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From the Editors Desk.....

Dear Friends

Welcome to the 6th issue of ASPAC Newsletter, the last one prior to the Rio de Janeiro FIDIC Conference.

Rio de Janeiro and Brazil today are sizzling with the World Cup fever, which is rising throughout the world. But for us, Consultants, Rio de

Janeiro will be the preferred destination at the end of September for the post centenary FIDIC conference. For the ASPAC Members, the logistics and travel time are daunting, but I am sure we shall have a large representation at the Conference commensurate with the growing importance of the ASPAC region in the development map of the World.

The next issue of our Newsletter is due to come out in September, but we propose to delay same slightly to mid October, to be able to cover the Rio de Janeiro conference. We, ASPAC EC Members, look forward to make this a most comprehensive newsletter connecting all the 22 MAs. We request each of you to make contribution well ahead of the Conference date so that we can present ourselves in the Rio de Janeiro as the best networked body. ASPAC has the potential of becoming the most important forum under FIDIC umbrella, and we need to be well connected with all the Member Associations.

We request all of you once again for meeting this objective and make ASPAC well placed in the international forum.

In this issue apart from the feedback from the MAs, we have introduced a new feature - "News Round up", which reports on the recently concluded CEO conference organized by Consult Australia and a sneak preview of the preparations for the FIDIC-ASPAC Tehran 2015 event to be held in May.

ASPAC family looks forward to have a memorable get together at Rio de Janeiro.

Wishing you the very best

Warm regards

Amitabha Ghoshal

Chairman

ASPAC-Information Committee







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Chairman's Speech

Dear Colleagues,

Are you watching World Cup games in Brazil?

Hardly spare time to send country articles to the Publisher?

I'd like to quote Amitabha Ghoshal's requests saying,

"Since all of you are busy in your usual business, for your quick action, I am attaching a Response Sheet, which you may fill in and send back so that we can edit from your responses. We sincerely look forward to your help in this respect and request you to send as much material as possible before 20th June 2014 definitely. That will leave for us some time to format the information and produce the News Letter in time."

His request continues even after the deadline,

"I am still waiting for your inputs. As of now I have received from four MAs. It will be very sad if we could not add inputs from more countries. Out of 22 MAs only 4 responded and other 18 are still to be replied. I need everyone's cooperation to bring out the Newsletter in time."

In Brazil, as the group stage matches have wrapped up, the entire Asia Pacific representation in World Cup was eliminated. Though, this is the stage when the real fungets underway.

I think it's time to think about our ASPAC News Letter. I am looking forward to your further support and cooperation in making News Letter.

Are you planning to participate in FIDIC Conference 2014 Rio in September?

I am looking forward to your contribution now and to seeing you in Rio.

Sincerely,

Thank you,

Hoig Kang

Chairman, ASPAC





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ASPAC Member Associations (22)

ASPAC Member Associations (22)				
Australia	Consult Australia			
	megan@consultaustralia.com.au			
Azerbaijan	National Engineering Consultancy Society of Azerbaijan			
	office@nt.az			
Bangladesh	Bangladesh Association of Consulting Engineers			
	bace@citechco.net			
China	China National Association of Engineering Consultants			
	cnaec@cnaec.org.cn			
	Mr Hu Yangge cnaec@126.com;			
China, Hong Kong	Association of Consulting Engineers of Hong Kong, China			
- ·····, · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	acehk@regionfine.com.hk			
China, Taipei	Chinese Association of Engineering Consultants, Taipei, China			
, ranpor	tfec.tw@msa.hinet.net			
	Consulting Engineers Association of India			
India	Ceai.ceai@gmail.com			
maia	Mr A P Mull, President apmull@tce.co.in			
	National Association of Indonesian Engineering Consultants			
Indonesia	inkindo@inkindo.org			
	Iranian Society of Consulting Engineers			
	fidic@irsce.org			
Iran	Mr. Hormozd Ramineh, President			
	ramineh@parsconsult.co.ir/, hramineh@gmail.com			
	Association of Japanese Consulting Engineers			
lonon				
Japan	yyajce@gmail.com			
	Yoshi Yamashita Yoshi yamashita@ajce.or.jp			
Mana a	Korea Engineering and Consulting Association			
Korea	international@kenca.or.kr			
	Heesung MAENG <u>kurre@kenca.or.kr</u> .			
Malacaia	Association of Consulting Engineers Malaysia			
Malaysia	sec@acem.com.my			
	Faizal faizal@acem.com.my			
Mongolia	Mongolian Road Association, Mongolia			
mengena	info@mra.mn			
Nepal	Society of Consulting Architectural and Engineering Firms, Nepal			
Пераг	scaef@wlink.com.np			
New Zealand	Association of Consulting Engineers New Zealand			
New Zealand	service@acenz.org.nz			
Dakieten	Association of Consulting Engineers Pakistan			
Pakistan	acep@cyber.net.pk			
Dhilinnings	Council of Engineering Consultants of the Philippines			
Philippines	cecophil@yahoo.com			
0:	Association of Consulting Engineers Singapore			
Singapore	secretariat@aces.org.sg			
	Association of Consulting Engineers, Sri Lanka			
Sri Lanka	president@acesl.org			
	Russel de Zilwa rdz@engcl.com			
Thailand	Consulting Engineers Association of Thailand (CEAT)			
	ceat@ceat.or.th			
	Uzbek Association of Consulting Engineers			
Uzbekistan	info@uzace.org			
	Vietnam Engineering Consultant Association			
Vietnam	vecas@fpt.vn			
VICUIUIII	TOOLOGIPE VII			





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ASPAC Executive Committee Members (7)

Hoig Kang (Korea) – Chairman Liu Luobing (China) – Vice Chairman Chien Chung Li (China Taipei) Amitabha Ghoshal (India) Irawan Koesoemo (Indonesia) Konomu Uchimura (Japan) Mohd Adnan Mohd Nor (Malaysia)

Sub-Committees

Information Committee

Amitabha Ghoshal (India)- Chairman Liu Luobing (China) - Co Chairman Members Russel de Zilwa (Sri Lanka) Hare Ram Shrestha (Nepal)

Education Committee

Konomu Uchimura (Japan)- Chairman Mohd Adnan Mohd Nor (Malaysia) - Co-Chairman Members Dr. Kamal Laksiri (Sri Lanka)

Membership Committee

Irawan Koesoemo (Indonesia)- Chairman Chin-Chung Li (China Taipei) - Co-Chairman Members J Karunaratne (Sri Lanka)

ASPAC Young Professional Forum steering Committee (YPFSC)

Arash Emambakhsh, Iran
Garett Bray, Australia
Zhou Sheng, China
Takashi Matsuo, Japan
Atasi Das, India
Shah Izzni Talif, Malaysia
Patrick John R. Ramos, Philippines
Sung Joon Park, Republic of Korea
Jomanah Albtoush (Lebanon) was mandated as the advisor





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Consult Australia's ASPAC CEO Conference provided a unique networking platform for the top echelons of the major consulting and engineering firms in the Asia Pacific region. An exclusive forum for CEOs and senior business leaders, event was spread out in two days covering the following areas:

- An analysis of global business trends and the shift of world wealth from West to East.
- Connecting the Asia Pacific and the outlook for regional growth.
- Perspectives on political will; the infrastructure deficit and government balance sheets;
- How do we balance the needs of the developing world for infrastructure development with the need to operate with integrity and protect those communities whom we seek to serve?
- How does benchmarking help an industry lift its performance? What are the key figures and ratios CEO's should be worried about?

There were other subjects also.

The speakers included:

Matthew Harris

Consult Australia President

Dr Tim Williams, CEO

The Committee for Sydney

Phil Ruthven, Chairman

IBIS World

Enrico Vink

FIDIC, Managing Director

Kiran Kapila

Intercontinental Consultants and Technocrats, Chairman and Managing Director Member FIDIC EC

Irawan B Koesoemo

PT BITA Enarcon Engineering, Executive Chairman, Member ASPAC EC

Vladislav Krasikov

World Bank Senior Procurement Specialist

Mr Enrico Vink reported that approx. 40 CEO's from various countries had participated. The proceedings of yet in hand and we shall include the same in the next issue of ASPAC Newsletter.





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PROPOSED FIDIC – ASPAC TEHRAN 2014 CONFERENCE: 10-13 May 2015 THEME: SUSTAINABLE APPROACHES IN EMERGING MARKETS

MR ARASH EMAMBAKHSH, CHAIRMAN OF COMING FIDIC-ASPAC TEHRAN CONFERENCE REPORTS THAT FIDIC-ASPAC 2015 CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT TEHRAN FROM 10-13 MAY 2015, ON THE THEME "SUSTAINABLE APPROACHES IN EMERGING MARKETS":

ISCE started two committees:

Conference Steering Committee; consisting of ISCE senior members from EC, ...
Conference Executive Committee; consisting of YPs divided into two sub-committees:
Organizing Committee and Supportive Committee

2. Selecting the conference theme:

"Sustainable Approaches in Emerging Markets" is selected as the conference theme.

