral part of the retail experience. The ability to identify a user's location and deliver targeted, timely and relevant information and messages to his or her mobile device is a powerful and compelling proposition. Moreover, the real-time aspect of location analytics will offer a more adaptive approach to marketing, enabling retailers in Malaysia to adapt their engagement tactics in real-time to meet an individual consumer's needs.

One example is the use of Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) beacons. BLE beacons are tiny units with built-in sensors that can broadcast signals to BLE-enabled and mobile devices within range, triggering corresponding beacon applications on the device and allowing retailers to engage their customers after they have left their physical stores.

In this instance, if an individual in Kuala Lumpur's Low Yat Plaza has stood in an aisle looking at smart TVs for more than 15 minutes but leaves a store within the mall without buying one, location-based technology will suggest that interest is there even though it has not led to a purchase. A retailer in the mall who has implemented this technology can then follow up by sending

personalised recommendations and promotions related to the product to the customer's smartphone. These serve as reminders and incentives for the customer to purchase from that retailer, rather than its competitors.

Today, most mobile advertising happens on the mobile web because it is convenient and scalable. However, with consumers increasingly engaging with digital content and services anytime and anywhere on mobile devices via native applications, retailers must become familiar with application-based and cross-device advertising and messaging. Retailers who can integrate the mobile web, apps, in-app targeting and contextual location into today's business operations and engagement strategies will set the stage for the seamless adoption of newer mobile technologies or add-ons when required.

A decade from now, instant gratification will mean something more sophisticated than just a quick fix. It will have evolved into expectations of a seamless shopping experience across a range of connected devices, in which immediacy, convenience and personalisation are paramount. Consumers will expect goods advertised online to live up to the promise in every way – with no disconnect between the "fit and feel" of what they see and what they get. This places immediate pressure on retailers to evolve in the way they operate and engage consumers. Those that fail to meet expectations will soon fall by the wayside.

To read the full 'The Future of eCommerce: The Road to 2016' research whitepaper, commissioned by Criteo and produced by Ovum, please visit <http://www.criteo.com/resources/ovum-future-ecommerce/> 

presence with designated counters within its existing physical malls and hyper-marts to enable click-and-collect.

By 2026, physical retailers will continue to reduce the amount of physical space they hold, switching their investment emphases online. Online retailers, on the other hand, will invest further in establishing physical presences. As such, the term 'pure-play' will be rendered obsolete.

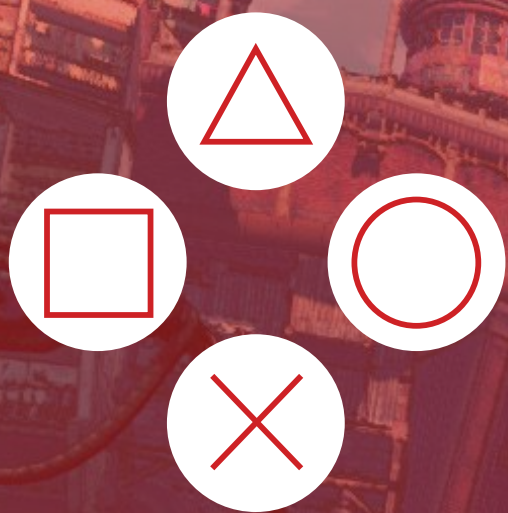
### **Becoming Mobile-First is Key to Creating Shopping Experiences of the Future**

In the retail and commerce domain, mobile will soon become the dominant channel for loyalty programmes and rewards, due to its ability to provide



Yvonne Chang, Executive Managing Director, Asia Pacific, Criteo





# GAM

## IT'S TIME FOR AN ADVENTURE

Gravity Rush 2

By Teh Wi-Liam



The background of the page is a stylized, painterly illustration from the game Gravity Rush 2. It depicts a cityscape with tall, ornate buildings and a bridge, all rendered in a blue and purple color palette. In the foreground, there is a wooden platform with a railing made of dark, thick wooden posts and horizontal beams. The sky is a mix of blue and purple hues. In the top right corner, there is a small red icon of a video game controller.

# ETIME

**A**fter almost a year after Gravity Rush came onto the big stage, Gravity Rush 2 is here and it's bigger and better than the last. Admittedly, I am going into Gravity Rush 2 blind as I never got a chance to experience how great the first instalment was (I don't get paid enough to buy all the games I want to continue with the storyline). However, due to the overwhelming reception Gravity Rush received at the beginning of last year, I had a certain level of expectations with Gravity Rush 2.





### Believe I Can Fly

Well, you're not technically flying but if you're able to bend the laws of physics and gravity – pun intended – into your favour, you will be able to. Although I don't advise you trying it in real life, you're more than welcome to test out the gravity-controlling mechanics, which is great and super easy to get accustomed to, making me feel like an air bender on steroids (minus the ability to control the air around you). You will be able to choose between three different gravity-defying styles that will revolve around your playstyle.

