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The two-year wait was well worth it, says Engku Khairul Anuar, or more commonly known to friends and colleagues as 'Pokku', a Panelman at Refinery & Cracker. He said the last two years, although challenging, proved to be a challenge worthy of pats in the back for all in PIC. The team have managed to leverage on the time to conduct further review of processes, documentation and training.

Pokku has 30 years of experience in PETRONAS and PRefChem specializing in blending and CDU and has seen the ups and downs in the industry, if not all. Recalling on the difference between the blending plant start-up at PPMSB and the recent one we had in May, he said this is more challenging as it is an integrated facility with more complicated processes involved. "In this restart-up, we were going slowly and steadily until we got the CDU up and running over the Raya season," said Pokku.

Originated from Kuala Terengganu, Pok Ku is married with four kids. Despite having a family and a job that sometimes require sacrifices from him and family, there was a sense of calmness and acceptance when asked about his challenges in his job.

"Working during Hari Raya is normal for us and there is an understanding as we rotate between team members. This is part of our sacrifice to the company. Since this year was ramping up towards Start-up, we were in full force working mode so it was hands on deck for everyone, " he said.

Prior to the start-up, rehearsals have been conducted and knew the parameters to monitor such as pressure and temperature. "It is not like you will get the product at the push of the button. CDU is like a nerve centre from which product will be sent to the subsequent units for further processing.," he said. Pokku also relayed how the team rejoiced when they found out that the product rundowns were finally on-spec. "When PIC finally produced its product rundowns, staff heaved sighs of relief as this one of the milestones achieved. It was worth the wait," said Pokku.

When asked on what he wishes for after this milestone was achieved, he said he hopes the other units down the line will start operating soon so as to bring in returns for the good of the Company and its stakeholders. "With the encouragement from the Management Team, I am confident PIC will be able to operate safely and efficiently," he added.