Panels will be as follows:

Panel 1: Emerging Markets Economic Outlook in ASPAC Region

Panel 2: Sustainable Procurement in Emerging Markets

Panel 3: How the Green Integrity can form the future of CE Industry

Panel 4: Quality Human Resources in Emerging Markets

Panel 5: ASPAC YPF Session

3. Preliminary Schedule is as follows:

FIDIC ASPAC Conference: 10-13 May 2015, Tehran, Sustainable Approached in Emerging Markets

- 1st Day: Sunday, 10-May-2015:

 Supplier Welcome Deportion
 - evening: Welcome Reception
- 2nd Day, Monday, 11-May-2015: morning: Welcome / Opening Ceremony afternoon: Conference: Panels 1 and 2
 - evening: Local Color Night

3rd Day: Tuesday, 12-May-2015: morning: Conference: Panels 3 & 4

afternoon: Panel 5 and the Closing Ceremony

evening: Gala Dinner

4th Day: Wednesday, 13-May-2015:

Tours (different types of tours can be planned, technical and non-technical)

Planning:

We have planned the conference activities in 9 phases the first of which (preliminary phase) is accomplished and we have started the second phase now. The last one will include the post-conference activities.

5. Coordination:

We started to communicate and meet the Iranian government officers to have their most support for this conference. Selecting the conference venue and qualifying the conference holder companies are also some of the activities we recently started.

He requested supports by ASPAC conference committee, ASPAC EC and FIDIC Secretariat during the next months to make this event a success.





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It was agreed in the Bali Conference that the next ASPAC Conference would be hosted by UZACE at Tashkent. However, in subsequent meetings of UZACE, it was decided not to proceed with the 2015 ASPAC Conference due to many issues like organizational, important political events in the country, etc. ISCE, Iran subsequently agreed to hold the next ASPAC 2015 Conference at Tehran. The Extract of the relevant letter from UZACE is appended below.



Узбекистон инженер-консультантлар ва курувчилар Уюшмаси Узбекская Ассоциация инженеров-консультантов и строителей Uzbek Association of consulting engineers and constructors

«14» April 2014г.

To: Mr. Hoig Kang, Chairman of ASPAC

Dear Mr. Hoig Kang,

On behalf of Uzbekistan Association of Consulting Engineers I would like to thank you again for the support given to UZACE to host the ASPAC Conference in 2015. As we discussed during Bali TCDPAP-ACPAC Conference-2014, such event is very important not only for the society of consulting engineers, consulting companies, leading technical universities, but also for FIDIC and ASPAC to advocate for the FIDIC principles in whole Central Asia. Herewith, I would like to personally thank You and each of the ASPAC EC member for the support given to UZACE to host the Conference.

As you aware, UZACE does its best to promote the best practices, but should acknowledge the fact of slow movement of FIDIC to be recognized in country profile. We do consider this fact as time needed process. We should focus this period on tuning the organizational structure and gain more support and number of the member-firms.

With regard of the proposed Tashkent Conference ASPAC-2015, with regret and apologies, UZACE proposes to ASPAC, to choose another member and country, which would be more focused, with strong and established engineering society, strong membership and sharing fully the best practices of FIDIC. Due to many constraints, organizational issues, and important political events planned in country profile for the next year, we should step back of hosting such important Conference in 2015.

We do hope for Your understanding.

Remain sincerely Yours,

Mirodil Mirakhmedov

Chairman of Uzbek Association of Consulting Engineers



Халқаро инженер-консультантлар Федерацияси аъзоси Член Международной Федерации инженеров-консультантов Member of International Federation of Consulting Engineers

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CONSULTING ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Governing Council Members

A P Mull, President Amitabha Bhattacharya, Vice President Sudhir Dhawan, Vice President Somenath Ghosh, Secretary N Bandyopadhyay, Treasurer

Members

Sitaram Aggarwal
Arvinder S Brara
Samarjit Chatterjee
R V Chakrapani
Debidas Datta
Sangeeta Wij
Aman Sharma
O P Goel
Srikumar Ghosh
Amitabha Ghoshal
Satish Chandra Gupta
Umesh Srivastava

Rajendra Kumar Gupta Manoj Kumar Mittal
Maj. S J M Jafri Biswarup Mukherjee
K K Kapila Harshvardhan Subba Rao
Prashant Kapila Mahendra Raj
S C Mehrotra Uttam Sengupta



Gaurav K Srivastava

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK....

Dear Fellow Consulting Engineers,

The country now has a credible central polity which like I expressed in the previous Newsletter is expected to maintain our democratic system but have the courage of its own conviction in the ideas it purports and put its shoulder to the wheel in order to spur the country's development. The new government at the centre is promising all that and moving on all fronts, hence it's upto the engineering fraternity and other professionals to gear up and meet the challenges that come up.

Ashish Tandon

Good and sound knowledge coupled with appropriate experience and the willingness to work with a positive attitude are the necessary qualities in professionals which are required to achieve the country's vision. India is not lacking in talent; its available in abundance; all it needs is to be tuned into the correct channel with due training. The old masters have to have a big hand in that so that the new generation is more knowledgeable - theoretically and better than the previous. Practical experience will come with time as they mature, during which also the older generation must hold the hands of the younger - guide and mentor them till they are ready to take off on their own. They need to be taught that in all that they do, a defined process or procedure needs to be followed so that the deliverable is error free. Taking short cuts normally end up with creating other issues which invariably lead to not only delaying the project but also increasing its cost.

In order that the country gets the best, we all must abide by our code of ethics, take up and deliver state of the art solutions which are sustainable. A number of definitions have been given for sustainability. I find the one by Gro Harlem Brundtland, Chairperson, World Commission on Environment and Development very appropriate. "Sustainability means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." She was also the Prime Minister of Norway in 1987. Another definition is "Strip aside the environmental implications and sustainability means simply the ability to keep going, to endure and to last for a long time". Resources are becoming scarce and its therefore upto the professional engineers to design and utilise them properly by recycling and reusing them; also using regenerateable local materials which often last for decades when regularly and properly maintained. They may not only be cheaper but may also be easier to repair and replace when necessary.

Let us girdle up and pick up the gauntlet that our country has thrown before us.

With best regards

A. P. Hul

A P Mull, President





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TECHNICAL LECTURE ON "THE STATUS QUO OF HIGH SPEED RAILWAYS IN INDIA AND JAPAN"

CEAI organized a Technical Lecture on "The Status Quo of High Speed Railways in India & Japan" on 16th May 2014 at CEAI Centre, New Delhi. 40 participants attended the lecture from various organisations.

Mr. Harutoshi Hayasaka, General Manager, Japan International Consultants for Transportation Co. Ltd, delivered it.

- a) Punctuality of High Speed Train operation in Japan
- b) Framework for implementation of HSR Project in Japan
 - Shinkansen Network in Japan
 - Main Feature of Shinkansen
 - Framework for Implementation of Shinkansen Project.
 - Procedure of Shinkansen Construction
 - Flow of Railway Construction Projects & Role of JRTT
 - Urban Railways & Scheme of Subsidies
 - Percentage of Structures on Shinkansen
 - The Longest Railway Tunnel in the World
 - Railway Station Equipment
 - Measures against Snow and Ice



Mr. Hayasaka briefed about the high-speed trains being operated in Japan and gave a video presentation and explained the various types of railway construction in Japan. He also explained the possibility of high-speed trains in India and presented a long term vision for Indian Railways until 2020.







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"CURRENT DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO - CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES"

Proceedings of event held at Kolkata

The Consulting Engineers Association of India (East – North East Regional Centre) in association with The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC & I) held a seminar on **"Current Development Scenario-Challenges and Strategies"** at Kolkata on May 23 – 24, 2014. It was attended by over 100 delegates.

Inaugural Session was held in the afternoon of May 23, 2014. Mr. A P Mull, President CEAI, in his welcome address stressed on the multifaceted challenges faced by the multitude of engineers graduating every year for shaping India's destiny over the next few decades. He stressed on the need for holistic solutions encompassing inclusive development, environmental concerns and social reforms.

Mr. Amitabha Ghoshal, Chairman, CEAl-E&NE Centre, elucidated the thoughts and extensive deliberations held by the Organizing Committee and the Advisory



Committee leading to selection of the Theme and the timing of the Seminar, in relation to the formation of the new Central Government. He elaborated how the sub themes panned out of the main topic, with careful selection of speakers.

Mr. Dip Sen, Sr. VP (Infra) of L&T spoke extensively on the prospects in the key Infrastructure sectors of Roads, Railways and Ports. He highlighted how land acquisition issues and delay in a score of clearances from different departments, coupled with deficiencies in planning and design documents, have resulted in inordinate time overruns or non-completion of a host of projects running into lacs of crores of Rupees.

Mr. Ambarish Dasgupta, Head Management Consulting of KPMG Advisory Services, covered the entire gamut of the economic domain and strongly emphasized on the importance of use of indigenous solutions, commodities and products towards import substitution over international options. He maintained that overt borrowing of overseas funds would be extremely detrimental to India's growth pattern, as has been witnessed by other emerging countries.