Aside from the original gravity style featured in the first game, Gravity Rush 2 includes two new styles to further diversify one's playstyle. Lunar allows you to be lighter while increasing your speed and ability to jump higher. Jupiter on the other hand, makes you heavier but gives your attack moves greater damage output and impact. What makes Gravity Rush 2 great is the ability to switch styles

with the touch pad, making it that much easier to be switch up the gravity styles when you choose.

Seeing as I was a complete noob – and proud – when it comes to Gravity Rush 2, there is a bit of a learning curve when it comes to getting around using the winds and gravity to your favour. A piece of advice I can give to new players for Gravity Rush 2 is to spend a couple of minutes to wander around the aerial city of Hekseville by just jumping – literally – at any opportunity to familiarise yourself with the controls.

### A Whole New World

After going through hours of gameplay walkthrough footage for Gravity Rush and diving straight into Gravity Rush 2, it's very easy to tell the difference between the two. First off, Gravity Rush 2 has a much larger open-world to explore as compared to its predecessor. Although the game does pick up where Gravity Rush ended, the art direction and

style was improved tremendously, making the first instalment look cheap and boring. What I enjoyed most about the graphics was its comical, yet somewhat heavily focused on the vibrant colours of the environment, looking a lot like what Borderlands would do. However, for someone who isn't used to being surrounded by vibrant and vivid colours, it could get a bit uncomfortable after a while as the camera controls in Gravity Rush 2 is mediocre at best. The best way to counter this is to constantly have your thumb over the right analog stick so you can click it to recentre the camera in case you get a bit too discombobulated.

A great thing about open-world concepts in RPGs is the ability to explore to your heart's content without having to continue the storyline until you see fit; one of the many reasons why I adore RPGs the most, I can do whatever I want and whenever I want to do it. Another reason is because I do not possess the same amount of free time as I once did







where I know look back and think, 'what in the hell was I thinking?!' I digress, back to Gravity Rush 2.

From floating cities to airships, the world — also known as Jirga Para Lhao — is your oyster to explore. Be sure to make the most out of your exploration time as you will undoubtedly come across upgradable gems. What I would encourage you to do is jump over the edge in first-person mode as it was the closest I could get to skydiving without having to leave my own home (for all lazy adrenaline junkies, this one's for you).

### Recovering the Continuities

I am not a huge fan of anime so asking me to watch the anime to fully understand the background of the story sounds like lazy craftsmanship. What could have been included into the game was left out and made into a show so the publishers could milk out every cent from poor plebs like me (admittedly, I was a bit too invested into the Kingsglaive movie as well as the animated series, Brotherhood).

Gravity Rush: the Animation — Overture is a 17-minute short that helps confused gamers to tie

the original PS Vita game along with the sequel into one convoluted storyline. If you happen to be the sort of person who has to get the story straight from the get-go, I recommend you give the two-episode short a watch as it does pretty well in tying the story together.

### Worse Than Klingon

I'll probably piss off some Trekkies reading this but I've always wanted to tango with the Devil anyway. The story of Gravity Rush 2 is told through a fictional language so it's best to be prepared for plenty subtitle reading. The language in its own is highly intolerable to my ears; and here I thought Klingon was bad enough. What happened to the good ol' days where fictional languages have a nice, velvety sound to it, like Elvish? Most of the entire narrative is told through in-game conversations so be sure you're on your toes to read the subtitles. If not, you could miss out on a key piece of information to further the storyline.

Aside from the main storyline, Gravity Rush 2 does provide some pretty interesting side quests, albeit somewhat similar to what Final Fantasy XV had to offer (fetch your own damn jewels Dino you smug looking son of a B!). The side quests in Gravity Rush 2 vary between borderline interesting and fun to just being absurdly weird like staging an alcoholic's intervention.

### At The End Of It All

When it comes right down to it, aside from its glaringly annoying narrative and convoluted subtitle-reading, Gravity Rush 2 is a pretty interesting game with a far greater goal than

than it gives itself credit for. If you're one for RPGs, this is the game for you without any restrictions whatsoever when it comes to exploring the open-world. **PC**



**Developers:** SIE Japan Studio & Project Siren  
**Publisher:** Sony Interactive Entertainment  
**Platforms:** PlayStation 4  
**Release Date:** 18 January 2017  
**Genre:** Action-adventure, RPG  
**Players:** Single-player

**SCORE:**

**8.5** /10

**GREAT**





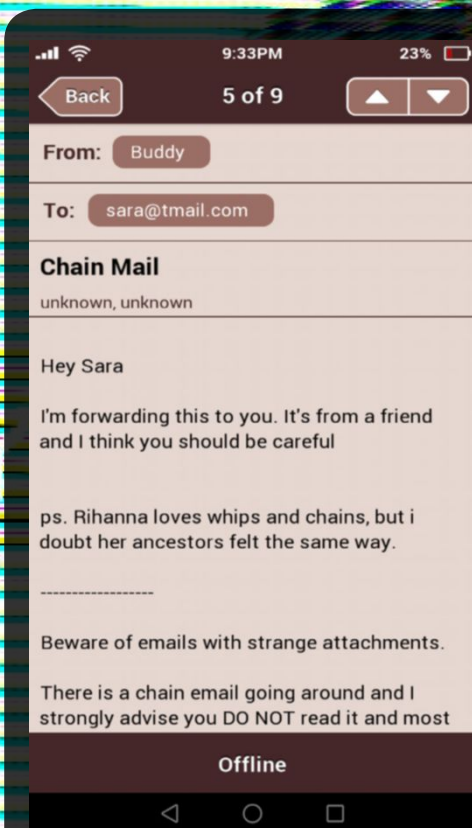
# A GOOD HORROR GAME REVIVAL

Sara Is Missing (SIM)

