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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

14 August 2023

Public Bank and smart Malaysia
Aims at Financing Revolutionize Industry Standards

Public Bank Berhad formalised a collaboration with Proton New Energy Technology Sdn Bhd (PRO-NET) with the signing of a Memorandum of Collaboration (MoC) on 9 August 2023 to provide financing facilities on a wholesome financial products and services, and to embark on digitalisation via systems integration with smart Malaysia and its authorised dealers.

This collaboration will enable Public Bank to interface and facilitate digitalisation via online submission of hire purchase end-financing applications and Floor Stocking facility through smart customer App and their authorised dealers thus improving the market shares in the Electric Vehicle (EV) automotive industry.

PRO-NET is an exclusive authorised importer and distributor for smart vehicles in Malaysia and Thailand. These strategic appointments are expected to accelerate the sales of the company's all-new innovative EV. The initial offering for the Malaysian market is the award-winning smart #1, which recently made its debut at Electric Vehicle Expo (EVx) 2023 in Setia City Convention Centre, drawing attention from local fans and sparking lively discussions on social media.

Present at the signing ceremony at Menara Public Bank were Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Tay Ah Lek, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer and Dato' Chang Kat Kiam, Deputy

Chief Executive Officer of Public Bank, En. Roslan bin Abdullah, Board Member of PRO-NET, Mr. Wang Huaibing, Board Member of PRO-NET, Mr. Zhang Qiang, Chief Executive Officer of PRO-NET, and other Senior Management staff of both companies.

Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Tay Ah Lek in his speech said "Supporting the growth of the New Energy Vehicles (NEV) has always been a key pillar to our climate agenda. The Bank had mobilised over RM30 billion in domestic NEV financing by the end of 2022, representing approximately 52% of the Bank's total domestic Hire Purchase financing portfolio. To signify the Bank's commitment, the NEV lending target had now been increased to RM33 billion by 2025.

He further added, "There is a compelling opportunity for Public Bank and PRO-NET to foster strong synergies from the onset. Not only will this be win-win in advancing our respective business objectives, it also contributes to another win in our common battle against climate change".

Mr. Zhang Qiang expressed, "The advent of New Energy Vehicles (NEVs) signifies a significant departure from traditional products by leveraging EV technology to foster enhanced connectivity and address evolving consumer needs. At the heart of PRO-NET's mission lies a strong commitment to deliver a seamless digital customer journey in collaboration with esteemed eco-partners, aiming to achieve a smart EV mobility ecosystem. PRO-NET is making remarkable progress in developing a smart Malaysia customers' App, set to offer an exceptional range of eco-services, including convenient online loan applications and seamless charging information capabilities. Our goal is to ensure transparency on the transaction, enhance efficiency, and speed throughout their journey with the smart brand".

En. Roslan bin Abdullah said, "By collaborating with Public Bank, our aim is to streamline the purchasing process and provide a hassle-free and reshaping customer digital experience. Innovation and customer-centricity are deeply ingrained in PRO-NET and smart's DNA, with a commitment to continually offer premium solutions and co-create a better future with their valued customers".

He further added, "As the first EV brand to collaborate with Public Bank, smart is leading the way in pioneering a transformation of the banking industry's digital landscape."

From left:

1) Mr. Wong Man Hoe, General Manager of HP Operations Division, Public Bank
2) Dato' Chang Kat Kiam, Deputy CEO of Public Bank
3) Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Tay Ah Lek, Managing Director and CEO of Public Bank
4) En. Roslan bin Abdullah, CEO of Proton Edar Sdn Bhd (PESB) and Board Member of Pro-Net
5) Mr. Zhang Qiang, CEO of Pro-Net
6) Mr. Wang Huaibing, Board Member of Pro-Net

at the signing ceremony in Menara Public Bank on 9 August 2023

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About smart Malaysia

As the regional strategic partner of the smart brand, a premium all-electric automobile and technology brand, smart Malaysia is committed to delivering exceptional customer journeys and customer-centricity experience as well as the premium automotive excellence to Malaysian markets to becoming new energy ecosystem automotive solution leader in Malaysia. It believes automotive excellence goes beyond just producing the best vehicles but also means providing a seamless and comprehensive retail customer journey and experience. To learn more, visit website https://my.smart.com/#