

Financial data providers keen on Bondweb tie-up

Data providers eye firm's pricing data to service foreign investors who have exposure to Malaysian sukuk

By ISHUN P AHMAD

MALAYSIA'S sole bond pricing agency, Bondweb Malaysia Sdn Bhd, has stirred the interests of several financial data providers in establishing strategic collaborations with the company.

These data providers hope to use Bondweb's pricing data to service foreign investors especially those who have exposure to Malaysian sukuk.

Bondweb's head of marketing development Mohd Shaharul Zain told *The Malaysian Reserve* that the tie-up was prompted by rising interest from foreign investors for sukuk, adding that the bond pricing data would enable them to better market these Islamic bonds.

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Last week, Bondweb sealed two strategic agreements to provide its data pricing to two international financial data providers, Telekurs Financial and Thomson Reuters.

Telekurs, a subsidiary of Swiss Financial Market Services AG, started to provide Bondweb's daily fair value prices via its products, valordata feed and intraday pricing service, last Wednesday.

Bondweb's bond pricing data came on line last Friday on Thomson Reuters' after

both parties signed a global data distribution agreement that would combine the former's Malaysian content with the latter's international content in a single range of products.

"Through this arrangement, Bondweb's extensive range of Malaysian bond prices will be made available for delivery across Thomson Reuters products through our Premium Desktop-Reuters 3000 Xtra and Reuters data feed through DataScope Select," said managing director of Thomson Reuters Malaysia Simon Soo Hu at the signing

ceremony in Kuala Lumpur last Friday.

Soo said Bondweb's bond pricing data would be especially helpful for Thomson Reuters' clients that are looking at Islamic bonds here, adding that interest in such investments is growing.

He added that this integration will enable the company's customers to receive daily evaluated pricing on more than 65,000 Asian illiquid and structured products through a single access portal.

Meanwhile, Bondweb's chief operating officer Meor Amri Meor Ayob said the ar-

rangement with Thomson Reuters will give the necessary boost to increase the level of information flow on the ringgit bond market to a more global platform.

Bondweb currently delivers evaluated prices for nearly 2,000 unlisted Malaysian bonds daily.

To date, there are more than 70 institutions subscribing to Bondweb's daily evaluated prices comprising banks, asset management companies, unit trust management companies, insurers, corporate as well as quasi government institutions.