# **TITE SISV** NEWS MITA No. (P) 019/01/2004

NEWSLETTER OF THE SINGAPORE INSTITUTE OF SURVEYORS & VALUERS

# QS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2004 IN KUALA LUMPUR MALAYSIA

By Teoh Wooi Sin



The annual Malaysian QS Convention, traditionally organised by the Institute of Surveyors Malaysia (ISM) and the Board of Quantity Surveyors Malaysia (BOQSM), was elevated to an International Convention this year. This is because of the admission of Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors (PAQS) as one of the joint organisers. This QS International Convention was held in the Palace of the Golden Horses

Hotel, the Mines Resort City in Kuala Lumpur on 20th and 21st September 2004.

The two-day QS International Convention was attended by a total of 400 participants including some 40 overseas delegates from Australia, Japan, United Kingdom, China including Hong Kong and Singapore.

SISV sent a delegation of 19 members led by the QS Division President, Mr Seah Choo Meng, to the QS International Convention in Kuala Lumpur.

The International Convention with the theme "Value & Innovation – Our completive Edge" was officiated by the

Innovation – Our completive Edge'' was officiated by the Malaysian Minister of Works, YB Dato' Seri Samy Vellu. The keynote address on "Current Economic Trends – Its impact on the Construction Industry - Both Domestically & Internationally'' was delivered by Dato' Hj. Mohamed Bin Gading, President of BOQSM, on

behalf of Dato' Prof Hj Abd Rahman Abdullah, Chairman



There were some 24 speakers from seven countries presenting papers on four specific fields of Quantity Surveying & Cost Management, SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2004

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#### SISV NEWS

SISV News is a quarterly newsletter of the Institute. It is distributed to members, students and friends of the surveying profession free of charge. Anyone wishing to receive a copy may contact the Secretariat.

#### 21st Council 2003 - 2005

Council Chairperson Dr Amy Khor, FSISV

President (LS) Mr Lee Li Chuan, FSISV

President (QS) Mr Seah Choo Meng, FSISV

President (VGP) Prof Lim Lan Yuan JP, FSISV

Honorary Secretary Mr Daniel Wong, MSISV

Honorary Treasurer Mr Wong Chak Wai, FSISV

#### **SECRETARIAT**

Assistant Manager Ms Janet Han

#### **EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

All contributions of suitable articles are welcomed. Article submissions should include both hard (printed) copy and a softcopy (via email or diskette) in word format. Contributions should reach the Secretariat before the 25th March, June, September and December.

#### DISCLAIMER

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#### **ADVERTISEMENTS**

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#### Singapore Institute of Surveyors & Valuers

20 Maxwell Road #10-09B Maxwell Road Singapore 069113 Tel (65) 6222 3030 Fax (65) 6225 2453 Website http://www.sisv.org.sg Email sisv.info@sisv.org.sg

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday to Friday 9.00am to 6.30pm

### Our heartiest congratulations and best wishes to :



**Dr Amy Khor** 21<sup>st</sup> SISV Council Chairperson on her appointment as Mayor of South West Community Development Council.



Mr Soh Kheng Peng Member of Land Surveying Division on his appointment as Chief Surveyor, Survey Services, Land Services, Singapore Land Authority



Mr Patrick Teo Chong Chai SISV member of Land Surveying Division, who was awarded the Public Service Star (BBM) (Aug 2004)

### Congratulations and a warm welcome to our new members:

#### **FELLOW**

Division Name Lam Chye Shing

#### MEMBER

Division VGP VGP VGP

QS

Name Teo Poh Kheng Alvin Chng Shih Hian Jacky Chan Seng Leong

#### PROBATIONER

Division	Name
QS	Hui Chiu Fung Paul
QS	Foo Wan Hoe
VGP	Ng Hye Min
VGP	Chen Boon Joel

#### **TECH MEMBER**

Division VGP

Name Chen Lijin Joyce

#### NOTICE

The following members have resigned from the Institute

#### MEMBER

Division	Name
QS	Lim Teck See
QS	Heng Jit Kwang
QS	Lee Teck Seong Jonathan
QS	Ong Yeah Heng
VGP	Goh Nae Lih Lionel

#### PROBATIONER

Division	Name
LS	Toh Say Leong
QS	Kuo Thian Luan Verene
QS	Lee Kam Leong
QS	Fam Shiu Ling Alisha
VGP	Seah Joo Sean Alan
VGP	Fong Wai Theng Emily

#### Notice

#### Advertise your Company FREE-OF-CHARGE

As a valued member, SISV would like to invite you to advertise your company on our newly revamped website www.sisv.org.sg for a promotional period of 6 months - FREE. There is a very high chance that people at our homepage are searching for a Surveyor whether QS, LS, or Valuer. Why not catch them there!

