



## GREETINGS and SALAM SATU VERITAS to all our readers!!

In this month's e-news, we are pleased to feature some of the recent work of VERITAS Landscape, which has been busier than ever in the last couple of years. Landscape design services have always been an important component of the VERITAS portfolio of work. We are committed to continually improving and expanding our expertise in this important aspect of the built environment. 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.

### ABOUT VERITAS LANDSCAPE

VERITAS Landscape Sdn Bhd was established in 1996 as a member of the VERITAS Design Group, and has since experienced rapid growth, expanding into all areas of the landscape design field. Today, despite its relative maturity, VERITAS Landscape continues to pursue a dynamic approach to landscape design founded on innovation and the principles of professionalism.

VERITAS Landscape has been honored over the years to be commissioned on award-winning landscape design projects for major international organizations and public listed companies, both within Malaysia and overseas. Completed projects of the firm have been published widely in the local media and the Principals have presented their work and ideas at numerous academic and professional forums.

As part of the VERITAS Design Group, VERITAS Landscape has access to the larger resources of its parent company, either to meet critical project milestones or for the purpose of providing integrated professional design services. This resource includes over 330 other members of the group within its 3 Malaysian offices (Kuala Lumpur, Penang and Johor) and 5 international offices.

Led by its two Associates, Khalifah Jamaluddin and Idris Pithan, VERITAS Landscape have adopted a flexible and adaptable approach to handling landscape design projects, tailored to respond to the specific needs of each particular project and the decision-making process of the Client. At VERITAS Landscape, the quality and consistency of professional service on each project takes precedence over theoretical design goals. Consequently, the firm's work is marked not by a fixed stylistic signature, but rather by a consistent approach inspired by the principles of good design, environmental concern and contextual integrity.

This issue of e-news will feature a few of our most recent noteworthy landscape projects; the 10 Damansara, Idaman Residences, Menara Binjai, Adopt-a-park and Legoland theme park. These are projects which were submitted for the Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM) awards recently.

### 10 DAMANSARA



Part of a residential enclave, 10 Damansara is located on a sloping square shaped site, with road frontages on the front and the back of the site. The 8 generous-sized bungalows and 2 duplex units are arranged around a central courtyard. Each unit has a discreet connection to this shared recreational space, which comprises a swimming pool attendant deck area and clubhouse facilities.



Privileged access is maintained by raising this recreational area above road level to accompany the lush green surroundings. The houses are located in 3 terraces that step up to the site, each terrace with a level difference of about 3 meters, or a storey high of grassy terraces. Units become progressively larger as one moves up the green terrace, culminating in a duplex penthouse atop the clubhouse that overlooks the entire development. The landscape design draws upon the fashionable modern contemporary design vocabulary.

### IDAMAN RESIDENCES

The Idaman Residence comprises of 400 units of serviced apartments on a 9.7 acre development near the emerging township of Nusa Idaman in Nusajaya, Johor. The main open landscape area and facilities are located at the core of the development to create a central community park and social hub. It is easily accessible to all residents, encouraging frequent use of the recreational facilities and gardens. This central green space becomes the 'heart' of the community. Dense planting of the perimeter creates a sense of security and enclosure, forming a private, inner sanctuary of calm and serenity, buffered from the outside world. The swimming pool and outdoor sporting facilities are located at the podium and becomes a convenient gathering space for the residents, promoting social interaction among the residents.



### MENARA BINJAI

Originally the site of a private family home, Menara Binjai is an office tower development conceived to maintain the viability of keeping the plot of land within the family. The green impulses manifests in a series of triple-volume sky gardens incorporated into the front facade of the building that ascend to culminate in the greenery of the roof garden. These are created "a breathable skin" in the curtain wall, allowing prevailing north-westerly breezes to infiltrate the sky gardens whilst buffering the terrace space from winds and heavy monsoon rain.



This "urban verandah" allows building users to experience the tropical setting, a contrast to the typical contained office environment. In a symbolic gesture of continuity and a deliberate invocation of the site's history, the mahogany trees which stood in the garden of the old family home, were saved during demolition and the timber was harvested to be re-used in the building as a feature wall in the reception, the lobby seating and for lift finishes - a quiet celebration of the memory of the site.

### ADOPT-A-PARK

Under the VERITAS Fund for Excellence (VFE) program, VERITAS adopted the first pocket-park in Kuala Lumpur, a 300ms median area in front of KLCC which includes the installation of walkways, artwork, garden lights, shady trees and ornamental shrubs. Conceived by VERITAS and gifted to Kuala Lumpur, the scheme invites private companies to support the creation and maintenance of such 'pocket-parks' around the city by contributing to a special fund established under the control of Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL). Under the terms of this adoption scheme, DBKL will build and upkeep the pocket-parks for a period of 2 years and maintain signage of the adoptee company within the park. A Memorandum of Agreement (M.O.A) signing ceremony was officiated by Tan Sri Haji Ahmad Phesal bin Hj Taib, the Mayor of Kuala Lumpur and David Mizan Hashim, Group President of VERITAS.



### LEGOLAND

'Lego' is a brand of popular children's toy, comprising colorful interlocking plastic bricks which can be assembled and connected in infinite permutations to construct many objects. The Legoland Theme park is a 76-acre life-sized experience of this brand within the concept of a theme park. Within the local context, this project also has a specific role in furthering the tourism agenda of the Nusajaya Masterplan by becoming the anchor initiative that attracts tourists from the surrounding region.