The last speaker of the Inaugural session, Mr. Kallol Datta, President, BCC & I, and CMD, Andrew Yule, emphatically stated that if India is to realize it's dream of positioning herself as a robust, and leading economy of the world, the skewness in contribution of the manufacturing sector as against the service and other sectors need to be rectified at a very fast pace. The manufacturing sector has to contribute much more than the present figure of 15%, so that like China, in can catapult and drive the country's economy, or otherwise it would be staring at a very gloomy picture as early as 2020.





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Technical Session -I on May 24, 2014 was chaired by Dr. Abhijit Dasgupta, Director of M N Dastur & Co.

Prof. S S Chakrabarty, Chairman, CES (I) Pvt. Ltd. emphasized that innovative marketing was the call of the day. Private players have to seek opportunities for partnerships with Public Sector organizations in carrying forward projects in various infrastructure sectors and seek new business windows; instead of waiting for `things to happen' - we have to `make it happen'.

Mr. Abhin Alimchandani, JMD of STUP Consultants Pvt. Ltd, deliberated on the problems the Consulting Industry is facing from external sources as well as internally. He articulated on the need for use of innovative approach by consultants to succeed in the face of all odds. He presented some successful examples on use of innovative solution by Indians, to fortify his submission.

Mr. Aloke Mookherjea, Chairman of Solyvent Flakt (I) Pvt. Ltd. through visual illustrations brought out India's dichotomy of having the very good vs the very bad, very rich vs the very poor and made the point that such imbalance in every sphere of activity has to be bridged for India to be recognized as an 'emerged' country.

Technical Session II was chaired by Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, Secretary, CEAI-E&NE Centre Dr. Abhijit Dasgupta, portrayed the present scenario in three core development sectors viz. Steel, Aluminum and Power and presented how poorly India benchmarked with China on consumption levels in all three disciplines. The yawning gap between demand and supply was conveyed through statistics. The cardinal importance of the core sectors of engineering and practicing engineers in restoring this position was well brought out.

Mr. Indrajit Sen, Managing Director of International Combustion (I) Ltd. made very tangible observations on the 'Terms of Agreement' for international collaborations, stating that overseas organizations could only have a maximum share of 39% in such joint ventures. He mapped out the entire scenario of collaborations - how to avoid the pitfalls and the modality for successful ventures.

Mr. P R Dhar, Corporate Advisor of Simplex Infrastructures Ltd. remarked that since EPC contracts are already here to stay, the need for Consultants and Constructors to effectively network has increased manifold. He stated that such arrangements make it imperative for Consultants to intensify their effort towards enhancement of 'precision and accuracy' in all the documents produced by them.

Technical Session III was chaired by Mr. Samiran Sen of E to E Consultant.

Prof. Nitin Som, Consulting Geotechnical Engineer and a renowned academician, presented the current pitfalls in the academic arena, which is the first step towards producing engineers for future India and stressed that the industry has a definite contributory role in this regard to inculcate the requisite residual skills.

Mr. N A Chaudhuri, Executive Director of DCPL amply dwelt on quality aspects in the different stages of a Consultant's work from 'Concept to Completion'. He laid down the road map for Consultants to be able to promote quality in deliverables.

Mr. A D Narain, Presiedent of ICT Pvt. Ltd. dealt on the importance of collective approach between owners, contractors and consultants and how the same can optimize cost of projects and make Indian projects globally competitive.





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Valedictory Session was chaired by Mr. Amitabha Ghoshal

Prof. Suman Mukerjee, Principal and Dean of Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Institute of Management, emphasized the deep chasms prevalent in all spheres of activity that need attention and redemption for the 'utopia' to become a 'reality'. Prof Ajoy Ray, Director IIEST, Shibpur reinforced this fact, with particular emphasis on the academic sphere. He implored that the deficiencies in the educational front can be solved to a large extent by successful interaction between the Industry professionals and the academia.



The Seminar continued late into the evening, with delegates dispersing only around 1800 hours. The Seminar may be accessed through the following remark made by a very senior delegate, who exclaimed 'I wanted to leave earlier, but was compelled to stay'. This made for a very rewarding summing up, particularly for the organizers!

Recommendations

The Seminar brought out the following wish list of Development Stakeholders to reverse the present gloomy situation.

- The thrust on successful and rapid implementation of Infrastructure projects needs to be increased manifold for generation of employment and wealth. The present bottlenecks need to be removed by radical change in application of rules and regulations.
- Projects need to be prioritized based on their reach to larger, disadvantaged sector of populations, who need facilities of Health, Education and Nutrition to enhance the Happiness quotient. The Core Industry Sectors as Power, Steel, Mining, et al need immediate special attention.
- Technical Education needs large scale reform to make them effective, knowledge based and relevant for making the trained and skilled manpower the engine of growth. Greater interaction by Industry into academic fields can provide the required course correction.

The participants hope that the new Government will take due cognizance of these recommendations





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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INDONESIA CONSULTANTS (INKINDO)



MR ZULKIFLI HALIM, CHAIR PERSON AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIR OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INDONESIAN CONSULTANTS (INKINDO) REPORTS - INKINDO HOLDS TWO HIGHLY SUCCESFUL FIDIC PROGRAMME AT HOTEL BANDUNG, INDONESIA, IN THE GRAND BALLROM 1.

One, two-day Training was held on 2nd and 3rd June 2014 on FIDIC RED BOOK, Conditions of Contract For Construction by the Trainer Dr. Sarwono Harjomulyadi.

31 delegates drawn from Law Firms, EPC Contractor and State-owned General Electricity Company attended the same.

The delegates opinioned that the topic was relevant to their professional work and will increase their knowledge base. The Trainer was found to have good knowledge and well experienced in the subject.



Second, two-days Training was held on 5th and 6th June 2014 on FIDIC SILVER BOOK, "Conditions of Contract For EPC/Turnkey Project" by the Trainer Dr. Sebastian Hok.

42 delegates drawn from Law Firms, EPC Contractor, Oil Companies and State-owned General Electricity Company attended the same.



Most of the delegates appreciated the subject, which was very relevant to their everyday professional activities. The contents were excellent and the Trainer was considered to have good knowledge about the subject.

The delegates for the above Training/Workshop found the Training Sessions beneficial and thanked INKINDO for organizing such valuable events. They requested holding of such informative seminars in future.





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Association of Japanese Consulting Engineers, Japan



Executive Committee

Konomu Uchimura, President Yasuji Nakaya, Vice-president Ichiro Seko, Vice-president Masatsugu Komiya, Vice-President Hiroshi Tanaka Hidenori Nozaki Shinichi Hasegawa Kaoru Kariya Tadaki Kumagai Toshio Kurashige Keiji sasabe Minoru Shibuya Yukinobu Hayashi Hiroki Fujiwara Hiromichi Murata

Mr. Konomu Uchimura was elected as the new president of AJCE at the general assembly meeting held on 20th May. During his 2 years term as the president, he will exert effort for raising the social status of Japanese CEs in cooperation with FIDIC and ASPAC based on "Quality", "Integrity", and "Sustainability". This year, AJCE will celebrate its 40th year anniversary on July 9 in which strategic role of consulting engineers will be explored.



Inaugural Address

I was elected as the new president of AJCE at the general assembly meeting held on 20th May, 2014. I will exert myself for raising the social status of Japanese consulting engineers in cooperation with FIDIC and ASPAC.

AJCE was established in April, 1974 and was approved as a member association of FIDIC in October.

Since the establishment in 1974, AJCE has been exerting its effort in raising the status of consulting engineers. I am pleased to inform that we will celebrate 40th year anniversary on July 9, 2014.

According to the fundamental policy of FDIC, i.e., "Quality", "Integrity", and "Sustainability", Japanese consulting engineers have been promoting international business practice under the policy of aiming at exporting high quality and sustainable infrastructure, based on fare competition. Similarly in domestic projects, new role of CE is expected in this context. Existing value of FIDIC and AJCE lies on this point.

During my 2 years term as the president, I sincerely hope that CE industry in Japan would progress beyond AJCE's 40-years accomplishment.

Konomu Uchimura President





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Commemorative Undertakings for AJCE's 40th Year Celebration

AJCE will celebrate 40th year anniversary in July 2014 since its establishment in April, 1974. Following the establishment, AJCE was approved as a FIDIC member association at FIDIC Cape Town Conference in Oct 1974. Biggest event since its establishment was holding the FIDIC Tokyo Conference in Sept 1991. Approximately 650 participants gathered from 40 countries, largest scale at that time.

We will undertake following events for the celebration



Conference for commemorating FIDIC membership (Tokyo, Oct 1975) (left: Tanaka, AJCE president, right: Olson, FIDIC president)



FIDIC Tokyo Conference General Assembly Meeting (Sept, 1991)

1. Commemorative Seminar

The seminar titled "Mission of Consulting Engineers" will be held on 9th July, 2014 in Tokyo. Guest speakers are Mr. Konomu Uchimura, AJCE President; Mr. Pablo Bueno, FIDIC president; Mr. Toshiyuki Kuroyanagi, Vice-president of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); Mr. Toru Shimizu, Deputy

Director-General, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT); and Prof. Izumi Ohno, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies.

2. Celebration Party

Following the seminar, celebration party will be held in the same venue in Tokyo. Guests are invited from FIDIC, government entities, international organizations (WB and ADB in Tokyo), ambassadors, JICA, related associations and media. FIDIC president and vice-minister of MLIT will present opening address.