Your company logo will be placed on a special page, "FIND A SURVEYOR" (Member Firm), and will be hyperlinked to either;

- your company website, or
- your preferred email contact

For more information, please contact the secretariat, Ms Manisah Jalil

#### CONFERENCE

# 2004 REALTORS CONFERENCE & EXPO

5-8 November 2004 Orange Country Convention Centre Orlando, Florida Email :convinfo@realtors.org Website : www.realtor.org/conference

#### THE 10<sup>TH</sup> MASTERCLASS Delay and Disruption in Construction Contracts

8-9 November 2004 Central Conference Center, Hong Kong Email: adminapickavancehk.com Website:www.pickavance.co.uk.masterclass

#### WORLD TOILET SUMMIT 2004 Human Environment & Living

17-19 November 2004 The Beijing International Hotel Beijing, China Email : info@worldtoilet.org Website : www.worldtoilet.org

#### MANAGING SHOPPING CENTRES

The New Asian Experience 24-26 November 2004 Raffles City Convention Centre Email : mail@orient-explorer.com Website : www.orient-explore.com

#### INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

Conference & Exposition 18-20 May 2005 Shanghai New International Expo Centre Website: www.exporealchina.com

#### 9TH PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF QUANTITY SURVEYORS CONGRESS Culture of Quality Construction

27-28 Jun 2005 Shangri La Hotel, Dalian Chine Email : organise@ceca.org.cn Email – Conference Paper :paper@ceca.org.cn Website : www.9thpaqs-ceca.org.cn

#### **Up And Coming Events**

19 November 2004 Key Legal and Practice Issues in Contract Administration under SIA and PSSCOC form of Contract

Property Market Update

**26 November 2004** Update on Property Management & Maintenance Bill

December 2004 Securitisation of Payment

January 2005 CEMS Training - Part II

#### CIRCULARS

Contents of the circulars will be made available to FSISV and MSISV only. Please call Joe of Secretariat at Tel: 6222 3030 to request for a copy. For SISV Probationers and CREA, please contact the orginator directly.

Issued by Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) These circulars are also available at http:// www.ura.gov.sg

#### URA

URA/PB/2004/19-DCD

Extensions of Written Permission

#### URA/PB/2004/20-DCD

Clarifications on Procedure to regularize deviations to the approved development plan during construction

#### URA/PB/2004/21-DCD

Clarification on private enclosed spaces (PES) provision within Strata Landed Housing Developments

#### URA/PB/2004/22-DCD

URA/DC Plan release 19/2004E Street Block Plan for terrace housing (units nos. 57-87) at Jalan Salang (Sembawang Planning Area)

#### URA/PB/2004/23-DCD

Proposed height control for parts of Kallang, Novena and Rochor Planning areas

#### URA/PB/2004/24-DCD

Revised guidelines on gross floor areas exemptions for covered public spaces

#### URA/PB/2004/25-DCD

Revision to the outdoor kiosks and outdoor refreshment areas (ORA) guidelines for Orchard Planning Area

#### URA/PB/2004/26-DCD

Clarification : i) Screening for planter boxes and air-con ledges ii) Interpretation of 45-degree line for GFA computation iii)Independent access to attic

#### URA/PB/2004/27-DCD

URA/DC Plan Release 20/2004E Street Block Plan for House No: 2 to 2P Jasmine Road and No: 2 to 30 Gardenia Road

#### URA/PB/2004/28-DCD

Revised list of locations where additional eating houses in shophouses are not allowed due to traffic and parking problems

