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MEDIA RELEASE

RTS LINK TAKES SHAPE WITH COMPLETION OF MAJOR FAÇADE STEEL WORKS

The completion of the inner façade steel bands marks a key milestone for the RTS Link, bringing the station closer to completion as construction progresses well ahead of schedule towards passenger service in December 2026.

JOHOR BAHRU, 21 January 2026 – Malaysia Rapid Transit Corporation Sdn Bhd (MRT Corp) today marked a major construction milestone for the RTS Link with the completion of the inner façade steel bands at the RTS Link Station in Bukit Chagar, Johor Bahru.

The completion of the inner façade steel bands marks an important turning point in the construction of the RTS Link Station. These inner bands serve as the station roof, providing permanent protection over the platform areas and giving the station its defining structure.

With the roof now in place, the temporary protective shelter above the tracks can be removed. This opens up the site significantly, allowing contractors to move more freely and advance platform works, architectural finishes and systems installation in a more efficient manner.

The completion of the inner bands also allows façade works to move into their final phase, with external cladding and glass installation now underway. Together, this milestone brings the project another step closer to operational readiness, as it progresses towards its targeted commencement of service on 31 December 2026.

The façade installation works were awarded in January 2024 to Rohas Sediabena Builders Consortium Sdn Bhd, a joint venture between Rohas-Euco Industries, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Rohas Tecnic Berhad, and Sediabena Builders Sdn Bhd.

“This milestone goes beyond the completion of a physical structure. It reflects how national infrastructure can serve as a platform for Malaysian capability development, collaboration and excellence,” said Datuk Mohd Zarif Hashim, Chief Executive Officer of MRT Corp. “There is a deep sense of pride in seeing this iconic façade take shape, one that I believe will stand not only as a landmark for Johor Bahru, but among the great rail stations of the world. What makes this achievement especially meaningful is that the façade’s final design development, fabrication, construction and installation have been carried out entirely by Malaysian contractors.”

“MRT Corp set clear standards and high expectations from the outset, and Rohas Sediabina rose to the challenge, demonstrating strong delivery capability and quality at the highest level. In just two years since the contract was awarded in 2024, the team has made impressive progress on a structure of significant scale and complexity, reflecting strong engineering capability, coordination and commitment on the ground. What we are witnessing today is the result of close collaboration between our contractors and RTS project teams, working together to realise the RTS Link as an international gateway.”

“The RTS Link station façade is a complex structure that demands careful planning, coordinated fabrication and disciplined execution,” said Amirul Baharom, Group Chief Executive Officer of Rohas Tecnic Group. “From large-scale off-site fabrication to on-site installation, this milestone demonstrates that Malaysian companies have the capability, capacity and systems to deliver major infrastructure to international standards. We are proud to contribute to a project of national significance that sets a strong reference for quality and delivery in the local construction industry.”

Conceived as more than a functional structure, the RTS Link Station façade has been designed as a defining gateway for Johor Bahru and a visible expression of the close and enduring relationship between Malaysia and Singapore. Titled “The Integration of Two”, the design reflects centuries of shared history and exchange, now reinforced through seamless cross-border rail connectivity.

The façade concept was selected through a national architectural competition organised by MRT Corp in collaboration with Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia in 2020. The architectural competition was the brainchild of Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Ibrahim Ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar and the winner was personally selected by His Majesty together with Yang Amat Mulia Tunku Mahkota Ismail Ibni Sultan Ibrahim, Pemangku Sultan Johor. The winning design was submitted by Johor Bahru-based architect firm, SM Architects Sdn Bhd.

Following the selection of the winning façade concept, MRT Corp assessed its suitability for implementation together with a Hong Kong-based consultant.

Once its feasibility was confirmed, MRT Corp proceeded to entrust the detailed design development, fabrication and installation of the façade entirely to Malaysian contractors. This reflects MRT Corp’s commitment to building local capability while delivering infrastructure to international standards.

Inspired by the image of two hands holding each other's wrists, the façade symbolises mutual support and shared purpose. Sixteen overlapping steel bands comprising eight inner and eight outer bands, wrap around the station concourse and platforms, responding to movement, light and climate. A glass roof spans between the bands creating a skylight that allows natural light to shape the station's internal spaces.

Given the tight site conditions at Bukit Chagar and multiple work packages progressing in parallel, MRT Corp's management and Construction Management teams worked closely with Rohas Sediabina to carefully sequence the façade installation, with safety and risk management as the overriding priority. This ensured the works were carried out without compromise while maintaining overall construction momentum across the station.

The roof façade structure measures approximately 50 metres in height, 200 metres in length and 50 metres in width, incorporating sixteen steel bands, a rainscreen system, skylight and spire. More than 40,000 square metres of fabrication capacity across specialised facilities in Bentong, Seremban and Tapah were utilised to meet rigorous engineering and quality requirements.

Overall construction of the RTS Link continues to progress well ahead of schedule, supported by strong coordination across civil, architectural, systems and station works. Multiple construction packages are advancing in parallel, enabling earlier access for follow-on trades and systems installation. As the project enters its final phase, MRT Corp remains focused on operational readiness and ensuring the RTS Link is delivered safely, to standard and on track for commencement of service on 31 December 2026.

This strong construction momentum supports the project's transition towards operational readiness, with the clear aim of delivering a safe, reliable and comfortable travel experience for commuters from the first day of service.

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