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3. Award of Excellence

AJCE's award of excellence will be presented in the celebration party to those members who contributed for the development and raising the status of consulting engineering industry in Japan for over 2 decades.

4. Support of Dispatching Young Professionals (YP) to FIDIC and ASPAC Conferences

As a part of the event, AJCE will financially support YPs for attending FIDIC Rio Conference and ASPAC Conference in 2015. Financial support equivalent to registration fee will be provided to those YPs wishing to participate in the subject conferences. The support is intended to serve as a leverage for encouraging member firms to fully support YP's participation.

5. Commemorative Publication

Forty years of accomplishment by Japanese consulting engineers, AJCE in particular, and thoughts in future role and responsibility of consulting engineers will be summarized and reported in AJCE's Commemorative Issue. It will be published on 1 January, 2015.

Major policy issues affecting Consultancy fraternity:

Issues with Government, if any

- 1) Enforcement of Revised Quality Assurance Act, enacted 4 June, 2014: significant step to QBS
- 2) Recovery from long deflation through "Abenomics" economical and financial stimulus policy-
- 3) Recovery from East Japan disaster
- 4) Treatment of polluted radioactive areas affected by Fukushima No1. Nuclear power station
- 5) National nuclear energy policy in the future
- 6) Maintenance of infrastructure
- 7) Oversea business promotion
- 8) Preparation for 2020 Tokyo Olympic

Issues related to performance of consultancy profession

- 1) Budget cut in public works
- 2) Raising social status of CE
- 3) Involvement of CE in project formation process
- 4) Consultant selection by QBS (QCBS is increasing in public works projects)
- 5) Aging of CE human resources
- 6) Need to attract young engineers in CE industry
- 7) Promotion of women engineers
- 8) Strengthening of CE industry in oversea market

Issues related to performance of individual consultants

- 1) Create good work-life balance
- 2) Securing young professionals
- 3) Improvement of remuneration
- 4) Capacity building and opportunity for strengthening competence in domestic/oversea consulting service
- 5) Quality assurance of deliverables

Suggestions for uplifting the consultancy operation

- 1) Consolidate CE industry and strengthen political influence
- 2) By raising social status of CEs in school and society, etc, enhance affinity of CE industry
- 3) Activate activities of young professionals
- 4) Promote capacity building/ training
- 5) Strengthen competence through coordination with FIDIC MAs globalise/ expand opportunity





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Korea Engineering & Consulting Association, South Korea

Executive Committee Members

Dr. Jae-wan Lee(Chairman)

Mr. Chi-dong Kim (Executive Vice Chairman)

Mr. Hae-Kyoung Lee – Board of Director

Mr. Soo-Bo Kim - Board of Director

Mr. Kang-Rog Lee – Board of Director

Mr. Kun-Hwan Cho - Board of Director

Mr. Won-Koo Lee - Board of Director

The 2014 Global Project Plaza

KENCA(Korea Engineering & Consulting Association) and KOTRA(Korea Trade and Investment Agency) held the 2014 Global Project Plaza (GPP) at Lotte hotel in Seoul for 3 days from 20 to 22 May.

They who are approximately 90 foreign invitees from 40 countries including Czech, Paraguay, Mongolian, etc. participated in the conference, made presentations on projects of respective countries and exchanged

information on business opportunities through 1:1 business meetings.





Special section was held for urban development to new town developments or urban redevelopment projects.

In the opening speech, Mr. Chi-Dong Kim, executive vice chairman of KENCA as the host of this event, expressed that the 3-day event will be served as a valuable opportunity for Korean engineering companies to strengthen its business in global market.

The Engineering Forum

The Engineering Forum in remembrance of the 40th anniversary of KENCA was held in Seoul on May 29. The aim of this forum was the future strategy of engineering industry through an industry analysis and sharing information.



The themes were in detail first Future



Strategies of Korea Engineering, second Engineering & Media and third The Overview of South-North Economic Cooperation. All participants who are approximately 120 members from engineering firms, professors and specialists attended the forum.





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Association of Consulting Engineers Malaysia

51st Annual General Meeting



The Association of Consulting Engineers Malaysia (ACEM) had its 51st Annual General Meeting on 21 June 2014 in Kuala Lumpur. The newly elected ACEM Council for Session 2014/2015 comprises:

President : Ir. Wong See Foong
Deputy President : Ir. Prem Kumar
Honorary Secretary : Ir. Anuar Mohd Aris

Honorary Treasurer : Ir. Mohd Adnan b Mohd Nor

Immediate Past President : Ir. Wong Loo Min
Council Members : Ir. A. Dorhat Rahani

Ir. Ahmad Izdihar b Supaat Ir. Ahmad Rashidi Zainudin

Ir. Chen Chean Sin
Ir. Chua Eng Thye
Ir. Mohd Aman b Hj. Idris
Ir. Romesh Srinivasan

Ir. Shaik Abdul Wahed

Ir. Walter Sim Kian Joo Ir. Paul Yap Kok Wai



Standing (L – R): Ir. Chen Chean Sin, Ir. Chua Eng Thye, Ir. Mohd Aman, Ir. Romesh Srinivasan, Ir. Walter Sim, Ir. Ahmad Rashidi, Ir. Ahmad Izdihar & Ir. Anuar Mohd Aris.

Seated (L – R): Ir. Dorhat Rahani, Ir. Mohd Adnan, Ir. Prem Kumar, Ir. Wong See Foong (President), Ir. Wong Loo Min, Ir. Shaik Abdul Wahed & Ir. Paul Yap.





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Membership

The ACEM Forum 2014 organised by the ACEM Membership Committee was held on 3 April 2014. This annual event by ACEM focuses on current practicing issues which affect the industry. This year's forum covered the following topics:

- "Goods and Services Tax (GST) Implementation and Procedure for Consulting Engineering Services." This is an awareness talk to prepare members for the impending implementation of GST by the Malaysian Government in 2015.
- "Certificate of Completion and Compliance (CCC)" An update on the status of CCC was presented to the members including common errors made by consultants in issuing the certificate.
- "The Evolving Landscape of Professional Indemnity Insurance" provided an insight on the current trends in PII.

Education & Training Activities

The following seminars and courses were organised by ACEM during the last quarter:

- (1) "Special Lecture on Underground Construction in Limestone" was held on 21 April 2014. The lectures were conducted by Dr. Harald Wagner, an internationally active consultant for underground infrastructures with more than 40 years of experience.
- (2) "Fibre to the House (FTTH) Induction Course" was conducted on 10 May 2014. The course was designed to instill the fundamental knowledge in "Fibre to the x" (FTTx), the next generation of network standards, widely sought after across the Asia Pacific region.
- (3) The 3-day "Induction Course for New M&E Engineers" was held from 19 21 May 2014. This is a course designed for young engineers with up to 2 years of experience. The course is meant to introduce professional M&E consulting engineering services to the young engineers. Lecturers are practicing engineers sourced from within ACEM member firms.
- (4) The "Seminar on Lightning Protection and Earthing" held on 28 May 2014 aimed to clarify the importance of the air terminal placement according to MS IEC 62305 as an effective tool in lightning interception to effectively protect structures from being struck and damaged by lightning.





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Extracts from First Quarter 2014 Magazine of ACEM

Having entered the first quarter of 2014, we are beginning to see the results of our attempts to streamline the Associations' subsidiaries. The two subsidiaries in East Malaysia, i.e. ACEM Holdings (Sabah) Sdn Bhd and ACEM Holdings (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd were originally set up to hold the properties that are occupied by our Sabah and

Sarawak Branches. Over the past couple of years, we have attempted to transfer the properties to ACEM Holdings Sdn Bhd which also owns the premises that ACEM is now occupying in Kuala Lumpur. In the case of ACEM Sarawak, the title of the property has been transferred to ACEM Holdings Sdn Bhd while for ACEM Sabah, we are still awaiting the strata title from the developer. With this development, we are now proceeding with the winding up proceedings for ACEM Holdings (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd. We will do the same with ACEM Holdings (Sabah) Sdn Bhd once the strata title is transferred.

A recent development relates to our government's commitment on the phase-out of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (or HCFC) in compliance with the Montreal Protocol and its subsequent amendments. The HCFC Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) was initiated on 28 August 2012. As part of this plan, the Customs (Prohibition of Import) Order was amended and gazetted on 31 December 2012 which restricts the importation of HCFCs through issuance of Approved Permit (AP) effective 1 studies application for the AP will be processed by the Department of Environment (DOE).

As the next step, the DOE is proposing regulations on prohibition of manufacturing, assembly and import of HCFC-based air-conditioners of up to 25,000 BTUH capacity for use in Malaysia. A dialogue was held by DOE on 11 February 2014 with members of MACRA who are manufacturers, importers, suppliers and installers of air-conditioning equipment. The consensus is that the regulation is to be enforced from1st July 2015.

What are the implications to us as engineers and consumers? Most of the air-conditioning units installed in the residential market today uses the refrigerant R22 which is a HCFC. Once the regulation is enforced from 1 July 2015, no more such units will be manufactured and imports will also be banned. This will effectively stop the flood of R22 units from China that is coming in right now.

