



The Association of Consulting Engineers of Hong Kong
香港顧問工程師協會

Newsletter Issue November 2015

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



Ian Chung ACEHK Chairman, delivered his welcome speech at the ACEHK 38th Annual Dinner to share his reflection on the construction industry under current situation in Hong Kong and his vision on how should we sustain our success and continue to shape our future. Key messages are extracted below.

OPPORTUNITY – ACEHK will continue to maintain a communication channel between our members and the government. We will also provide networking opportunity for member firms to meet with business partners. In particular, looking at the opportunities related to “Belt and Road” initiative of the Central Government. I, on behalf of ACEHK, have an opportunity to participate in the 2015 Mainland and HK construction Industry Forum “Belt and Road and Collaboration for Success”. The forum was held in Yinchuan which aimed to provide a platform for Hong Kong’s and China’s construction industry and related professional sectors to exchange thoughts on the potential opportunities brought by “Belt and Road” initiative. ACEHK will enable members to bridge with this new initiative.

INNOVATION - It is about the innovative mindset to recognize, create, promote and disseminate information on innovations that improve quality and cost effectiveness of construction. It is no doubt that the world is changing with technology and new thinking. Innovation and capability to adopt cost effective solutions are going to differentiate us in the eyes of the clients. We would continue to promote ideas and make the construction industry more sustainable. We are going to see projects in much larger scale which requires more sophisticated and outside the box solutions.

All of us here, as leaders in the industry should be the pioneer to support innovation initiatives as innovation is one of the most significant drivers of productivity and quality for improvement, for which our industry is needed now to make us more sustainable.

HUMAN - To maintain Hong Kong as a liveable city, we should also aim to build a more “human” city. Infrastructures are built for people. Apart from providing the facilities to satisfy certain functions of daily life, we should consider designing with “people” in mind. We can embed more human elements such as city stories, city identity, city heritage, Human-scale space, human connectivity, friendly place, into our design of infrastructure. Urban oasis, pedestrian infrastructure and V-facilities are some examples of; when designing our project, let us rethink the purpose and value of infrastructure and deliver the design from a more “human” perspective.

As I said, 2015 or 2016 too, may be a special but difficult year for our industry. Yet I am sure we are all positive and excited about the unlimited opportunities and challenges ahead. Let us once again show the world the marvels of good projects and the intelligence of engineering professionals in an ever changing world. Let's work together to build a better and more sustainable Hong Kong.

Ian CHUNG
Chairman

MATTERS OF THE MOMENT

The 38th Annual Dinner 2015

The 38th Annual Dinner was successfully held on 16 November 2015 at Cordis Hotel with a lot of enjoyment. The Association is pleased to have our Guest of Honour, Mr. C K Hon, Permanent Secretary for Works, HKSAR Government and delivered a remarkable keynote speech for the event. We also had an overwhelming response from 34 nos. of official guests joining the dinner and share the precious moments with our members. The success of this Annual Dinner earmarked the continuous support from our member firms to contribute and strive for excellence in the engineering industry.



RECENT CHANGES TO LIST OF REGISTERED PRINCIPALS

Joiners

Name
Dawelbait, Ballah El Bakry
Moreby, Colin Christopher

Firm
AIM Group
AIM Group

Leavers

Name
Koi Hou Wong

Firm
AECOM

The 39th Annual General Meeting (“AGM”) has been successfully held on 30 November 2015. Meeting Minutes will be issued.



BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE - 2015 MAINLAND AND HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY FORUM IN YINCHUAN

The delegation to Yinchuan is led by The Secretary for Development, Mr Paul Chan, HKSAR Government to attend the 2015 Mainland and Hong Kong Construction Industry Forum. The theme of the forum is "**Belt and Road; Collaboration for Success**".

Co-organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region Municipal People's Government and the Development Bureau of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, the forum aims to promote knowledge sharing in construction expertise and management between the industries of the Mainland and Hong Kong. It also seeks to foster ties and co-operation between the construction enterprises of the two places.

In connection with the "Belt and Road" initiative of the Central Government, the forum this year was held in Yinchuan, one of the major cities in the new Silk Road Economic Belt, to provide opportunities for Hong Kong's construction industry and related professional sectors to learn about the economy, the present development and the future outlook of the city and exchange views with Mainland counterparts on the opportunities brought about by the "Belt and Road" initiative at the same time.

The delegation comprised more than 160 members, including representatives from the Development Bureau, the Construction Industry Council, trade associations and professional institutions, as well as construction industry personnel, legal professionals, accounting professionals and Legislative Council Members Dr Lo Wai-kyok and Mr Tony Tse.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Mr Chan said that the Mainland and Hong Kong's construction industries might consider building a "Silk-Road Joint Platform" for infrastructure under the "Belt and Road" initiative by creating a multi-disciplinary team that combines the efforts of the construction industry and related sectors to explore relevant markets.

Mr Chan suggested three strategies for the Platform.

First, exploring an international financing channel for the Silk Road infrastructure projects; second, building a network of diversified and world-class professional service teams to support the Silk Road infrastructure; and third, setting up a high-level permanent platform for communication and policy discussions in relation to the Silk Road infrastructure.

During the two-day visit, speakers from the Mainland and Hong Kong talked about the quality of construction works, partnering opportunities under the "Belt and Road" initiative, urban design and building design, and share their experiences. Study visits are also conducted to learn about the business environment, the situation of foreign investment, urban planning, residential development and built heritage conservation in Yinchuan.

REGISTRATION ON HKTDC

As all of us well aware, China has announced its Belt and Road Initiative which focuses on connectivity and cooperation among countries primarily in Eurasia. Opportunities that come with the strengthening of traditional infrastructure and through building highways of trade, finance, and cultural exchange are expected to emerge.

To take advantage of this development, HKTDC is planning to launch a Belt and Road Portal in early December of this year. The portal will include information on the Belt and Road related regions and countries, as well as the list of Hong Kong professionals capable of serving infrastructure projects in these regions.

To better serve the project owners of Belt and Road related infrastructure projects, HKTDC is also setting up a free advisory service with capable Hong Kong professionals serving as advisors.

ACEHK is being invited by HKTDC to become one of the advisors in the Belt and Road Portal. As an advisor, ACEHK will be listed in the portal. In return, ACEHK would agree to provide a one hour free consultation, on Belt and Road related infrastructure projects, to each enquirer. These consultation sessions will be carried out in person in Hong Kong. Should the enquirers require further consultation (i.e. after the first hour), individual advisors could consider charging a consultation fee at their discretion.

ACEHK has confirmed our interest in registration to the portal. More details and updates will be posted on ACEHK website: www.acehk.org.hk.

FEEDBACK CORNER

Members can provide feedback on any current issues to chairman@acehk.org.hk

Shortage of Major Infrastructure Assignments

ACEHK has noted a shortage of IDC consultancies for major infrastructure projects from the government and noted it will be continue to be the trend in the coming year. This paper is to highlight concern of member firms of ACEHK of the shortage of major infrastructure assignments commissioned by the government and its implications to the construction industry in general and engineering consultants.

NEC Training for RSS

The move by Government to the NEC form of contract will have implications for us at both the design stage and for the administration of contracts during construction. ACEHK are currently reviewing the issue of training of RSS regarding the application of NEC to Government contracts.



2015年內地與香港建築論壇

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合作共贏

11月1-3日 銀川