By Teh Wi-Liam

I have always been a fan of anything horror; whether it's movies, TV series or even video games. Give me a good horror story and it will sell itself. Unfortunately, thanks to Hollywood, most horror movies and video games these days have been exceptionally disappointing. Although it does have great jump scares, the story alone is two-dimensional, making it boring after the first 20 minutes.





Are you f#\$%ing kidding me Buddy

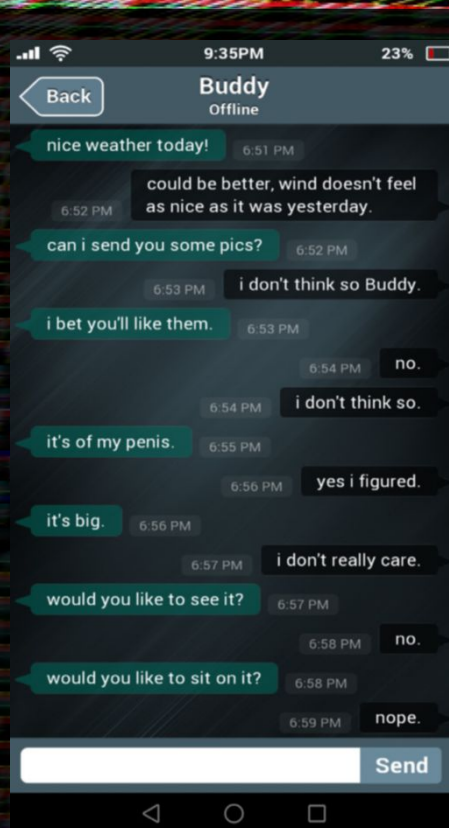
Sara Is Missing (SIM) provides a refreshing take on the horror genre in video games through an simulation game setting where everything is being played through the eyes of another device. Basically, your phone has become Sara's phone the moment you launch the game, which is a great take on the modern-day horrors of how connected we are to our phones.

### Not Your Everyday Horror

SIM is not your typical horror video game with jump scares or anything remotely horrifying. On the contrary, the game talks about the horrors of mobile technology and how it can easily dictate our lives and with every decision we make. I applaud Monsoon Labs for the way it handled modern-day voyeurism through the content you can find in the phone. I would also like to point out a throw-away character in the game who goes by 'Buddy'. Why Sara would choose to be friends with a sleaze like that is beyond me (although I could see myself using his pickup lines in the near future when my love life goes up in flames).

The game starts you off with Iris, the phone's very own personal AI assistant (which is essentially Siri spelled backwards). Iris is a compelling character as it will be your only option for advice and help as you go about the game. What makes Iris creepy is its Jarvis-like style of talking, very much like a human.

Iris will tell you that Sara is missing – yeah,



How are you still friends with him, Sara

no shit Sherlock – and it is your job to find her; you literally have no say in the matter and that is where the fun starts. After a brief conversation with Iris, I gained access to Sara's home page where you can creep on her personal messages, emails and notes. Her gallery, unfortunately, would be corrupted until you discover the right clues to Iris (and here I was thinking Monsoon Labs would've gone the full nine yards with nude selfies or whatnot). After scrolling her messages, I only have two questions for the developers – who are the actresses who play Faith and Aya and how do I get to know them?

I kid of course.

### The Horrors Within

Throughout the course of the game, you would have to skim through every single message log Sara has with her friends, her mother and even her asshole ex-boyfriend (who sounds like he has the best damn job in the world photographing nude models). Once you discover a clue, simply tap and hold on the screen and if it's the right clue, Iris will appear to help you progress with the game.

As mentioned earlier about the idea of voyeurism, SIM focuses on a lot of sexual topics in the game, mainly one of which is a clue that James will send you in the later portion of the game. The clue in question talks about a satanic calendar who have a thing for orgies, anal sex and human sacrifice (because all go very well together don't they).

