

VERITAS e-news is a monthly on-line publication of features, news and events at VERITAS, a premier architecture and design firm based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. VERITAS e-news has a subscriber base of 3000 readers.



A very Happy New Year to all our readers! In this month's e-news, we are delighted to announce some exciting new additions to VERITAS Design Group's top management.

We shall also feature our recent 1st Quarterly Staff Meeting for 2013, and other interesting happenings here at VERITAS.

The year 2013 brings exciting additions to VERITAS Design Group's top management. Architects Ng Yiek Seng, Azril Amir Jaafar and Zainal F. Ab. Aziz are now Directors, adding a collective 26 years of professional experience to our expanded 9-person Director team.



Ng Yiek Seng

Ng Yiek Seng joined VERITAS in 1997 as a graduate architect, was promoted to Associate in 2002 and then to Senior Associate in 2006. He is a corporate member of the Malaysian Institute of Architects and became Principal of VERITAS Design Group in 2007. Ng was awarded a Public Services Department (JPA) scholarship to study architecture at the University of Sheffield where he obtained his Bachelor of Architecture (Hons) in 1994 before proceeding to the University of Greenwich, London where he completed his Post Graduate Dip. Arch. in 1997.

At VERITAS, he has been involved in several important rail and public transportation projects including Putrajaya Sentral, the Rawang-Ipoh Double Tracking project and most recently the Kuala Lumpur MRT project. He has also led several master-planning projects for new township developments and university campuses.



Apart from his projects in VERITAS, Ng is in charge of maintaining the firm's ISO certification. In 2004 VERITAS obtained the MS ISO 9001:2000 certification for "the provision of architectural design, consulting and contract administration/management services for all types of building projects". This year VERITAS will obtain the ISO 14001:2004 and OHSAS 18001:2007 certifications.

In 2011, Ng was selected to be included for the prestigious "30 under 40" list of leading young architects in Malaysia compiled by the Malaysian Institute of Architects.

Azril Amir Jaafar

Azril Amir Jaafar graduated from the University of Manchester, UK in 1998. He worked at Brock Carmichael Architects in Liverpool, Holford Associates in Manchester and TR Hamzah & Yeang in Kuala Lumpur before joining VERITAS in 2000.

Azril is a corporate member of the Malaysian Institute of Architects and a Green Building Index Facilitator. His professional development has been in tandem with the growth of the company; he became Senior Architect in 2004, an Associate in 2007 and in 2009 he was promoted to become a Principal of Veritas Design Group.

Azril's interest in architecture and passion for producing outstanding design has won VERITAS many awards and competitions. This includes the new PKNS Headquarters Architectural Competition (2010), CNBC / Arabian Properties Quality Award for the most outstanding / creative design (2007), Dubai Islamic Bank Headquarters Architectural Competition (2006), Putrajaya Precinct 4G Architectural competition (2000), National Library Singapore (1999), CDM Competition, Salford, England (1998), International Student Design Competition, Korea (1997). Many of his works have been published in local and international publications.



He has spoken widely on design and sustainable architecture. In 2011 he was also selected as one of the leading young architects in Malaysia, in a '30 under 40' shortlist compiled by the Malaysian Institute of architects.



Zainal Ab Aziz

Zainal F. Abdul Aziz joined the VERITAS Design Group in 2000. In 2004 he was promoted to Associate and he was made a Principal in 2012.

Zainal received his architectural degree from the University of Arkansas, USA where he was awarded Second Ranked Senior Scholar in his graduating class. Upon graduation, he spent the next three years at Peters, Koblenz and Kreishman Architects in St Louis, Missouri USA. He returned to Malaysia in 1991 to join Arkitek Kitas for 5 years before continuing his Masters in Engineering (specializing in Construction Management) at Chiba University, Japan from 1997 to 2000.

