

# New CEO buzz pushes up Dataprep shares

by MOHD RASHDAN JAMALUDIN

**SHARES** of information and communications technology (ICT) services provider, Dataprep Holdings Bhd, spiked 75% yesterday following a company statement that its new chief executive officer Ahmad Rizan Ibrahim is on track to bring the firm back into the black in its financial year ending March 31, 2012 (FY12).

At the close of trading yesterday, Dataprep shares shot up 18 sen to close at 42 sen, with over 914,000 lots changing hands. The counter was the fourth most actively traded yesterday.

For FY11, Dataprep clocked in a net loss of RM1.52 million, up 61% from the RM942,000 net loss it recorded in FY10. The ICT firm's revenue, however, bucked the trend with a marginal 1.4% increase to RM5.29 million in FY11 from RM5.22 million a year ago.

In a statement yesterday, Dataprep said since taking over the helm on June 15 this year, Ahmad Rizan has already padded the company's wallet with an orderbook of RM100 million in projects from government-linked entities such as the Employees Provident Fund, Tenaga Nasional Bhd, Telekom Malaysia Bhd and Celcom Axiata Bhd.

## Changing business model to also become 'SMART'

"What kept us relevant throughout the years is our ability to simplify and manage systems and data through relevant technology," said Ahmad Rizan.

"In the near future, cloud, data warehousing, mobile and social media are the major forces companies would need to reckon with," he emphasised.

Articulating his vision, Ahmad Rizan said, "Previously, we played the role of vendor, providing solutions when our clients needed it.

"Today, we are changing our business model to also become SMART — simplifying and managing through relevant technology — partners. We plan to take a stake in projects as a concessionaire, where we can own the business jointly for an extended duration".

Ahmad Rizan has over 24 years of ICT industry experience covering areas of sales, marketing, business development and alliance development, serving both public and private sectors locally and overseas.

He is also entrusted with key portfolios within the group subsidiaries, including managing director of Solsis (M) Sdn Bhd and HRM Business Consulting Sdn Bhd, and division head for management and ad-

visory services and clients & market engagement business units.

In addition, Ahmad Rizan will be responsible for the overall sales and marketing effort for the group, with approximately RM180 million in sales revenue, said the company's statement.

Prior to joining Dataprep, Ahmad Rizan was a partner with business consulting division of Arthur Andersen, and also the head of Andersen's Asean enterprise application line-of-business. He also served as the Asia Pacific head of enterprise application for two years.

Prior to joining Arthur Andersen, he served as the consulting director for Oracle Consulting Services' line-of-business within the Oracle Asia-Pacific practice. In 2002, Ahmad Rizan, together with another senior partner of Arthur Andersen, founded a consulting company called HRM Business Consulting Sdn Bhd.

Ahmad Rizan graduated from Oregon State University, US, with a Masters of Business Administration, Masters of Computer Science in Education, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Bachelor of Business Administration (Management Science).



*Pic by Shiddieqin Zan*

**Ahmad Rizan has over 24 years of ICT industry experience**

## VALUATOR

Company(Brand)	Mention	Tone	ROI
Celcom Malaysia Bhd (Celcom)	1	0	RM
Dataprep Holdings Berhad (Dataprep)	1	0	RM
Kumpulan Wang Simpanan Pekerja (KWSP) (Kumpulan Wang	1	3	RM 134
Oracle Corp (Oracle)	1	0	RM
Solsis (M) Sdn Bhd (Solsis)	1	0	RM
Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) (Tenaga Nasional )	1	0	RM
TM Berhad (Telekom Malaysia Bhd) (TM Berhad (Telekom	1	0	RM

## GIST(ENGLISH)

... At the close of trading yesterday, Dataprep shares shot up 18 sen to close at 42 sen, with over 914/000 lots changing hands. The counter was the fourth most actively traded yesterday. For FY11, Dataprep clocked in a net loss of RM1. ...