Presently, the most commonly available alternative refrigerant to R22 is R410a. Unfortunately R410a is not a drop-in replacement for R22. In other words, one cannot just discharge the R22, pump in R410a and expect to get the same performance. R410a operates at a higher pressure and therefore requires thicker and stronger copper piping. Herein lies the problem for developers who provide only the copper refrigerant piping and leaving the air-conditioning units to be installed by the purchaser or tenant. As consultants, we need to advise developers that should they be providing only the copper piping, the thicker type suitable for R410a should be installed. This has to be made known early as the piping need to be installed and concealed well before the building is completed.

This is not the end. Although R410a is a non-ozone depleting substance (non-ODS) it has a high global warming potential (GWP). This means that it is also a potential candidate for phase-out to reduce global warming. As often said, the only thing constant in life is change. Thank you.

Ir. Wong Loo Min
President of ACEM

The Zhijinghe Bridge- High Steel Arch Bridge in China

Juhani VIROLA, Eur Ing-FEANI Helsinki Finland http://koti.kontu.la/jvirola/cv-jv.rtf



A great bridge by name the Zhijinghe Bridge was built in China a few years ago. At completion it was the world's highest steel arch bridge, Ref. [1].



The Zhijinghe Bridge is situated in Hubei province, along highway G50 between Shanghai and Chongqing. The bridge was built across the Zhijinghe River, between Yesanguan and Dazhiping towns. The highway continues to tunnels at both ends of the bridge. Along the bridge and the tunnels, there are 2 roadways to both directions, each containing 2 traffic lanes [2].

There is scarcely information of the bridge, some pictures and a longitudinal profile (side elevation) are available, not a cross-section drawing of the deck. The main span of the bridge is 430 m, near the leading 10 long-span steel arch bridges in the world [3]. The bridge was opened to traffic in 2009, and at completion it was the world's highest steel arch bridge with an underclearance of 294 m. In 2017, the Chenab Bridge in India will be the world's highest (322 m) steel arch bridge.

Both roadways of the Zhijinghe Bridge are supported by steel girder arch structure of rectangle shape, containing at each corner hollow circular steel pipes, connected by steel trusses. The steel pipes were assembled by help of temporary ropes. Then the all 4 + 4 hollow steel pipes were filled by concrete to strengthen the structure. In China, there are also other notable concrete filled steel tube arch bridges, like the Wushan Bridge (span 460 m) [4].

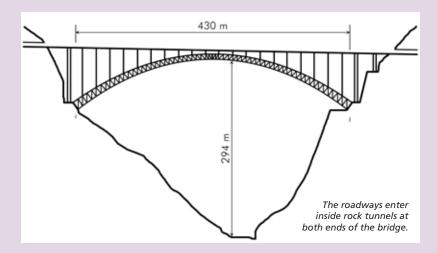
China is currently the leading bridge building country in the world, having great bridges of various types more than anywhere else. In the attached table [3], the majority (6/10) of the world's leading 10 long-span steel arch bridges are situated in China.

The 10 longest-span steel arch bridges in the world

No.	Bridge	Span	Location	Year
1	Chaotianmen	552 m	Chongqing, China	2009
2	Lupu	550 m	Shanghai, China	2003
3	New River Gorge	518 m	Fayetteville, WV, USA	1977
4	Bosideng	513 m	Sichuan, China	2012
5	Bayonne	504 m	New York, NY, USA	1931
6	Sydney Harbour	503 m	Sydney, Australia	1932
7	Chenab	467 m	Katra, India	2017
8	Wushan	460 m	Chongqing, China	2005
9	Yongjiang	450 m	Ningbo, China	2011
10	Xijiang	450 m	Guangdong, China	2013
	Zhijinghe	430 m	Hubei, China	2009

References:

- [1] Juhani Virola: "Zhijinghe Bridge high steel arch bridge in China" (in Finnish). Tierakennusmestari TIRA 2013:2, p. 32-34.
- [2] Information and illustrations kindly given by Eric Sakowski, www.highestbridges.com
- [3] Bridge tables of Helsinki University of Technology, http://bridge.aalto.fi/en/longspan.html
- [4] ZHANG Zhuo-an, LIU Shilin, Juhani VIROLA & DING Dajun: "The Wushan Bridge – worldwide longest-span concrete filled steel tube arch bridge". Rakennusinsinööri ja –arkkitehti RIA 2006:6, p. 87-91.





Tunnels at the west end of the bridge.

[continued from page 23]



The first arch under construction.



Location of the both parallel steel arches.



The two lowest steel pipes of one of the two steel arches.

Adverse Implications Of Delayed Payments [Audit-Management-Monitoring of Construction Projects] Responsibilities of Technical Professionals

By Mr. Gursharan Singh, CMIIA E-mail gursharan38@gmail.com

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Money is the economic life blood of every individual, organization and company, It is important for sustainability as well as its operations and future expansion. This is equally important for those involved in Construction Projects. The scope of 'Project' includes Works Contracts ['Works'] to be implemented under the 'Contracts' by Contractors/Sub-Contractors ['Contractors'], Technical Services ['Services'] provided by Technical Professionals ['Consultants'] and Procurement of Building Materials/Assets ['Supplies' also referred to as 'Procurement'] supplied by respective companies including Sub-suppliers ['Suppliers'].
- 1.2 The Terms and Conditions ['T&C'] prescribed in the respective Contracts/Agreements Formats ['Contracts/ **Agreements'**] awarded to the respective 'Contractors'/' Consultants'/'Suppliers' provide for payments for 'Works' done, 'Services' provided and ''Supplies' delivered. 'T&C' may provide for payments to be made in installments or periodically over the completion and defects liability period. Prescribed 'T&C' normally provide for payments to be made within thirty/sixty/ninety days or some other mutually agreed period. Thus it is important that the 'Contractors'/' Consultants'/'Suppliers' have sufficient amount of in-house funds or access to other sources of funds to finance the continuation of their operations and funding the received 'Contracts/Agreements' pending receipt of any payments ['Payments'] from the Owners ['Clients'] of the 'Projects' which payments normally are paid only after the works progress. However there could be cases where the 'Client' will make only full payment after the 'Contract' is certified completed and handed over for use by the 'Client' in which case the 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' may need to provide higher amounts of funds.
- 1.3 'T&C' in 'Contract/Agreements' normally provide for two types of 'Payments' namely Progress/Interim Payments ['PP'] and Final Payment ['FP']. There could be provision for another type of payment by the 'Client' that may be included in 'T&C' referred to as Advance Payments' ['AP'] but subject to financial safeguards. This article will make reference to only these three types of payments i.e. 'PP', 'FP' and 'AP'.

2.0 Advance Payments

2.1 Provisions for 'AP' are generally provided in 'T&C' in Contract Formats used for public funded 'Contracts' by Government/Authorities/Agencies. The amount of 'AP' is normally specified as 25% of the Contract Value as stated in the Letter of Award/Acceptance ['LOA'] and disbursed after the issue of the 'LOA' and compliance with some prescribed

- financial safeguards such as issue of 'Bank Guarantees' equivalent to the amount of the 'AP' and some others.
- 2.2 The private sector 'Clients' may also provide for 'AP' in cases of mega 'Project' where the cost may be in billions of ringgit and thus beyond the financial capability of any 'Contract ors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers'. The approval of the 'AP' will normally result in reduction of overall costs of the 'Project' and also show the commitment of the 'Client' towards its financial viability.
- 2.3 Recovery of 'AP' is done through deduction of certain percentage from the approved 'PP' as the works progress. It is normal for the full recovery of 'AP' to be completed by the time the 75% of 'PP' become due and paid.

3.0 Progress/Interim Payments

- 3.1 'T&C' in Contract Formats normally provide for 'PP' to 'C ontractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' where the quantum of each certified 'PP' is in tandem with the physical progress of the 'Contract'/'Service'/'Supply'. The quantum of physical progress is based on measurement records maintained at the work sites which are then priced at agreed/scheduled rates as listed in the 'Contract' documents to arrive at the financial quantum of completed physical progress. To this figure is then added the value of building materials on site. Thus the amount of 'PP' is ascertained and recommended for payment. The 'SO' will normally commence the 'PP' certification process only after receiving a claim from the 'Contractor'.
- 3.2 'PP' Certificates are normally prepared by 'Contractors'/'C onsultants'/'Suppliers' on a monthly or as prescribed basis using the maintained measurement records on site by the 'Clients' Site Professionals and is inspected regularly by the 'Clients' designated technical professional referred to as the 'Superintending/Supervising Officer ['SO']. The 'SO' recommended 'PP' is forwarded to the 'Clients' Financial/ Accounting Professionals ['F/AP'] for issuing the cheque to the respective 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers'. 'PP' claims from 'Consultants'/'Suppliers' may be submitted according to stages of services or supplies certified as completed and settled within the prescribed time frames. In cases where a 'Consultant' is appointed to supervise the implementation of any 'Works' the 'Consultant' would be the 'SO'.