#### URA/PB/2004/29-DCD

Guidelines to encourage more innovative and better design of rooftops

#### Issued by Fire Safety & Shelter Bureau These circulars are also available at http:// www.scdf.gov.sg

#### Fire Safety & Shelter Bureau

#### CD/FSSD/12/01/03/04

Technical Guidelines on Fire Safety requiredments for petroleum service station

#### CD/FSSD/12/01/03/04

Design requirements for staircase storey shelters

#### LIBRARY

CEMS Part I Reviewed

Code of Practice for Construction Electronics Measurement Standards (CEMS) Part 2: Standard method of measurement (SMM) for mechanical and electrical works.

eNPQS - User Guide and CD-Rom

Good Industry Practices Guides

- Aluminium Window
- Timber Flooring
- Waterproofing for External Walls - Painting

Recommended Land Surveying Scale of Professional Fees - Engineering Survey 2004

Surveyors Times - September 2004 The HongKong Institute of Surveyors

Trans Tasman Surveyor - August 2004 New Zealand Institute of Surveyors, Inc

#### Methods of datum transfers used in the construction of MRT tunnel in Contract 822, Circle LineStage 2 Project

This paper introduces the various survey techniques employed in the transfer of horizontal and vertical controls from the ground surface to the tunnel bottom for the construction of MRT tunnels between Upper Payar Lebar (UPL) and Bartley (BLY) stations. It describes the methodologies used and the precautions taken to ensure accurate survey results can be obtained. Comparisons of the results derived from the different techniques are also made.

Although accurate coordinates and elevation transfers were carried out using the optical plumbing and direct vertical distance measurement methods respectively, alternative methods were employed to give the surveyor additional confidence in the results obtained. The alternative methods of using direct angular and distance measurements and reciprocal trigonometric heighting were used in checking the coordinates and elevation transferred respectively.

For full paper, please visit our website at : www.sisv.org.sg/methods\_datum\_transfers.pdf

# Advancement in Cost Engineering, Washington DC

The Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering (AACE) hosted an International Meeting in Washington DC on June 13 to 16, 2004. It was attended by about 500 cost management professions and had featured a vendor exhibition area with about 75 participants. Many of which are on Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) IT Application. The meetings have been well attended by the quantity surveying profession and had attracted additional attention this round as a result of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) participation which presented six sponsored papers.



Kwee Yong represented SISV in leading the Measure Work Group of the IAI Singapore Chapter, participated to explore the prospect of Automatic Quantity Takeoff Systems. The trip was part of the effort to help the Singapore Government explored the IT Standards for the Construction Industry under the implementation of Construction 21.

#### **U.S. Federal Practice**

The trip had given us the opportunity to explore the U.S. Federal practices in regulating national procurement and CAD standards; how the Federal General Services Administration (GSA) http://www.gsa.gov/ (equivalent to Singapore's former Public Works Department/ Central Procurement Office for all Ministries), the U. S. National Institute of Building Sciences (NBIS) http://www.nibs.org/ and operate in tandem.

Taking Department of Transportation as an example, besides Design & Construction (DDC) office branch for NY City, construction bids are generally closed at a higher State Level, while the 'Federal Highway Authority' FHWA would standardise policy such as National Highway Specifications.



Mr Allen Hamilton, AACE past President and ICEC past Chairman, facilitated Kwee Yong's visits which include: Dr. Carl Wolf, New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) Newark NJ, a public research university; Howe School of Technology Management, Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken NJ reputable for taking IT ideas to marketplace; Patrick Bronner, Bovis Lend Lease NYC on project cost control practices; Joseph W. Wallwork (Chairman, AACE Technical Board), Greyhawk North America, Long Island on construction cost control practices.

Kwee Yong also had the opportunity to visit Ms Ginette Basak (ICEC North America President) of Ontrack Engineering in Calgary Canada on IT Applications generally.

#### **Estimating in 3D**

Ontrack collaborates with Bentley Microstation in pioneering estimating in 3D. Elstree CADMeasure with Autodesk AutoCAD. Graphisoft is also exploring. Timberline is upgrading the CAD integrator. Besides AACE, the American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE) http:// www.aspenational.com/ is also active in construction estimate processes. All in endeavour to phase into CAD IFC Building Information Model (BIM). The generation for object oriented estimating is at hand.

