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Headline: PUC Buys Remaining 67% Stake In Pictureworks



# PUC buys remaining 67% stake in Pictureworks

## RM167.5mil deal to offer synergistic benefits to the group

**PETALING JAYA:** PUC Bhd has proposed to acquire the remaining 67% stake in theme park contractor Pictureworks Holdings Sdn Bhd for RM167.5mil.

The purchase price would be settled via the issuance of new shares and cash, the company said in a filing with Bursa Malaysia.

Shares in PUC were last traded at 11.5 sen last Friday before trading was halted yesterday to make way for the announcement.

"The proposed acquisition is expected to offer synergistic benefits to PUC Group such as shared expertise, services and resources as well as improved operational efficiency through streamlining operating costs through the reduction of overlapping headcounts and overhead costs, leveraging on better procurement terms via sharing of procurement functions and economies of scale," PUC said.

PUC purchased a 33% stake in Pictureworks for RM52.8mil exactly a year ago.

Yesterday, the company said it has entered into a conditional sale of shares agreement dated Dec 31 with Cheong Chia Chou and Superb Go Sdn Bhd to acquire a combined 62.22% equity interest in Pictureworks for RM155.55mil.

"As at to-date, PUC is in the midst of negotiation with Beauty World Holdings Pte Ltd BWH for the acquisition of the remaining 880,341 shares in Pictureworks for a purchase consideration of RM11.95mil," it said.

The company said it would issue a separate statement after the deal is concluded.

Since the acquisition of a 33% equity interest in Pictureworks a year ago, the group has secured new contracts from notable theme parks namely the provision of imagery capture services for Shimao Wonderland in

Shanghai and Legoland Sealife Malaysia as well as the licensing of imagery systems to Village Roadshow Theme Park Asia and Six Flags Haiyan.

"Accordingly, Pictureworks is expected to exceed the 2018 profit guarantee of RM14.80mil provided during our earlier investment in the company," it said.

Based on its unaudited consolidated financial results for the 10-month period ended Oct 31, 2018, Pictureworks has recorded profit after tax of RM13.59mil.

The Pictureworks group is the official imaging service provider for international theme parks such as Shanghai Disney Resort, Hong Kong Disneyland Resort, Ocean Park Hong Kong, Water World Hong Kong, Hello Kitty Shanghai Times, Legoland Malaysia and others, with services being offered in about 30 theme parks and attractions.