

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Henrik Kjellgren, Hugo af Klint, Jesper Moberg and David Stålsmeden
November 2009

We left the Taoyuan International Airport on Wednesday morning with China Airlines. At lunchtime we reached Kuala Lumpur (KL) city center and after lunch and check-in An Casa Hotel, it was time for our first company visit. In a skyscraper near Petronas Towers we met with Jorgen Torp senior advisor for AarhusKarlshamn (AAK) in Malaysia. We had a long discussion about the palm oil industry in Malaysia and collected information and thoughts for an article in Asia Magazine no 14. After the visit we walked over to the area around Petronas Towers for some personal photo opportunities.

The following morning we had a meeting with the Swedish Embassy and the Swedish Trade council who has offices in the same building. In the afternoon we took a taxi to Shah Alam, an industrial park outside KL. There we met with Johan Dannelind, CEO for the Malaysian mobile communication company DiGi. He had at the time also publicly voiced his concern about the environmental impact of the telecom industry. We had a discussion with Johan and one of his co-workers about DiGi's efforts to achieve environmental sustainability within their company and the industry. All visits during the day also gave us a comprehensive overview of the society, business opportunities and politics in Malaysia.

On Friday we once again woke up early in order to meet with SKF at their factory in Negeri Sembilan outside KL. Their manager Lars Berglie told us about the company and also gave us a tour inside their ball bearing factory. After that we took a taxi to Scania in Shah Alam. We were welcomed by Peter Sjöblom and some other Swedish representatives for Scania. After a lunch with them we were given a quite extensive and very interesting presentation of Scania. Peter also told us much about what it is like to live and work in Malaysia.

Scania was the last stop of our office trip, but before we went back to Taiwan, we made a short de-tour on our own expenses to Langkawi, a beautiful island near the Malaysian west coast.