ARE illegal money-lenders, or Ah Longs, really the scourge of society they are made out to be? Given the role they play in dishing out loans to the desperate and the needy, could they not actually be useful members of society? Of course, their in-your-face collection method could do with some tweaking! So could their astronomical lending rates. But given the fact that many borrowers are no angels when it comes to repaying, some quarters feel the threats and physical force employed by loan sharks are justified. Still, all considered, Ah Longs do inflict misery on society with their unscrupulous methods, especially when they target borrowers’ families in their ruthless pursuit of repayment. And it’s no secret that their interest-upon-interest penal system wreaks severe financial and emotional stress on borrowers.
AUGUST 1, 2012

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MB-TeCH

A special section focusing on technology, electronic commerce and the emerging knowledge economy. This issue, we focus on:

- The growing incidents of Distributed Denial of Service attacks and its solutions,
- Choplink – a mobile app that helps retailers go digital,
- IBM Study on CEOs and Connected Culture, and
- Sophos’ tips on how to fix Dropbox problems.

HOUSING & PROPERTY

This monthly section keeps you updated on the local property sector. This issue, we look at:

- Malaysian institutional funds’ buying spree abroad, and
- The Haven rejuvenating Ipoh.

PEMANDU

This 10-page special focus highlights the government’s initiative in the Improving Urban Public Transport (UPT) National Key Results Area. Among the topics include:

- Building a world-class transportation system, and
- Service upgrades in the pipeline.