#### **CEMS e-Phrase and AQTS for Singapore**

CEMS part 2: SMM for M&E building services was completed and will be launched in November 2004. IAI Singapore Chapter is currently evaluating the proposals received for e-phrase. With the parallel major development in implementing IFC Object Oriented CAD, we could possibly see a switch before 2005 is over, and AQTS would be in place.

# Valuation at the Courts



r Leung Yew Kwong, partner of M/s Ong Sim Ho, presented a talk to on 2 July 2004. The seminar highlighted valuations for various tax purposes e.g. income tax (where the sale price of a building may have to be split into various components to give the value of the plant for capital allowances, or where a capital asset upon conversion into a development property has to be valued to "lock in" the capital gain, etc) and GST (where the sale price of a mixed use building may have to be split into components of exempt and taxable supplies, etc).

More than 60 - audience were told of recent High Court cases such as Leow Tiak Cheow and another v Pan-United Industries Pte Ltd [2003] I SLR 569, (on the issue of whether revaluation of company property was necessary to reflect the correct net tangible asset value in a share transaction), Koh Gek Hwa v Yang Hwai Ming [2003] 4 SLR 316 (on a collective sale matter), Tan Yeow Khoon v Tan Yeow Tat [2003] 3 SLR 486 (on a valuation issue in a dispute over family businesses) and Tai Sea Nyong v Overseas Union Bank Ltd [2002] 4 SLR 811 (on a forced sale valuation).



# Discussion with SLA on Implementation of SVY21 Datum

he Forum was held on 14 August 2004 at the RELC and was well attended by 78 participants.

The Forum focused on several issues concerning the implementation of Co-ordinated Cadastre (a survey of boundaries of land parcels) system under SVY21 Datum.

Mr Lee Li Chuan, President of LS Division, and Mr See Seng Guan gave an overview of the new land survey system and CS (Chief Surveyor) Directive on Cadastre survey under SVY21 Datum respectively.



Panelists were Mr Low Oon Song, Chief Surveyor; Mr Soh Kheng Peng, Deputy Chief Surveyor; Mr Lee Li Chuan and Mr See Seng Guan.

Some of the main issues discussed at the Forum were handling of survey works already commenced under existing system (Cassini Datum); cost implications; training of technical staff; informing allied Government Agencies such as URA, LTA; co-operation among practicing surveyors, SISV and SLA on ensuring smooth implementation of the new system.

Feedback obtained from participants showed that they had learned and benefited a lot from the Forum.



# Seminar on "Public Sector Standard Conditions of Contract (PSSCOC) (Jan 2004) and Contract Administration Practices"



The above seminar was conducted by Mr Soh Lip San and Mr Kirindeep Singh of Rajah & Tan on 27 August 2004 at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel. It was well attended by 81 participants from both the public and private sectors.

The seminar was conducted in 2 parts with a question and answer session towards the end of the talk.

The first part covered issues concerning the drafting of conditions of contract whereas the second provided a commentary on changes to PSSCOC -Jan 2004 edition. Lip San presented common essential clauses in construction contracts and drafting issues associated with them. He highlighted on boilerplate clauses and proposed certain clauses that should be present in the main contract conditions, sub-contract conditions as well as supplier contract conditions.

The objectives for changes to the PSSCOC was also examined. Some of these were to improve payments for main contractor, sub-contractors and suppliers, to give a more equitable risk allocation in public sector contracts and to improve timely delivery of public sector projects.





Mr Kirindeep Singh dealt with the background and intention behind the new legislation on security payment. He also gave his opinions on the possible effects on the construction industry.

Both speakers were asked many pertinent questions. It appears that the objective of conducting this seminar, which is to create awareness on contract administration practices, changes to the PSSCOC and the new legislation on security of payment, has been achieved.

#### cont'd from page I

Project Management, Procurement & Contract Management, R&D / Innovation & Knowledge Management. QS Division President, Mr Seah Choo Meng presented a paper on "Security of Payment Bill – Is there a need for it?" at the Convention. His son who is also a SISV QS Council Member, Mr Eugene Seah, presented two papers on "The QS in Time Related Contractual Issues, What Should We Look Out For and Why" and "The Construction Electronic Measurement Standard – Window to New Epoch of QS".