4.0 Final Payments

4.1 The 'SO' should prepare the 'FP' Certificate as soon as the 'Contract'/'Service'/'Supply is certified completed. It is

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mandatory that the 'FP' is agreed by the respective 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' before being forwarded to the 'Clients' Financial/Accounting Professionals ['F/AP'] for issuing the cheque to the respective 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers'.

- 4.2 The 'SO' must take care that all computations are examined to be correct and all Variation/Change Orders have been accounted in the 'PP'. He should also ensure that all due deductions are made such as for 'AP', 'PP', value of any other facilities/materials/equipment that may have been provided by the 'Client' and any imposed penalties and finally that all legal requirements have been complied with such as those referring to protection of workers and obtaining the prescribed approvals or certifications for occupation/usage of the 'Contract' Works.
- 4.3 The quantum of 'FP' is subject to the concurrence of both the 'Client' and the respective 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Supp liers' before any 'Contract' can be deemed to be financially completed. Absence of any such concurrence will result in the claim being deemed to be a 'PP'. It is in the interest of both the 'Client' and the respective 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' to reach agreement in the shortest possible time as delays can result in possible litigation where both may end up as losers. The Site Personnel of both parties can be of great assistance in this respect and their knowledge/ expertise should be utilized.
- 4.4 The period of settling the recommended 'PP' or 'FP' is normally prescribed in the 'T&C' and may be between thirty to ninety days or may be shorter or longer. This should be of particular importance to 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Su ppliers' as they should provide for sufficient funds pending approval of any claims and receipt of the funds from the 'Client'.

5.0 Responsibilities of Technical Professionals

- 5.1 It is the responsibility of the Technical Professionals such as the 'SO' representing the 'Client' and the 'Site Agent' representing the respective 'Contractors'/'Consultants '/'Suppliers' and other Professionals to ensure that the Measurement Records of works being implemented and materials on site are comprehensive, accurate and maintained current at all times. These should be monitored on continuous basis as they form the basis of all 'AP', 'PP' and 'FP' which have financial implications and any error or neglect can result in errors resulting in over payments that may not be recoverable by the 'Client' or gross short payments which may create financial problems for the respective claimant 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers'.
- 5.2 It is emphasized that the amount certified in the 'PP' by the 'SO' is deemed to be legally final and not subject to any unilateral changes by the 'Client' or his 'F/AP' even in cases where there are arithmetical errors. The only remedy available is that the 'PP' Certificate be returned by the 'F/AP' to the 'SO' prior to issue of the cheque for him to amend and make the correction. However this should be done promptly so as not to provide the respective 'Contractors'/'Consultant s'/'Suppliers' opportunity to submit claim for financial costs/ losses due to any delayed payment of claims.

6.0 Responsibilities of Financial/Accounting Professionals of Both Parties

- 6.1 It is the responsibility of the respective 'F/AP' representing the 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' to submit claims as provided for in the respective T&C'. The claimed amount should be fully supported by documentary evidence before submission to the 'Client' who should scrutinize the contents of the submitted invoice and ensure that all due 'AP' and certified 'PP'/'FP' are settled promptly in compliance with the prescribed 'T&C'. This is not to imply that they should accept the Certificates of the 'SO' without any scrutiny but this suggestion is to advise that they should scrutinize the details in the Certificates to ensure accuracy of computation of the quantum payable.
- 6.2 The 'PP'/'FP' should be accounted correctly and recorded promptly. Every 'PP' should be verified with the 'Contract Register' to ensure that previous 'PP' and other entries are reconciled. This is of particular importance in the case of 'Variation/Change Orders' which may have increased or reduced the total value of the 'Contract' and also where deduction needs to be made in the case of any 'AP' made to any of the 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' and to prevent any excess payment.
- 7.3 The 'Client's 'F/AP' does not have the right to amend any 'PP' certified and recommended by the 'SO' even if there is an error in computation that may result in possible over or under payment. The right course of action would be to promptly return the certified 'PP' to the 'SO' to make the necessary correction and then settle the corrected amount. However it is suggested that in the event of any underpayment or possible over payment the 'F/AP' should settle the certified amount and make the adjustment in the subsequent 'PP'/'FP' which will normally due after a lapse of sometime during which there would be further progress in implementation and thus no danger of excessive over payment.
- 6.4 It is also the responsibility of the 'F/AP' representing the respective 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' to ensure prompt recording receipt of cheques and reconcile the financial status. Both parties should also maintain records of forwarded/recommended/received dates and officers involved in the claims to ensure prompt action and prevention of cost of finance claims in case of delays. Both parties should maintain comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date 'Site Records' and 'Contract Register' as they would greatly assist in the effective Management in the implementation of the 'Contracts' and prevent disputes and assist in case of any litigation.

7.0 Responsibilities of Internal Auditor

7.1 The 'Auditors' representing the 'Client' and the respective 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' should conduct their audit to safeguard the interest of their respective employers and not to increase their own work load by covering the interest of other parties. The main responsibility of any 'Auditor' should be to ensure that the 'SO' [or 'Consultants' if appointed], 'Site Agent' and 'F/AP' of both parties perform their responsibilities in compliance with the prescribed 'T&C'. Scrutiny of Minutes of Meetings, correspondence, 'Site

Records' and 'Contract Register' would greatly assist in the effective audit of the 'Contracts' and thus the 'Projects'.

8.0 Fraudulent Opportunities/Possibilities in 'AP'-'PP'-'FP'

- 8.1 All three types of payments in respect of 'Projects' are very susceptible to fraudulent opportunities and possibilities as they can be created during the various stages as follows:
 - [a] Drafting the Terminology of 'T&C';
 - [b] Preparation and Computation of Claims;
 - [c] Recommendation of quantum of Claims;
 - [d] Certification Period for Claims;
 - [e] Approval of Claims; and
 - [e] Issue of dispatch of cheques or direct credit to the bank account of the Claimant.
- 8.2 Listed below are a few examples of payments that were subject to fraudulent practices.
 - [a] 'AP' of RM7.0m paid with defective 'Bank Guarantee' without proper legality;
 - [b] 'AP' of RM160.0m computed as 25% of value of 'LOA' of RM640.0m that included RM60.0 m for 'Contingencies Sum' and other components listed in the 'Preliminaries' which components do not qualify and thus not eligible for 'AP';
 - [c] 'PP' computed on over-priced 'Materials on Site' by RM20.0m;
 - [d] 'PP' certified and approved for 'Works' Not done; and
 - [e] 'FP' of RM7.0m certified and approved for 'Works' though 'Contract' Not fully completed.
- 8.3 Above are just a few examples which were detected by the writer during his audit service days. The Reports of the Auditor General of Malaysia on the accounts of Government and Agencies/Authorities provide regular examples of frauds and mismanagement that occurs in publicly funded 'Contracts'. Similar frauds are disclosed in the reports issued by the USA General Audit Office and may include other countries including developed countries.
- 8.4 Fraudulent cases in the Corporate Sector are only known when the cases are exposed in the media or are subject to litigation or there is differences among those involved in the mismanagement or frauds or the amounts are too large to be concealed. The bi-annual Report to the Nation prepared by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners of USA based on surveys of the various industries lists several modes and the extent of frauds which includes those involving payments. Similar fraud reports are also prepared for some other countries by other organizations such as KPMG.

9.0 Financial Impact of Long Settlement Periods or Delay in Settling Claims

- 3.1 The immediate financial impact of long settlement periods is that the respective 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Supplie rs' will increase the cost of their bids to include the cost of finance which can be substantial. Thus it is important for 'Clients' to keep the settlement periods as short as possible to prevent 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' from loading their bids with this cost element which costs are ultimately borne by the 'Client'. This is of particular importance to cash rich 'Clients' and those who have access to low cost financing which is normally lower than the finance costs included in their bids by 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers'.
- 0.2 Non-settlement of claims within the prescribed periods can have two main losses for the 'Clients'. The first is that the 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' may be able to claim for compensation under common law even if there is no provision for such compensation that can be claimed by them for delayed settlement of claims beyond the period prescribed in the 'T&C' contained in the contract formats. The second loss thought intangible, is the loss of reputation in the construction industry which can lead to 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' to increase their bid values by inclusion of contingent losses which may be incurred in the event of problems created by delays in certifications and payments.
- 9.3 Delayed payments can result in providing opportunities for corruption and kickbacks and may indirectly lead to fraud. These risks can cause even major financial losses which may be difficult to identify and quantify and even higher costs to get back the lost reputation in the industry. Prevention of delays in settlement is the best cost-effective and cost-efficient method to reduce costs and increase profitability which the 'Clients' should bear in mind. The above comments will also apply to other claims.
- 9.4 Employer will rarely delay payment of salaries/allowances/ etc or payments to regulatory authorities such as EPF, SOCSO, IRD or other Statutory Payments to Regulatory/ State Authorities as delays can result in financial/legal action. Unfortunately the same treatment may not be given by 'Clients' to claims from 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Su ppliers' and other suppliers of services or goods. Enquiries about this lack of consistency made during the Annual General Meetings attended by the writer as a shareholder received responses from Chairman of Board of Director or Chief Executive Officers/Managing Directors or 'F&AP' representing both the 'Clients' and the 'Claimants' which responses included the following:
 - [a] Claimants could/would not take any legal action unless the amounts were substantial;
 - (b) Claimants did not want to damage their relationship to safeguard their future business;
 - [c] Legal costs were expensive and may not be fully recoverable and may damage their reputation in the industry resulting in possible loss of future business for the company and standing in the industry; and