|                       |   |         |  |   |
|-----------------------|---|---------|--|---|
| Mar 20<br>date varies | Spring Equinox<br>(Sabbat Festival)<br>(Major fertility Sabbat)         | orgies  | oral, anal, vaginal                      | any age (male or female, human or animal) |
| date varies           | Shrove-tide - three days before Ash Wednesday (which is a Witch Sabbat) |         |  |   |
| date varies           | Good Friday<br>(Day of Passion<br>(death of Christ))                    | blood   | human sacrifice                          | male only (adult)                         |
| date varies           | Easter Eve Day  | blood   | human sacrifice                          | male or female (adult)                    |
| Apr 21-25             | Abduction, ceremonial preparation and holding of sacrificial victim     |         |  |   |
| Apr 24                | St. Mark's Eve  |         | divining and herb gathering              |   |
| Apr 25 - May 1        | Grand Climax  | De Meur | oral, anal, vaginal<br>Corpus De Christ  | 1-25 (female)                             |
| Apr 30                | Walpurgisnacht<br>Halloween Day   | blood   | animal and/or human sacrifice            | any age                                   |
| May 1                 | Beltane<br>Walpurga Day<br>May Day                                      |         | Druid Fire Festival<br>Coven initiations |   |

satanic\_calendar.pdf

One of the things I didn't like about the game was its highly anti-climactic ending, which makes you choose between two characters with a short time limit. However, there was a subtle nod to there being more to the game in a later episode so perhaps there will be more to the story in the future.

### A Lovable Brain Teaser

I love a good puzzle game and in that aspect, Monsoon Labs have captured it perfectly with just a hint of horror added with a splash of insanity. More so, Buddy is hilarious and I do hope he comes back in the later episodes with more ridiculous ways of trying to send girls dick pics or even putting worn out and sleazy pickup lines to work. **PC**



**Developers:** Monsoon Labs  
**Publisher:** Monsoon Labs  
**Platforms:** Android, iOS  
**Release Date:** 9 October 2016  
**Genre:** Suspense and Horror  
**Players:** Single-player

SCORE:

8.0/10

GOOD





# IT'S-A-ME, MARIO!

Super Mario Run

By Teh Wi-Liam

**A**s most people would be waiting with baited breath for the release of the Nintendo Switch and to get their hands on Super Mario Odyssey, I will have to stay content with the mobile game – Super Mario Run. What makes Mario Run even more depressing is the fact that it's not even available on Android yet while Apple users get first dibs on the game; talk about favoritism.



# SUPER MARIO RUN

**Developers:** Nintendo EPD  
**Publisher:** Nintendo  
**Platforms:** iOS, Android  
**Release Date:** 15 December 2016, March 2017 (Android)  
**Genre:** Auto-running  
**Players:** Single-player

SCORE:

8.0 /10

GOOD

## Keeping It Classy

Keeping in touch with the classic Super Mario Bros. running game, Super Mario Run is a side-scrolling, auto-running mobile game, much like its predecessor. You keep control of Mario as you run from left to right while hopping over obstacles and trying to collect gold coins. Super Mario Run comes with another game mode called 'Toad Rally' where you will race

against the ghost of other players to beat their time, like how the Super Mario Kart series worked.

The other game mode is called 'Mushroom Kingdom' where you can customise your very own kingdom with the coins you collected through the main gameplay. The more coins you collect, the more customisation you can do to the castle.

## Pay To Play

Although Super Mario Run does come free-to-play, if you want access to the entire game, it does come with a one-time payment of \$USD9.99. Considering the depreciating value of our local currency compared to US Dollars, it would be safe to say that not everyone would be willing to pay to play a mobile game that is priced at RM39.90 (well, I was hesitant on it; I can do much more with that sort of money).

## Nostalgia

For fans who grew up with the franchise, Super Mario Run is a great throwback to the series. Much like how I was with Final Fantasy XV (I'm a huge geek towards the series, sue me), Super Mario run is definitely worth its weight in gold just to get the sense of nostalgia. **PC**





# ESL ONE MAKES ITS WAY TO GENTING

The biggest Dota2 teams from around the world battle it out at the Arena of Stars in Genting Highlands

For three days, the Arena of Stars at Genting Highlands played host to some of the best Dota2 games as eight teams from around the world – two comprising of Malaysians – battled it out to take home the coveted ESL One trophy while also pocketing a cool \$USD125,000. For three grueling days, these eight teams waged war against one

another to claim the top spot as well as bragging rights.

The teams include the winners as well as runner-up to The International 6 (Valve's yearly Dota2 tournament), Wings Gaming and Digital Chaos (DC) respectively. Chinese juggernauts Newbee also took part alongside Virtus Pro (VP) from Russia, Team NP from North America, ExeCration (XctN) from the Philippines and Malaysia's








largely due to their losses against VP and Wings Gaming, which saw them make up the other half of the semifinal bracket. The final day of ESL One Genting saw nail biting matches between DC and VP as well as an all-Chinese semifinal, Newbee vs Wings Gaming. Although DC did comfortably win the series 2 – 0, Newbee took down Wings Gaming 2 – 1, ensuring there wouldn't be a repeat of the TI6 grand final.



very own WarriorsGaming.Unity (WG.U) and Fnatic.

The first day of the tournament already saw an upset for the local favourites as they lost their respective matches and dropped down to the lower bracket while eventual grand finalists DC and Newbee were off to a strong start in their opening matches. DC in particular had a tougher road compared to their opponents as they had a TI6 grand final replay against Wings Gaming. History did not end up repeating itself as DC walked away, winning two games in a best-of-three series. In the end, Newbee from Group and DC from Group B made its way to the semifinals.

