

“As a result of the past three years’ activity, we have achieved material progress, with significant milestones realised on this ongoing journey.”

Peter Chambers

Board Member
XL, 2006 – 2020



Tan Sri Jamal asked me to chair the Cyber Security Steering Committee (CCSC) as he regarded the cyber challenge as a major risk to the Group. Jamal provided his full endorsement of the initiative and empowered the CCSC with full autonomy to address the challenges. This displayed a vision that was ambitious, but necessary, from the Group CEO. Thank goodness for this vision.

We had to overcome many difficulties. From coordinating across the company and the creation of internal capability to enabling understanding of the issues and challenges in creating a core team to drive change. It took us 12 months to identify and recruit a leader, requiring an extensive international search. We were successful in creating a base to address the challenges.

Today our programme is fully endorsed by the Group, significant progress has been achieved and we have held our first Cyber Information Day. The Information Day was a significant milestone as it brought all the OpCos and Management together, in one place, to have an honest dialogue regarding the challenges. Of note, the event was officiated by Tan Sri Jamal who mentioned that he could not stay for the whole duration. However, on that day, as his interest peaked, he returned half an hour later and stayed for the entire day. An important moment in our journey!

As a result of the Group's effort, over the last three years we have made significant progress, establishing a solid platform for addressing future challenges.

Here's an amusing aside, relating to when I met Tan Sri Jamal for the first time at Jakarta's JW Marriott Hotel.

I had heard many stories about his approach and his time at Maxis. What impressed me most was his willingness to understand the Indonesian market and culture, and his inimitable low-key and humble approach that allowed for true understanding.

Interestingly, my next meetings with Tan Sri were all at hotels, The Ritz-Carlton Jakarta and The St Regis Bali Resort. It took four encounters to finally meet him in a formal environment. I thought, at least when we meet, we will not be short of coffee and food!

As our working relationship progressed, I have found Jamal to be gracious and giving of his time to the betterment of the organisation. His embracement of the cyber challenges has provided Axiata with an outstanding basis to tackle future cyber and data challenges.

Importantly, Axiata is a Group that should and will be an attractive place for the next generation of technology talent to shape the future of communications.