

Star's third automotive centre

■ By JONATHAN KWOK

STAR Automotive Centre, a business division of ST Kinetics, yesterday unveiled a new automotive centre which will provide motorists with rapid maintenance, repair and paint services.

The \$24 million complex at Jalan Boon Lay has a built-in area of 2,600 sq m – the largest independent automotive centre here.

The centre, a tie-up with car paint maker DuPont, aims to score with a quick repair system, with minor repair paint work expected to be completed within one working day.

This is quicker than the industry norm of two to three days, said Mr Pee Yap Aik, general manager of Star Automotive Centre, at the centre's launch.

Star will bring in Swedish repair and training firm Car-O-Liner to train its technical staff, starting next quarter.

"When cars are sent to some repair shops and repair is done the normal way, the safety ratings of the car may go down," claimed Mr Per Lyngsaa Madsen, area sales director of Car-O-Liner.

"We intend to train people to service cars in the specific ways de-



Star says minor repair paint work at its Jalan Boon Lay centre will likely be completed within one working day. ST PHOTO: DESMOND WEE

termined by the car manufacturers so that the safety standards are maintained... The new model cars have new specifications and methods of repair that some people who have been in the industry for a long time may be unaware of."

A separate tie-up with the Institute of Technical Education will also mean that Star Jalan Boon Lay will be able to offer in-house training to its staff, allowing them to

obtain ITE certificates after courses of two-and-a-half years.

The ITE programme will start next month. ITE will assist Star in planning the curriculum.

Star Automotive has two other maintenance and repair centres – at Portsdown Road and at Ubi Close.

ST Kinetics comes under the umbrella of mainboard-listed ST Engineering.