

JUST SCAN THE QR CODE

Halal Blockchain Network gives consumers access to information on meat products

CYBERJAYA: Malakat Ecosystem has developed the world's first Halal Blockchain Network to trace the origins of imported beef.

With the Halal Blockchain Network, consumers can simply scan the QR Code on a product's packaging and information on the meat will be displayed, from which cattle farm it came from, to the abattoirs it has been through, to the point the meat was processed into a finished product sold at the local market.

The system is currently used for beef imported from India that will be sold at retail outlets at Malakat Mall this Ramadan.

The Halal Blockchain Network will also be used for local beef supplied to the mall.

Deputy Agriculture and Food Industries Minister II Datuk Che Abdullah Mat Nawi said the Halal Blockchain Network could com-

plement the existing system used by government agencies.

"Now is the right time (to use this system) to address people's concerns about the source of meat since the issue was raised several months ago.

"This can be a value-added service to our system," he said after launching the Halal Blockchain Network at Malakat Mall here yesterday.

Halal Blockchain Network founder Mohd Fadzil Hashim said it was paramount to regain people's trust in the halal status of meat following the media expose recently on dubious frozen meat.

He said the blockchain system was an important project as it involved halal food for more than one billion Muslims.

He said project aimed to provide consumers with detailed information on halal products.

"This system can be used by anyone around the world. Exporters from foreign countries such as Brazil have expressed interest in it.

"It is a secure system that cannot be tampered with, but if it happens, there will be notifications in the system."

New Straits Times and *Berita Harian* recently exposed the operations of meat cartels that bring non-certified meat into Malaysia and pass them off as halal-certified products.

Senior government officers reportedly received money, and in some cases even women for sex, as bribes to turn a blind eye to the cartel's operations.

The matter has adversely impacted the halal frozen meat industry, forcing government agencies to tighten standard operating procedures on the matter.



Deputy Agriculture and Food Industries Minister II Datuk Che Abdullah Mat Nawi (second from right) visiting a halal meat premises after the launch of the Halal Blockchain Network at Malakat Mall in Cyberjaya yesterday. PIC BY HAZREEN MOHAMAD