



Press Release

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HINO PONCHO TO BE KNOWN AS PWD-FRIENDLY MINIBUS

- *Hino Poncho test ride with PWDs passengers representing Persatuan Sokongan Orang Kurang Upaya Johor Bahru*

Johor Bahru, 23 July 2020 – Started its one-month trial run in Johor Bahru on June 2020 along the route 10B operated by Handal Indah Sdn Bhd (Handal Indah), (*also known as Causeway Link*), Hino Motors Sales (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd took the opportunity to introduce the minibus, Hino Poncho, as public transport that supports Person with Disability (PWD)-friendly features.

In collaboration with Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA) and Handal Indah, a test ride of Hino Poncho with PWDs passengers representing *Persatuan Sokongan Orang Kurang Upaya Johor Bahru* was successfully held on 9 July 2020. The ride started from Johor Bahru Sentral to Pandan bus stop which took around 15 minutes.

Speaking to Mohd Saiful Razali, from *Jabatan Belia & Sukan Negeri Johor*, it was his first Hino Poncho ride and according to him, the low-floor feature eases him to board the minibus as he has visual impairment.

Sharing the experience on the wheelchair accessibility facilities, Ermy Jeffry Jamil, from *Jabatan Tenaga Kerja Negeri Johor*, said, the low floor feature that comes with a slide ramp gave him the confidence to hop on and off independently.

The low-floor minibus, Hino Poncho, is equipped with features designed for the benefit of PWDs. When it goes into its operation, Hino Poncho will be the first of its kind in Malaysia meant for PWDs.

Equipped with an ultra low-floor system, the step to board the minibus is nearly as low as the ground- as well as it is designed with a vehicle height adjusting system that performs vehicle height lowering and raising control.

The height can be lowered down by 50 mm to enhance the boarding and alighting property at bus stops and with the raising control, the chassis is able to lift up to 30 mm higher to improve drivability on rough road.

About HINO in Malaysia

Hino Motors Sales (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. (HMSM) a subsidiary of Hino Motors Limited Japan, associates under the Toyota Group of Companies, manufactures Light Commercial Vehicle (HINO 300 series), Medium and Heavy Duty Vehicle (HINO 500 series), Prime Mover (HINO 700 series) and busses. In Malaysia, ever since its establishment in 1977, HMSM has been working closely with its dealers to improve their services through upgrading to 3S (Sales, Services and Spare Parts) status which provides a total package of services and offers conveniences to customers across the country. HINO products are some of the most technologically advanced in the Malaysian commercial vehicle market.

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