Day 2 wasn't any better as it saw the elimination of the local favourites as well as crowd favourite Team NP (vastly due to its captain, EnternalEnvy) and XctN. This was

The grand final was a back-and-forth best-of-five series, which saw Wings Gaming take the lead after a confident and comfortable win against DC. Unfazed, DC came into the second game with guns blazing and after almost an hour in game time, managed to level the scoring to 1 – 1. Game three saw Newbee pulling ahead once again after some beautiful teamwork and exceptional individual gameplay from the boys from China. Similar to game three, game four saw another game ending just before the half hour mark but this time in DC's favour as they went for a similar hero composition that worked out for them against VP in day two. This shattered Newbee's confidence as DC went on to steamroll the Chinese powerhouse in game five, forcing out the 'GG' call from Newbee just after the half hour mark. 





# MSI INTRODUCES KABYLAKE

MSI gaming laptops will be released with the latest 7th Generation Intel Core processors

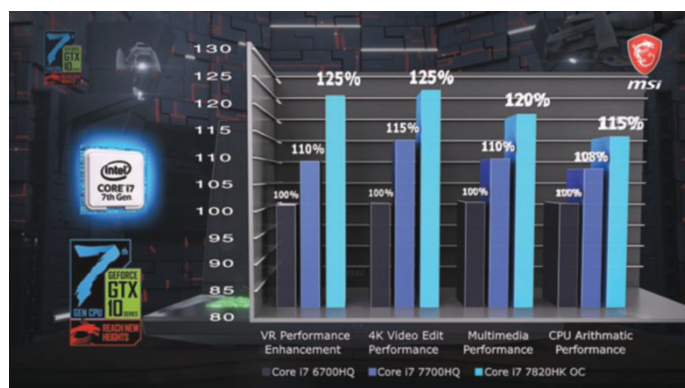
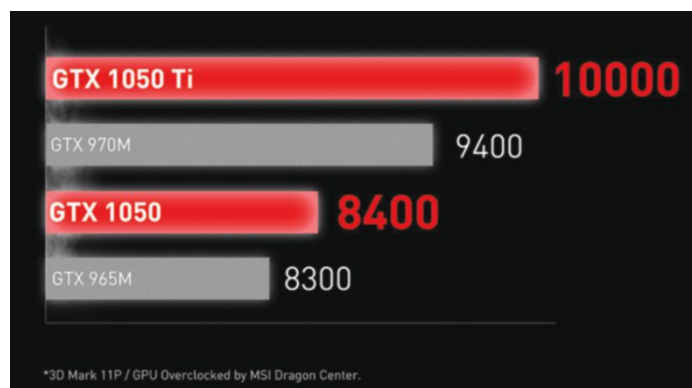
**W**ith the introduction of Intel's 7th Generation CPU known as KabyLake, MSI has taken the leap by implementing it into all of its gaming notebook series, from the MSI GT to even the GS, GE, GP and the GL Series. Intel's 7th Gen. Core i7 platform will allow gamers to experience 10% (non-OC) to 20% (OC) in CPU performance boost on gaming, arithmetic, 4K video transcoding, multimedia and also virtual reality (VR) performance.

In addition to the new CPU introduction, the latest MSI GE, GS, GP and GL Series will be implementing GeForce GTX1050 Ti and GTX1050 graphic cards into its arsenal. This will allow gamers of different calibers to enjoy an even more personalised gaming notebook, whether it's for work or play. The GTX1050 Ti reflects 15% higher performance compared to the previous GTX965M while the GTX1050 will be replacing the GTX960M for performance level gamers and advanced users.

One other upgrade that MSI focused on is the ESS SABRE HiFi, providing a much more improved audio experience with its gaming notebooks. This allows the GT73VR series, GT83VR series, GS73VR series, GS63VR and the GS43VR to support the finest audio quality through SABRE HiFi DAC to output through high-end headsets. **PC**



**“This will allow gamers of different calibers to enjoy an even more personalised gaming notebook, whether it's for work or play.”**







# WHITE IS THE NEW BLACK

Sony introduces a new variant to the PlayStation 4 Slim in Glacier White

**S**traying away from tradition (aside from introducing limited edition PlayStation skins in conjunction with AAA game releases), PlayStation (PS) will be releasing the PlayStation 4 Slim in a new colour - Glacier White, paired with a DualShock 4 controller in the same colour scheme.

If the PS3 is any indication (as it came with a total of four colours to choose from), we're hoping the PS4 will also have more colour options to choose from in the near future. As for now, the Glacier White PS4 Slim will have to do. As of right now, the PS4 Slim is slated for a 24 January release, which consists most of Asia, Europe, Oceania, Africa and South America.

Sadly, the PS4 Slim Glacier White will only be available in 500GB but here's to hoping for an upgrade soon! **PC**

**"PlayStation will be releasing the PlayStation 4 Slim in a new colour - Glacier White."**



# LIQUIDSKY IS REVAMPED!

The all-new gaming cloud gets a much-needed revamp with a host of new updates

**A**fter its reveal at the recent CES 2017, LiquidSky is now available to all gamers around the globe where you can sign up for a free Beta access. Known as the ultimate free gaming PC, LiquidSky is first gaming cloud that allows you to install and play any game from any platform.