At VERITAS he has been instrumental in supervising the completion of 15 stations for the KTMB Rawang to Ipoh Double Tracking project as well as overseeing the design and construction of several high rise developments including the One Sentral office tower, the 1 Mont'Kiara office and retail development, the 40-storey Menara Prestige office and currently, the 55-storey W Hotel and Residences.



Apart from managing projects, Zainal is in charge of organizing the Professional Career Development program at VERITAS by providing guidance and support towards individual competencies to all staff in the organization.

Inspired by their new roles, the three new Directors remain active in running projects and impassioned about design and architecture.

VERITAS' New Associate

VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur promoted two of our senior architects to the rank of Associates;



Suhaimi Baba joined VERITAS in January 2008 as a senior architect and is now leading several major projects including the YTL HQ, Glenmarie Gardens and the Sime Melawati residential development. He received his Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Housing, Building and Planning from University Science Malaysia (USM) in 1997. Congratulations Suhaimi!!



Nozaima Mahadi or Jai to his friends joined VERITAS in November 2009 as a senior architect and is currently working on the Perdana University, John Hopkins Campus and the Tropicana International school where he is doing an awesome job. He received his Master Degree from Strathclyde University, Scotland. Congratulations Jai!!

Is there anything HAPPENING?



1st Quarterly Staff Meeting

VERITAS held its first staff meeting for the year 2013 on 19th January, at the Menara Lembaga Getah Asli Auditorium. The meeting kick-started with a warm welcome to all new staff who recently joined the VERITAS family. Our group CEO David Mizan Hashim gave a short but rousing speech encouraging all VERITASians to adopt a positive attitude in 2013.

There was a special guest appearance by Suchitra Mahendraraj, a motivational speaker who enlightened us on "Time Management". She spoke extensively about the quality of time management and covered the process of planning and exercising control over the amount of time spent on specific activities, especially to increase effectiveness, efficiency or productivity.

Veritas Learning Seminar - Aligning Green Design Workshop



A VERITAS in-house learning seminar: Aligning Green Design Workshop for Architects, Project Managers and Draftsperson was held on 19th January at the Menara Getah Asli Auditorium. It was conducted by our own associates from each SBUs and they presented a detailed overview of the latest green projects. A large group VERITASians attended this very successful event.

so WHO's the STAFF OF THE MONTH?



This month's featured employee is Suhaimi Baba who has worked as an architect for VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur since January 2008. Having been involved in many major projects, Suhaimi is currently involved in three of our important residential projects; the Sime Melawati, Impaiana Condo and Glenmarie Gardens and the office tower YTL HQ.



Suhaimi studied architecture at University Science Malaysia (USM) and obtained his bachelor in 1997. He also has a Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Housing, Building and Planning. An avid motorports fan, he is happily married to Kyairulniza Mhd. Saleh and they have 2 kids; Sasha Irdina and Sasha Alea.

His dedication and determination has resulted in him recently winning the VERITAS Core Value award under the category of "Service" for his contribution to initiate a charitable collection among VERITASians for Gaza Conflict Relief in 2010.

His favorite quote is "If you keep trying, you will succeed."

BIRTHDAY GREETING

For January 2013, we would like to wish a very warm Happy Birthday to:-

Capricornians and Aquarians: Noor Remmy Ramli, Suhaimi Baba, Abdul Malek Kanchil, A.S. Harman Shafil, Zulkifli Ahmed, Mohd Khairul Azli, Jason Seong, Muslim Mohammad, Zainal Fitri Bin Abdul Aziz, Rosaini Bin Kamarudin, Mohd. Redzuan B. Ramli, Meang Chen Soon, Low Chun Ket, Muhammad Hafizi Bin Kamaruddin, Hasan M Abdul Hasan Al-Khafaji, Zaniman Sulong and Anas Bin Ahmad Muslim.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH



"Good ideas are common - what's uncommon are people who'll work hard enough to bring them about"

~ Ashleigh Brilliant



We hope you enjoy this month's VERITAS e-news!

And please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to know more about any of the stories featured here.