It's a funny old thing in the world of tech and online trading; Brokers have been flogging MT5 for a decade now and they continue to push us – all of us, apparently – to move over. Yet step into any major Malaysian trading community or chat room today, and I guarantee you will still see a good portion of traders sporting the ubiquitous black and green of MetaTrader 4 on their screens.

Why the sticking power? Well, there are a few reasons, with one major factor being the reliance on Expert Advisors or EAs. Traders in Malaysia are, arguably more than others globally, incredibly reliant on automated trading systems and custom indicators that were built over the last ten years specifically for this platform. And as anyone in programming or systems development knows, porting one platform's EA code base to a new version of scripting language is not usually a quick copy-paste exercise. In fact, many were never migrated at all, so the mere thought of switching would mean discarding an EA for which a trader, either by spending months building it, or money on buying it. Then comes familiarity. Ten years spent learning the ins and outs of a platform is a significant amount of time to build up muscle memory. When a trader learns to plot their candlestick pattern with precise right mouse button clicks on the exact chart layout in MT4 back in 2016, the prospect of relearning the location of every button and menu in a new environment becomes frankly painful. Even if MT5 is technically superior, sometimes 'good enough' and comfortable means it will do. And we really should be grateful we're not in Singapore, a market where many brokers operate only through MT5's newer, more sophisticated version, but in Malaysia, many brokers have built a solid customer base on MT4 only or have been reluctant to make the expensive shift just yet. That's because they're quite content with their MT4-based servers, their community structure based on the original MT4, and the existing ecosystem of their Forex traders who aren't necessarily clamouring to abandon their MT4-only EAs, custom indicators and years of building their trading skills. We could be polite and say "it's simpler to use" but that's not the main factor. MT5 added a much wider range of tradable assets (stocks, indices, etc.), extensive charting capabilities and backtesting features that are essential in more complex financial trading, but the majority of retail Forex traders in Malaysia simply focus on a handful of currency pairs. For them, many of MT5's advanced features are, frankly, the digital equivalent of carrying a toolbox when all you need is a screwdriver and an hammer. The platform is great – more is not always good though, especially when it comes to trading and performance when they are purely focused on currency markets. bonuses However, none of this means that MT4 will last forever. Eventually support will wane, brokers will need to upgrade and customers will be nudged (firmly) by MT5. But until then, if it ain't broke, why would many Malaysian traders move it for a different box of digital tools? Especially when their's is still doing the simple job quite well for them.