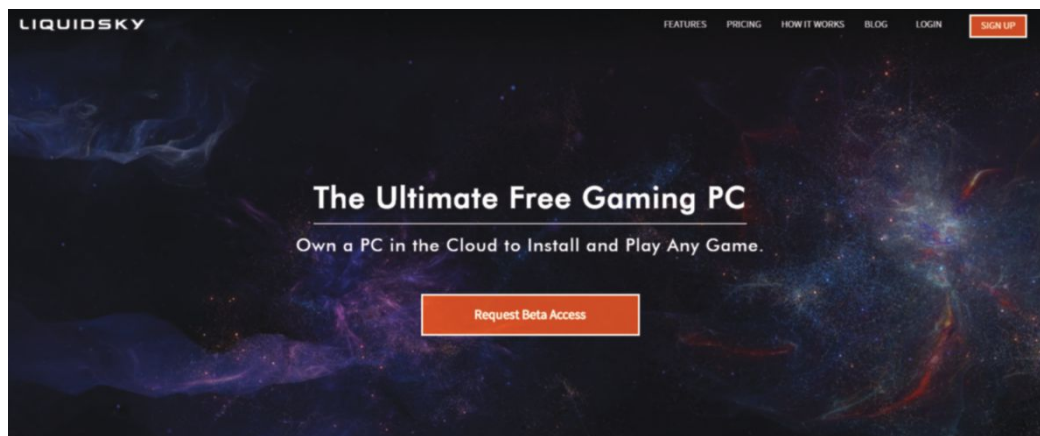
Thanks to LiquidSky, you can now game from any device and play with ultra-low latency paired with high performance graphics to match. It also comes with a new pricing structure, which lets users play the latest games on any budget. LiquidSky is also supported on any device so you can game on a Windows, Android, Mac and even Linux devices. As mentioned

**"It also comes with a new pricing structure."**

earlier, LiquidSky allows you to play any game that is only centered in one market; be it Steam, Origin or even BattleNet, you can now have access to any PC game library.

LiquidSky will also be coming out with Future Sky-certified

devices, which will let you play all your favourite titles on one of its ultra-affordable devices in the near future. LiquidSky will also have ad-supported gaming so you never have to worry about running out of credits. **PC**





# GAME AWAY WITH ASUS

The famed gaming brand from Taiwan unveils its new line of gaming motherboards

Famous all around the globe as the no.1 motherboard brand, ASUS introduces its brand-new lineup of gaming motherboards, known as the ASUS 200 Series motherboard. Featured in its all-new series, ASUS unveils the ROG MAXIMUS IX Series, the ROG STRIX Z270 Gaming Series, the TUF Z270 Series and the ASUS Prime Series.

What makes the new series of ASUS gaming motherboards great is the integration of the 7th Gen. of Intel Core processors. Aside from that, these gaming motherboards come with advanced personalisation options like 3D printing mounts and AURA Sync RGB Lighting.

The ROG MAXIMUS IX Series comes with an award-winning

overclocking design and UEFI BIOS, which will take gaming performance to the next level. It combines 5-way Optimisation and 1-click overclocking with the speed of dual M.2 as well as a front panel USB 3.1 port for the ultimate gaming experience. It also comes with the ROG innovative Water-Cooling zone, which allows you to monitor your cooling system thanks to its dual water-temperature headers and flow-rate header that feeds information straight into ROG's intuitive Fan Xpert 4 utility.

Built for toughness and durability, the TUF Z270 Mark 1 was made for overclocking to extremes, accelerating fully-populated DDR4s to new heights while cranking up base-clock frequencies to the max

with 7th Generation Intel CPUs. To keep it cool in extreme conditions, the TUF Z270 Mark 1 comes with Thermal Radar 2+, which will monitor onboard temperatures and adjust in real time as you control the system's cooling profile manually or optimise automatically with a single click.

When it comes to bold designs, it could only be the ROG STRIX Z270 Gaming Series motherboard. Not only does it feature Aura Sync RGB Lighting technology that allows you to add your own personal style while synchronising with Aura Sync-enabled hardware and accessories, it also comes with SupremeFX S1220A codec, which has an exceptional 113dB line-in signal-to noise ratio

for the best recording quality. It also comes with Sonic Studio III's all-new routing feature, which allows you to be in full control of who hears what whenever you stream.