[continued from page 13]

- [d] The estimated financial loss caused by possible delayed payments had been taken into the pricing of the bid amount as this was a common culture in the industry and corporate sector.
- 9.5 It has been observed by the writer by personal and audit experience over the past thirty seven years in the public and private sectors that some 'F/AP' may not be practicing the prompt payment culture as their professional leaders may not have been practicing the prompt payment culture.
- 9.6 The writer attempted to break this delayed payment culture by giving a monetary value to the delay period by providing an incentive to a Contractor. In this case the writer discussed with a Contractor the possibility of a discount if 'PP' on a RM25.0million road construction contract could be settled by the cash rich 'Client' within seven working days of the certification of a claim instead of the prescribed sixty days. After protracted negotiations the 'Contractor' offered a discount of one percent of the 'PP' amount if it could be settled within seven working days of the certification of the claim notice.
- 9.7 The discount was agreed by the 'Client' and the 'Contractor' was requested to submit his offer in writing which was then attached as an 'ADDENDUM' to existing contract terms. This prompt payment process continued resulting in savings of RM50,000.00 over a five months period until the 'ADDENDUM' was cancelled by the 'Client' for reasons best known to him and were not disclosed. It was suspected that 'kickbacks' was the reason but could not be proved.

10.0 Implications of Cash Flow Interruptions - Example

- 10.1 Construction and other companies/organizations/individuals have been financially stressed in the past due to late payments or non-payments of claims/dues when agreed to be settled. The latest example reported in the local media is the case of a Sub-Contractor tasked with a RM62.0million sub-contract to build the baggage handling and sortation system for the proposed KLIA2 project who became victim of delays as the system could not be installed as the terminal building was not ready. Consequently cash flow was disrupted as payment could not be claimed from the Main Contractor until the installations were completed. Further the Main Contractor who had its own problems with the 'Client' on the delayed KLIA2 project.
- 10.2 Consequence of the cash flow disruptions was that its listing status of the Sub-Contractors on the Bursa Malaysia has been downgraded to PN17 category and this downgrading was directly attributed to the financial stress experienced due to non-completion of the sub-contract caused by the delays experienced by the KLIA2 project and may even be delisted as one of its subsidiaries is subject to a winding up order. [StarBizWeek-6.7.13].
- 10.3 The fate suffered by the Sub-Contractor referred to in paragraphs 1.2-1.3 above has not only adversely affected financially directly the Company and its staff but also the thousands of shareholders whose share value has tumbled substantially and the share has been suspended from trading. There could be a domino effect as the adverse financial impact may also be experienced by its suppliers and customers. Others who may feel the adverse financial impact could include all the other 'Contractors'/'Consultant s'/'Suppliers' involved with the delayed mega KLIA2 'Project' whose full adverse impact may never be quantified. There

- may have been other similar examples where in some cases the companies/individuals had gone into bankruptcy.
- 10.4 In this case the consequence of the delays experienced by the KLIA2 mega 'Project' and the resultant impact on the cash flows of the involved companies has been well illustrated. It has shown clearly that delays and interruptions in cash flows whether caused directly or by third parties as in the case of mega 'Projects' whose implementation can involve large number of 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' and hundreds of others in the medium/small scale categories, can have serious adverse impact on their very existence. Thus it is important that the Managements and 'F/AP' and Internal Audit Professionals always and continuously foresee and provide for this contingency in their own cash-flow planning and monitoring.
- 10.5 It may be wrong to assume that the 'Client's benefit from delayed payments as delays may give little financial benefit compared to the direct or indirect losses. Another loss would be the adverse impact on his reputation which may result in the 'Contractors'/'Consultants'/'Suppliers' overpricing their bids to include the possibility of delays in payments and thus increase the cost of the 'Projects' which can be avoided.

11.0 Recommendation and Conclusion

- 11.1 It may be observed that the major cases of frauds, kickbacks, corruption and mismanagement relating to 'AP'/'PP'/FP' in 'Projects' normally involve professionals and those holding positions of trust and perceived to be with honesty, integrity and ethics and practice corporate governance and high values. Most cases that have been perpetuated may fall in this category where those who were entrusted were the perpetuators who fall in this category [or 'Pagar Makan Padi' category].
- 11.2 The best form of Effective Management and Audit would be to have comprehensive Policies, Procedures, Internal Controls, Monitoring, Deterrent Penalties and Leadership by Example with continuous enforcement and deterrent punishments for those found to be guilty. These aspects would also apply to 'AP'/'PP'/FP' and other professionals assigned to manage, record, monitor and audit them.
- 11.3 Though this article refers mainly to the construction industry the aspects are equally applicable to other industries, companies, professionals and individuals whether they are in the public or private sectors.

Mr. Gursharan Singh C.M.I.I.A. is a retired Audit Officer with over 37 years of experience both in the Government, Statutory Authorities and Private sector. His experience is primarily in respect of various aspects pertaining to 'Audit and Management of Construction Projects' [Infrastructure, Building & Procurement] These aspects also include Services of Technical Consultants.

He is a regular contributor of articles on the various aspects pertaining to Construction Projects that are published both in local and overseas media. Further regular public and in-house training seminars are conducted for technical/financial/other professionals. The main emphasis is on the financial implications, fraudulent opportunities & possibilities, from the inception/planning to the post-completion stages of projects with suggested solutions in the form of Procedures, Internal Controls & Risk Management.

[Enquiries and comments are welcome from readers with a view to enhance and share knowledge. Tel No. 019-2927178 or e-mail **gursharan38@gmail.com**.]

Young Consultants Club

ASPAC & TCDPAP BALI CONFERENCE 2014 FIDIC ASPAC-The Formation of the FIDIC ASPAC Young Professionals Forum

In March 2013 during the ASPAC FIDIC conference held in Bangkok Thailand, Arash Emambakhsh from Iran was the only individual representing the Young Professionals (YPs). With the backing of both the FIDIC Young Professionals Forum Steering Committee (YPFSC) and Mr Enrico Vink (Managing Director of FIDIC), the vision of restarting the ASPAC Young Professionals Forum (YPF) was given the nod of approval by the FIDIC ASPAC Executive Committee with Arash taking up the position of Chair of the ASPAC Young Professionals Forum Steering Committee (YPFSC).

By June 2013, 8 countries are represented in the ASPAC YPFSC:

- Arash Emambakhsh Iran
- Garrett Bray Australia
- Zhou Sheng China
- Atasi Das India
- Takashi Matsuo Japan
- Shah Izzni Talif Malaysia
- Patrick John Ramos Philippines
- Sung Joon Park South Korea.

The advisor to the group is Jomanah Al Btoush from Jordan. With the founding of the Steering Committee, the objectives for the ASPAC YPF were laid out:

- Provide a voice for the YPs within the Asia Pacific region.
- Provide channels for networking, awareness and interaction.
- Publicise best practices and standards.
- Share success stories about YPs.
- Provide a supportive space for YPs to discuss and communicate.
- Pursue capacity building initiatives.
- Enhance the culture of dialogue.
- Provide connection with FIDIC.
- Enhance the profession and industry.

Successes and Milestones

In the relatively short time that the ASPAC YPF was formed, the group had achieved a number of success which includes:

- Online meetings and brainstorming sessions.
- Production of a flyer to introduce the ASPAC YPF and successful distribution of the information during the 2013 FIDIC Centenary Conference in Barcelona
- Prepared a database of regional trainees of the Young Professionals Management Training Program (YPMTP)
- Having 6 of the 8 ASPAC YPFSC members attending the ASPAC Bali Conference 2014.

The biggest achievement for the ASPAC YPF came in the form of dedicated time allocations for the Young Professional presentations during the FIDIC ASPAC Conference 2014 in Bali, Indonesia with 7 Young Professional Speakers. The success of the YP presentation came about with the support of the Iranian Young Professionals Society. The topics presented are:

SPEAKER	TOPIC
	ASPAC Young Professional Forum An introduction to the "New Sun Burning From the East", the newly reformed ASPAC YPF.

Garrett Bray (Australia)	Pro Bono Engineering And The Role of Young Professional Contributing engineering services and skills as a form of aid, and a case study of designing and constructing bridges in a rural town in Tanzania.
Takashi Matsuo (Japan)	Fundamental Information For Establishment of Young Professionals Exchange Program (YPEP) Exposure and understanding of social and work culture of Australia and Japan through the means of an exchange programs.
Sasan Karbasizadeh (Iran)	Consulting Engineering Industry In The 3rd Millenium Highlights potential challenges for the engineering industry in the future under the sub categories of Business Environment, Management Systems and Information Technology.
Mandana Cont (Iran)	Women In Engineering A comprehensive look into the perception, challenges, position, and contribution of women in the Iranian engineering consultancy business based on feedback from a comprehensive survey.

The ASPAC Young Professional session was well received by the conference members, with the noted attendance by Mr Pablo Bueno and Mr Jae-Wan Lee (members of the FIDIC Executive Committee). The moderator of the YP presentations closed the session by requesting countries which currently has no representative in the ASPAC YPFSC to pledge a member to join the course.

