



GRANTEE PROFILE

NEW SIGMA TRAINING CENTER STRENGTHENS COMPETENCY IN ADVANCED MOTORCYCLE FUEL INJECTION PRODUCTION AND MAINTENANCE



The opening of the third STC training session at PGRI Elementary Vocational School in Gresik, East Java, June 2008.

As technology grows increasingly sophisticated, the people who build, maintain and repair the goods that utilize such technology must be better and better trained. This is the case with motorcycles, which increasingly are being manufactured with complex transmission systems and fuel injection systems that vary in design from manufacturer to manufacturer. Without strong technical expertise in these new product lines, Indonesia could lose access to important domestic and international markets.

Ideally, technical and service staff at small manufacturers and service stations maintain knowledge on the latest technology and know how to build, diagnose and fix any motorcycle component. But in reality, finding the means to keep workers trained is difficult. Sole agents can rely on materials provided by the brands they represent, but such workshops are the minority in Indonesia, where most small part manufacturers and service stations attempt to provide services across a range of manufacturers.

Additionally, the majority of training programs currently offered in the market rely heavily on book-focused, trial-and-error based training methods — a poor strategy when technology is constantly evolving and the number of motorcycles in Indonesia is growing. The result is training that does not meet the needs of an increasingly technologically advanced market.

Sigma Training Center (STC), a training institution specializing in the advanced production and maintenance of motorcycles, was working to provide high quality training but only had the resources to offer sporadic, in-house training on demand. STC recognized that the BIF grant opportunity would give it the capacity to address an important knowledge gap, leading to increased customer satisfaction and safety, new job opportunities and an overall strengthened auto parts industry in East Java.

STC applied for and obtained a Business Innovation Fund grant from SENADA entitled “Education and Training Program for Automatic Transmission (CVT) and Fuel Injection (FI) Using the Competency-Based Training Approach.” The grant provided STC with Rp 166,700,000 over a six-month period from January to July 2008. ►►

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Six STC classes totaling 107 participants were trained from Surabaya, Jombang, Sidoarjo and Gresik.

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STC used the grant funds to launch East Java's first publically accessible advanced technologies motorcycle training center in Surabaya. The center offers two advanced training packages — one on continuous variable transmissions and one on fuel injection — on a regular basis.

STC's two current training sessions are highly innovative, using a *competency based training* (CBT) methodology that allows students to train directly on one of STC's five newly purchased training motorcycles. To date, six rounds of training have been offered for 107 participants from Surabaya, Jombang, Sidoarjo and Gresik.

STC also developed a partnership with LSP Teknisi Otomotif, East Java's private sector professional certification body (LSP) for automotive component maintenance. LSP Teknisi Otomotif moved into the STC training center and now offers the competency certification for motorcycle and automotive technicians. To date, 20 STC graduates have been assessed for certification.

Sigma Training Center was founded in 2006 and specializes in technical assistance for motorcycle production, repair and maintenance. More information on upcoming STC trainings is available by contacting agus.susilo@fuboru.biz or through www.fuboru.biz.

The Business Innovation Fund (BIF) is an initiative launched in June, 2007 by SENADA. BIF offers short-term, high impact grants for the development of innovative products for the value chains where SENADA focuses. Details can be found at www.senada.or.id/innovation.

SENADA is a four-year, USAID-financed project whose goal is to increase Indonesia's economic growth and employment by improving the competitiveness of major, labor-intensive light manufacturing industries. 🌸

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