The final addition to the ASUS 200 Motherboard Series is the ASUS Prime Series, which comes with 5-way optimisation to automatically tailor overclocking profiles suited to your unique build. It also delivers 1-click overclocking and dynamic system cooling for maximum OC performance. It's also steadily reliable thanks to the fortified SafeSlot Core PCIe and embedded fuses to protect itself against power surges. This is all thanks to the 5x Protection III, which safeguards your build in every way possible. **PC**







# SAMSUNG KEEPING IT CURVY

Samsung unveils its first curved gaming monitor, utilising it's very own Quantum Dot technology




Hui Whye Leong, Director of Enterprise Business, CE Division; Wong Man Ngee, Director of Enterprise Business, IT Division; Lee Sang Hoon, President; Elaine Soh, Chief Marketing Officer; Austin Park, Business Manager of Enterprise Business

**K**eeping up with the momentum of 2017, Samsung brings forth its first ever curved gaming monitor that features quantum dot technology, the CFG70 gaming monitor in 24- and 27-inch models. With Samsung's Quantum Dot technology, gamers can experience an improved delivery of a highly impactful and immersive visual experience, which is also accompanied by 1ms moving picture response time (MPRT), reducing display transitions between moving and animated objects.

The CFG70 comes with a "Super Arena" design that features an industry-best 1,800R curvature with a 178-degree ultra-wide viewing angle, matching the natural curvature of the human eye. It can also express brilliant and accurate colours across a 125% sRGB spectrum while being able to produce a 3,000:1 contrast ratio. This amplifies previously-hidden gaming details in both light and dark settings. The CFG70 also leverages integrated AMD FreeSync Technology

over HDMI functionality to synchronise with the screen's impressively high 144Hz refresh rate with users' AMD graphics cards.

From 27 January onwards, the Samsung CFG70 gaming monitor will be available for offline purchase at selected retail outlets at RM1,699 (24-inch) and RM2,099 (27-inch). Keeping in touch with its partnership with Lazada, the CFG70 gaming monitor will also be available on Lazada from 19 to 26 January and the first 100 customers will walk away with a free gift worth RM264.

"Our Quantum Dot display gaming monitor creates an unprecedented visual experience that no gamer has ever experienced. Optimised on breking boundaries and bringing lifelike picture quality, the CFG70 is an incredible leverage for gamers to have especially when competing in the growing popularity of eSports," said Lee Sang Hoon, President of Samsung Malaysia Electronics. 



# SWITCHING THINGS UP


Nintendo talks more about its new gaming console, the Nintendo Switch



**H**aving already teased us back in October when the first official trailer of the Nintendo Switch was announced, we now have more details regarding the Nintendo Switch via the live stream on both Twitch and YouTube Live from Nintendo's very own channel. The Nintendo Switch is slated for a 3rd March 2017 release in Japan, USA, Europe, Hong Kong and in other territories as well. In terms of pricing, the Nintendo Switch will cost 29,980 Yen in Japan and \$USD299 in America. Unfortunately, the pricing for the Nintendo Switch has not been announced in Europe just yet but Nintendo advises people to check with their local retailers for the price.

The Nintendo Switch also offers online services where you can now enjoy online multiplayer gaming with friends from around the world. The

Nintendo Switch also offers local multiplayer services where you can connect up to 8 devices in a local LAN setting and game away. There will also be a free trial period for its online services until the Fall of 2017. The great thing about the Nintendo Switch is the implementation of no region locking, so you can purchase a game from Japan or America and be able to play it in Malaysia.

With up to 6 hours of battery life on a single charge, the Nintendo Switch also allows you to play while still charging through the USB Type-C charging port so you won't have to waste time waiting. The Joy Con controllers also offer two exciting colours in Neon Blue and Neon Red. The Joy Con controllers also come sensing and vibration technology known as HD Rumble, giving even more realism and interaction with the games. 

**"There will also be a free trial period for its online services until the Fall of 2017."**







# A STORM IS BREWING

Gather your team and prepare for battle in Heroes of the Storm

**C**alling all Heroes of the Storm (HotS) gamers, if you're looking for a way to break into the professional scene, this is the tournament for you. The Southeast Asia regional qualifiers is now open until 27th January 2017 where you will take your first step towards the Heroes Global Championship and stand a chance to represent SEA at the upcoming Eastern Clash #1 in Shanghai, China.

The qualifiers will take place on 4th and 5th February 2017 with a 64-team single-elimination open bracket with the top 8 teams making it to a double-elimination playoff bracket on 11th and 12th February.

Players of all SEA nationalities are invited to sign up.

You can also stand a chance to represent SEA in the Mid-Season Brawl at Dreamhack Summer. Of course, you will have to place in the top 8 from the first season's SEA finals to be eligible to compete in the Season 2 playoffs. You will also have to retain at least three of the five players on your team. The Season 1 SEA prize pool is US\$5,000 while the Eastern Clash #1 prize pool is US\$100,000. The Season 2 prize pool will be totalled at US\$15,000 and the Mid-Season Brawl will have a total prize pool of US\$250,000! 

**"The qualifiers will take place on 4th and 5th February 2017."**



## BRINGING GAMING TO NEW HEIGHTS

BIOSTAR introduces a new lineup of motherboards in its B250 series




**A**s part of its 2nd generation RACING series family of motherboards, BIOSTAR is proud to announce the release of a new line-up of motherboards, based on the Intel B250 chipset. The BIOSTAR B250GT5 and B250GT3 are capable of supporting

Intel 7th Gen. processors as well as native support for Intel Optane Memory Technology for next-generation high-speed storage.

