



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**Bestowing of Honorary Award of 'Bintang Jasa Utama' (First Class Merit Star) Medal to Ambassador Dr. Heinrich Seemann**

The Government of the Republic of Indonesia bestowed Bintang Jasa Utama (First Class Merit Star) Medal to Dr. Heinrich Seemann, former Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Republic of Indonesia (1994 – 2000). The medal conferring ceremony was held on the occasion of the national independence day commemoration 17 August 2006, at the Indonesian House (Wisma Indonesia). H.E. Makmur Widodo, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to the Federal Republic of Germany presented the honorary award.

The award of Bintang Jasa Utama is Indonesia's highest civilian honour and is conferred to foreigners, friends of Indonesia, who have rendered great services to the furtherance of bilateral relation between two countries.

The Indonesian Government valued highly the efforts made by Ambassador Dr. Seemann in such commendable services. It was during his tenure as Ambassador that the Technogerma Fair was held in Jakarta in 1999 during which Indonesia was still heavily impacted by the Asian crises and in need for technological resources to recover. Ambassador Dr. Seemann also authored two books featuring the importance and long history of Indonesian – German relations. He is also one of the founders of the Swiss German University which was established in Indonesia in 2000.

His services and works in promoting mutually beneficial bilateral relations extends beyond his tenure. Up until now, he remains active as speakers in various business meetings and provided the German public and business communities with more comprehensive and closer view on Indonesia based on his experience during his service.

In his remarks during the ceremony, H.E Ambassador Makmur Widodo, on behalf of the government and the people of the Republic of Indonesia, conveyed his profound gratitude to Ambassador Dr Heinrich Seemann and fervently hoped that the ties and friendship with Indonesia could be maintained and enhanced in the future.

The ceremony was attended by high ranking officials from the German Government and members of the Indonesian community in Berlin.

Berlin, 17 August 2006

