

on 07 June 2012



POSITIVE RESPONSE: Preliminary findings of a survey that began in May on the establishment of the Board of Computing Professionals Malaysia (BCPM) shows that many in the technology industry support the move.

KUALA LUMPUR: Preliminary findings of a survey on the establishment of the Board of Computing Professionals Malaysia (BCPM) shows that many in the technology industry support the move.

Documents made available to Bytz show that the industry on the whole supports the establishment of the board, and that feelings in general over the initiative have changed during the past six months.

"There are (now) less people disagreeing with the setting up of the BCPM than there were earlier," said Prof Zahrin Yussof, a researcher at the computer science faculty of University Malaysia Sarawak and a member of the BCPM taskforce.

The taskforce opened the survey on May 28; it is to gauge industry sentiments and to solicit feedback on the establishment of the board. It ends June 11. The 42-question survey can be found at <http://bit.ly/JMKPiz>.

According to Zahrin, many in the industry are open to the idea of having the board of professionals because this will help give industry players better credibility in terms of their skills.

"If there is a board to vouch for the talents and skills of these professionals, it will be easier for these workers to find jobs with multinationals and other big organisations, and to work on vital projects," he said.

Many industry players were hostile to the formation of the BCPM when documents about its proposed establishment were leaked on the Internet late last year.

At the open day to discuss the matter in December, some 60 out of the 70-odd people that Zahrin said had turned up were against the board being formed.

Many concerns were raised then, including what was described as the ambiguous language used in the draft; that the proposed Bill if passed into law would stifle innovation among Malaysians; and the complexity of the proposed implementation.

Zahrin said more than 2,500 people nationwide have participated in the survey so far, and out of that number only 55 still disagree with the setting up of the BCPM.

But he admitted that the sample size is small. He is urging more industry players in the country to take the survey and provide their views. According to an official estimate, there are some 500,000 workers in the industry nationwide.

"The more people we survey, the more accurate our findings will be," he said.

After the survey is over, the results will be sent to the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (Mosti) to be analysed.

Mosti is spearheading the formation of the board, and is working with the Association of the Computer and Multimedia Industry Malaysia (Pikom), the Malaysian National Computer Confederation, and the academia.

After the survey results are analysed, the draft Bill for the BCPM will be amended accordingly and tabled at Parliament for adoption. This could also mean that the BCPM may instead be formed through an industry-led initiative, or even abandoned altogether.

SOURCE : techcentral