We also took the opportunity to announce at the International Convention the 2006 PAQS Conference, which will be hosted by SISV in May 2006 in Singapore, with a short promotional video clip on Singapore. The 1<sup>st</sup> Announcement brochure on the 2006 PAQS Conference was snatched up by the participants. A soft copy of the papers presented in this International Convention, in the form of a CD, is kept at the SISV library for members' reference.

To know more about our 2006 PAQS Conference, please visit our website at www.sisv.org.sg for the I<sup>st</sup> Announcement brochure.

For more information on PAQS, please visit the websites at www.paqs.org

### Surveyors Update 2004

by Geoffrey Morris

n Saturday 4 September 2004 about 35 land surveyors and staff attended an all-morning session jointly hosted with Autodesk Asia Pte Ltd and GPS Lands (Singapore) Pte Ltd.

The event held at Merchant Court Hotel, updated surveyors on how to use emerging technology to improve their surveying practices, solve traditional surveying issues and prepare them for the ISN implementation. Three new suites of software from Autodesk were demonstrated - Autodesk Survey 2005, Autodesk Land Desktop 2005 and .dwf viewer & composer. Later GPS Lands demonstrated it's proprietary s/w called Geocada and showed how easy it was to



perform calculations and adjustments on observed GPS observations.

After the session participants tucked into a sumptuous but relaxing lunch at Ellenborough Market Café.

SISV kindly acknowledges the generous support from Autodesk and GPS Lands for making the event so successful.



The updating session has now become a regular feature in the LS Division's CPD calendar of events, and we look forward to further joint collaborations.

# Chief Surveyor Retires after 30 Years of Service



n 17 September 2004, about 40 Land Surveyors farewelled the outgoing Chief Surveyor, Mr Low Oon Song amidst good food, beer and karaoke singing at a special party organised by the Land Surveying Division at the NTU Alumni Club in River Valley Road. He is fondly remembered for his long public service and guidance for over 20 years as Chief Surveyor and President of the Land Surveyors Board.



Mr Low's retirement on 25 September marks the end of his challenging role in steering the Survey Department, Singapore (SDS) through a period of rapid growth in the profession. One which witnessed survey measurements progressing from steel tapes to GPS satellites, and for the subsequent reorganisation of SDS into the Singapore Land Authority (SLA) in June 2001.

The occasion was also one to welcome his replacement, Mr Soh Kheng Peng, who was headhunted by SLA to take up the new CS appointment. Mr Soh will oversee the many challenges forecast ahead under the new Integrated Survey Network for Singapore. Prior to his new job, he was the Director of Land Survey Department



at Surbana Consultants - a subsidiary of HDB.

The Institute looks forward to working closely with the Mr Soh, and will support his active leadership to guide our survey practitioners in realising the aims and benefits of working under the new SVY2I datum system.

Farewell, Mr Low .... Welcome, Mr Soh!!!

To view event, please visit : www.sisv.org.sg/sisv\_social\_night\_final\_1.html

# The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors Reciprocity Visit to SISV



delegation of 13 members arrived Singapore on 31 July 2004 on a 2-day official visit to Singapore to meet with up SISV Councilors and members. The delegates were warmly welcomed by Dr Amy Khor, Chairperson.

A general discussion was held at the Institute premises where HKIS and SISV updated each other of the recent changes. Some specific issues on urban renewal, REITS, e-tendering, conditions of contract used in Singapore, cadastral system, water leakage problems in housing and the control of unauthorized building works were also discussed amongst the relevant division. HKIS further proposed the formation of a Federation of





Surveyors in SEA Pacific Region and aim at recognizing the importance of the development and growth of local national institutes. A working committee will be set up to prepare for the formation. HKIS has also invited ISM and other possible member country will include China, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. SISV supported the proposal of the formation of "Federation of Surveyors".



In the evening, SISV hosted a sumptuous seafood dinner at East Coast Parkway. The ambience was relaxed and jovial by members and HKIS delegates.

Day 2 of the visit include a guided city tour, visit to URA and The Esplande arranged by Prof Lim Lan Yuan, President of V&GP Division. Delegates complimented Prof Lim that "in addition to Prof Lim's profession, he is indeed an excellent tourist guide".

After the trip, lunch was hosted by HKIS. Dr Amy Khor joined the delegates for lunch despite her busy schedule.

The delegates departed Singapore the next morning.