Moving Forward

The ASPAC YPFSC will continue to promote the Young Professionals Forum with plans to gain more ASPAC member countries to have a representative in the steering committee, promote the forum to each countries' respective Member Association, produce a business plan for the group, contribute to ASPAC FIDIC online newsletter, and conduct online webinars for the YPs.

The steering committee hopes that there will be more Young Professionals attending conference to represent the generation, and that the *New Sun from the East* will not set for a very long time.



ASPAC Young Professionals Forum in Bali, Indonesia From left: Patrick J Ramos (Philippines), Shah Izzni Talif (Malaysia), Arash Emambakhsh (Iran), Takashi Matsuo (Japan), Garrett Bray (Australia), Zhou Sheng (China), Mandana Cont (Iran), Sasan Karbasizadeh (Iran)



Young Professionals Presenters – Bali, Indonesia





PHILIPPINES

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The Council of Engineering Consultants of the Philippines (CECOPHIL),

FIDIC Member Association from the Philippines Supports the Development of Young Professionals of its Member Firms

The Council of Engineering Consultants of the Philippines (CECOPHIL), the FIDIC-accredited MA from the Philippines, aims to promote the growth and development of young professionals (YPs) within the country's consulting engineering industry. Last year, CECOPHIL has endorsed a young engineer to participate in the FIDIC Young Professionals Management Training Program as well as to attend the FIDIC Centenary Conference in Barcelona, Spain. Also at the same time, the Council has established its Young Professionals Forum (YPF) and nominated members to the YPF Steering Committee (SC). This committee then conducted its first ever planning session last November in order to prepare and finalize the guidelines and internal rules of the group; come up with the YPF's mission and vision statements; and set concrete and workable YPF plans and programs for this year. Overall, the planning session was very productive and proved to be a beneficial step for the promotion and future success of the CECOPHIL YPF, which was officially launched in a meeting of the Council's Executive Committee with the current FIDIC President, Mr. Pablo Bueno, during the latter's visit to Manila in February this year.

A month after, a representative from the CECOPHIL YPF has again attended the FIDIC-ASPAC & TCDPAP Conference held from March 2-5 in Bali, Indonesia, which again is a testament to the commitment of CECOPHIL and its YPF to strengthen linkages with YPs and YP groups of other member associations within the Asia Pacific region. Indeed, with the full support and encouragement given by CECOPHIL to its YPF and the thrust of the YPF to attract more energetic and competent YPs to its fold, it is expected that the YPs of the Council's member firms will be trained to become future dynamic leaders of both domestic and global consulting industry.



Members of CECOPHIL YPF Steering Committee during their Planning Session



CECOPHIL Young Professionals Forum

VISION:

The CECOPHIL YPF is a catalyst for the cultivation and promotion of young professionals as future dynamic leaders in the global consulting industry.

MISSION:

Our mission is to motivate and inspire young professionals to become active players in the consulting industry by offering activities that foster learning, leadership, and camaraderie while instilling the values of integrity, professionalism, and excellence.





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YOUNG PROFESSIONAL FORUM

YP of AJCE

AJCE Young Professional (YP) Sub-committee has been promoting capacity building, networking with domestic and international groups, introduction of CE industry to university students, etc. for young engineers. As a part of these activities, futsal competition was held twice in Tokyo. Winner team received AJCE Cup.



First Competition

Date and time: 13 Dec, 2013, 19:00 ~21:00 Participants: 38 (6 teams); 1 woman player



The second competition had many players. One of the firms sent 2 teams. Due to many players, competition was carried out in 2 leagues. Top team in each league battled for championship.

[Teams]

Winner Nihon Suido Consultants Team Gespenst
2nd Oriental Consultants Team Oricon
3rd PT Morimura and Associates Team Arserna
4th Kukusai Kogyo Team KKC
Chuo Kaihatu Team CKC
Kukusai Kogyo Team JKE
Chodai Team Largo
Yachiyo Engineering Team YEC1
Yachiyo Engineering Team YEC2

Despite of late evening in cold winter, many players participated and deepened their friendship. Needless to say they enjoyed get-together after the competition. Winner was the team of Chodai Co. Ltd. Players requested the second competition at the end.

Teams]

Winner Chodai Chodai - teamJV

2nd Chuo Kaihatu Team CKC

3rd Oriental Consultants Team Oricon

4th Nihon Suido Consultants Team Gespenst

5th Kukusai Kogyo Team KKC

6th PT Morimura and Associates Team Arserna





■ Second Competition

Date and Time: 30 May, 2014 $19:00 \sim 21:00$ Participants : 77 (10 teams ,8 firms), 2 women

Winner, Nihon Suido Consultants, Team Gespenst





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Women Engineers Forum – Activities of AJCE

Background

Young Professional (YP) Sub-committee of AJCE has been promoting capacity building for young consulting engineers (CE), formation of enhanced networking, dissemination CE practices to young college students, etc. As a part of these activities, second Forum on "Career Path and Work-Life Balance of Women Consulting Engineers" was held. It was aimed at exchanging sustainable ways of pleasant and vivid working.

Date and time: 15 Nov. 2013 14: 30~17: 00 Venue: Oriental Consultants. Meeting room

Participants: 12 women CEs, 5 YP sub-committee members (men)



Address by Moderator

It is my understanding that practice in CE industry is hard regardless of men or women. Instead of saying "hard", we gathered here today to share ingenuity of overcoming difficulties.

After presentation by 4 panelists, following subjects were discussed:

- Balance between work and Private
- How firms are supporting women engineers for continuing their career path

Request from Women Engineers to CE Industry

There are many articles on women civil engineers, however, campaign for kind and cooperative men is necessary. Therefore, this kind of meeting should be held not only for women but also women and men together. It may be a good idea that management people also join future forums. There are many men who are worried about nursing care of parents and child-care.



Some Comments from Men YPs

I was worried about myself in the past, however, I realized today that women consider work and family at the same time. I think men should work together with women staffs to reinforce working conditions of women in our firm.

When we talk about work-life balance, we often find out that only few women are participating. This may be attributable to the fact that women manager are scarce. Creation of ideal working condition for women is indispensable. I am currently in the course of child-care. I take my kids to day care center every morning. Understanding by partner as well as people around is quite important.

Summary

The second round-table discussion was quite meaningful as participants could share various genuine ideas. Regardless of men or women, we CEs are satisfied with our work as it is challenging and rewarding. We are sure that we can manage both work and private intelligently. Consensus was reached to the point that cooperation of people surrounding us, understanding by family, health of in individual are indispensable for sustainably continue our work with satisfaction. It is expected that CE industry shall provide comfortable working conditions and its continuous improvement.





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Calendar Events of Interest to ASPAC Member Associations

FIDIC

FIDIC International Conference – RIO 2014 28 September – 01 October 2014

AJCE Japan

- 40th Year Celebration activities 9 July 2014
- Site Visit and YP networking forum August 2014
- ► FIDIC Conference Reporting Seminar 6 November 2014
- YPEP Reporting Seminar, Tokyo November 2014
- Contract Administrator Training Seminar for the overseas project, Tokyo November 2014
- Interdisciplinary Seminar, Tokyo, 4 December 2014

CEAI INDIA

FIDIC TRAINING COURSE ON "PRACTICAL USE, MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF FIDIC CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT"

CEAI in association with CEAI-Western Region Centre, is organising FIDIC Training Courses on "Practical Use, Management and Administration of FIDIC Conditions of Contract" at Delhi and Mumbai on the following days:

Delhi: 4 and 5 August 2014 and Mumbai 7 and 8 August 2014

CEAI ANNUAL SEMINAR ON "ROLE OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS, DEVELOPERS AND AUTHORITIES IN NATION BUILDING"

CEAI is organizing its Annual Seminar on "Role of Consulting Engineers, Contractors, Developers and Authorities in Nation Building".

28th and 29th November 2014 in New Delhi.





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AN APPEAL

To all MAs to contribute to the September 2014 edition of ASPAC Newsletter to make it Memorable as a complete ASPAC information exchange edition

To make this ASPAC Newsletter purposeful and effective, we require contributions from all ASPAC MAs. It is essential that we all Consultants operating in the ASPAC region know each other well, know of the achievements made and the hurdles faced by all of us. Consulting Engineering fraternity in this region require complementary support from each other to make the profession successful and forceful in its operations.

We sincerely request all of you to make contribution in the forthcoming newsletter, to make it an effective tool for achieving our goal.

We need your inputs on the following areas in editable **WORD** FORMAT:

- 1] Name of Executive Committee Members. with a Group Photo, if possible
- 2] Name, Email address of concerned person for providing us News Items
- 3] Events of Common interest
- 4] Reports on happenings in different centers, with photographs
- 5] Views on issues facing the consultancy fraternity
- 6] Suggestions for uplifting the consultancy operation
- 7] Separate Report on YPF activities
- 8] Separate Report on Women Engineers Forum, if you have
- 9] Any other points, you feel beneficial to the MAs

Please, please, contribute for the next issue scheduled to be brought out in September 2014.