The B250 motherboard series will not only have native support for DDR4-2400 memory but will also support processors for the LGA1151 socket.

Both motherboards will also feature high-reliability Intel LAN ethernet solutions with built-in BIOSTAR LAN surge protection. Both motherboards also come with built-in M.2 connectors, which allows high-speed storage support and will also be protected by BIOSTAR DUAL-BIOS technology. This

allows you to recover from a defective BIOS update or corruption in an instant.

These motherboards will also be able to light up your life as it features VIVID LED DJ support and two 5050 LED Fun Zone headers for full customisation. Now you can customise the LED lights to suit your style of gameplay. 



# Find The Right Balance On Your Next Ride


Honda's "Riding Assist" tech borrows from Asimo to balance it self



**T**he next time you go on a ride, your motorbike may just stand on its own – it can even follow you like a puppy back to your house!

Honda has announced during CES a new kind of motorcycle - a self-stabilizing motorcycle that at this point still has no name attached to it. Unlike the Segway and BMW's Motorrad Vision concept motorcycle (which we covered in the November issue), Honda's "Riding Assist" tech doesn't rely on heavy gyroscopes to balance itself. It instead uses tech derived from the balancing systems in its Asimo robot and Uni-Cub electric mobility scooter, developed at its Silicon Valley R&D center.

Instead it uses a drive-by-wire system that works at speeds below 5 km/h that passes the control of the front wheel to the computer. The bike senses lean angles and swings the wheel to either side, thousands of times per second, to counteract any tendency tip over.

The computer also has a follow-me-home mode that can propel the bike to follow the rider when it needs to.. 







**ufeel**  
GO

(RRP) RM 599.00



13 MP  
5 MP  
SELFIE FLASH

RAM  
2GB

**ufeel**

(RRP) RM 699.00



13 MP  
5 MP  
SELFIE FLASH

RAM  
3GB

**ufeel**  
FAB

(RRP) RM 799.00



13 MP  
5 MP  
SELFIE FLASH

RAM  
3GB

**ufeel**  
PRIME

(RRP) RM 899.00



13 MP  
8 MP  
SELFIE FLASH

RAM  
4GB

Wiko Mobile Malaysia Sdn Bhd (1169981-H)

Unit 22-08, 22nd Floor, Tower B, Vertical Business Suite, Avenue 3, Bangsar South City, No.8, Jalan Kerinchi, 59200 Kuala Lumpur. Tel: 03 - 2711 2792

**Main Distributors:**

Authorized Master Dealer (Central, Southern & East Coast): Era International Network ZP-G-20, Zest Point, Lebuhraya Bukit Jalil, Bandar Kinrara, BK9, 47180 Puchong, Selangor Dahrul Ehsan, Malaysia. Tel: 03 - 807 47776

Authorized Master Dealer (Central, Northern): NetDist Sdn Bhd Lot 170-04-12A, Gurney Plaza, Persiaran Gurney, 10250 Penang, Malaysia. Tel: 04 - 227 5191

Authorized Master Dealer (Sarawak): G Martstel (M) Sdn Bhd Lot 2, S/L 3, No 7 Tingkat 1 & 2, Lorong Wong King Hua 5, 96000 Sibul, Sarawak, Malaysia. Tel: 08 - 431 9141

Authorized Master Dealer (Sabah): Seas Digital Sdn Bhd Lot 21-23, 1st Floor Block D, Damai Plaza PH3, Lorong Pokok Kayu Manis, 88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia. Tel: 08 - 826 8882

Find Out More: [my-en.wikomobile.com](http://my-en.wikomobile.com) | [www.fb.com/WikoMalaysia](https://www.facebook.com/WikoMalaysia) | [Wiko Mobile Malaysia](#)

# PIXMA G SERIES

## REFILLABLE INK TANK SYSTEM

UP TO **6,000** PAGES (BLACK)  
AND **7,000** PAGES (COLOUR)



**SPILL-RESISTANT  
& EASY INK REFILL**

**INTEGRATED  
INK TANK**

**BORDERLESS  
PHOTO PRINTING**

**3**

**YEAR WARRANTY\*3&4**

\* Terms and conditions apply.



G1000

Print



G2000

Print . Scan . Copy



G3000

Print . Scan . Copy



G4000

Print . Scan . Copy . Fax

1\* Page yield for single black ink only.

2\* Actual yields may vary depending on manner of using and print pattern.

3\* For G1000 & G2000, 20,000 pages or 3 years, whichever comes first.

4\* For G3000 & G4000, 30,000 pages or 3 years, whichever comes first.

**Canon Marketing (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.**  
No. 6-2-01, Canon Tower, UOA Business Park (Tower 6),  
Jalan Pengaturcara U1/51A, Seksyen U1,  
40150 Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia

**Nationwide Customer Careline**  
1800-88-2000



**CanonPIXMA**  
**CanonMalaysia**



*Janna Nick*  
Singer/Actress