### AIRASIA HOUSE

The brief was for an office building, integrating all operational and administrative functions of Air Asia while supporting the conference and recreational facilities for staff and visitors. Covering an area of approximately 4.8 acres, the project site is located within the boundaries of the Low Cost Carrier Terminal of Kuala Lumpur International Airport 2. Site restrictions include limited access via an elevated roadway that cuts into the buildable extent of the lot. It was important that the corporate identity of Air Asia and the concept of 'one big happy family' be incorporated into the design as well.



### WHERE ARE WE FEATURED?

**FOCUS MALAYSIA**  
DOING AWAY WITH DANGEROUS DESIGNS



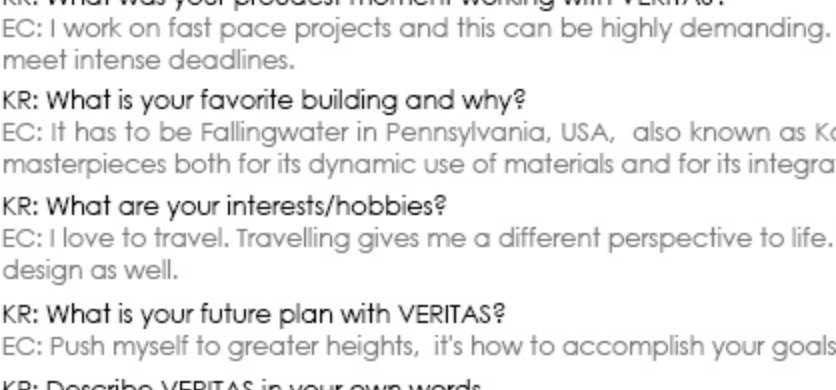
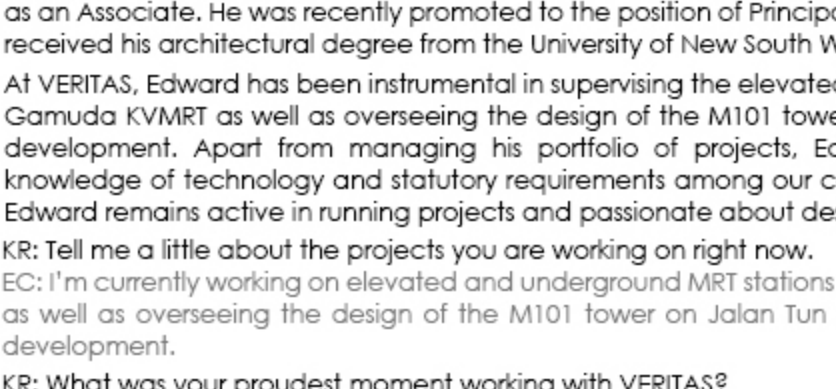
VERITAS Architect Edward Chew was featured in the January 7th issue of Focus Malaysia. It focused on VERITAS' expertise in handling complicated building typologies. The article identified VERITAS as one of the top firms capable of handling "gantungan" projects.



**THE NEW STRAITS TIMES**  
HARNESS THE OLD AND NEW - SINKHEH HOTEL, PENANG

VERITAS Principal Lillian Tay was featured in the News Straits Times newspaper on 27th December 2015, where she shared her experience in designing the Sinkheh Hotel in Penang. The Sinkheh is a multi-functional arts space and boutique hotel converted from a late 19th century shop house. The design brings together the past and present by inserting a new 3-storey steel pavilion into the rear of a 33m long shop house site. The Sinkheh Hotel was completed in early 2015, and VERITAS received the "Building of the Year" award from Perubatan Akitek NewCOMERS (PAM) for this extraordinary project.

so WHO are the NEWCOMERS at VERITAS?



Assistant Architect Johari Zainal Abdin; Draughtsman Mohamad Nor Borhan, Rozaini Majid and Nur'ain Awaluddin.  
Interns from Taylor's University Chia Wee Min, Ee Von Cheah, Jolene Hor Wei Fern and Teoh Hui Yu for VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur.  
Work Experience Mohd. Roslan ABAD for VERITAS Architects Penang.

### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Mohd Rashidi Muhamad, Abdul Malek Kanchil, Suhaimi Baba, Zarinam Sulong, Leong Pak Chit, Mohd Syarikin Mohd Zailani, A S Harman, Buyong @ Shafiq, Mohd Shahidan Bidin, Faisul B Zainuddin, Muslim Mohammad, Rosaini Kamarudin, Sarah Lim, Lau Su Vin, Mohd. Redzuan Ramlil, Seong Chen Soon, Zainal Fitri Abdul Aziz, Khairuladzi Nasri, Nasiruddin Ideris, Afiq Ahmad, Afiqah Nur Yahya, Mohd Azwardan Idris, Ehsanuddin Shah Azhar, Selvaraj Arhanarieswaran and Siti Aishah Khairuddin.

so WHO's the STAFF OF THE MONTH? EDWARD CHEW

Edward Chew joined the VERITAS Design Group in 2001-2004 as a Senior Architect and returned in 2011 as an Associate. He was recently promoted to the position of Principal at VERITAS Design Group. Edward received his architectural degree from the University of New South Wales Australia.

At VERITAS, Edward has been instrumental in supervising the elevated and underground MRT stations for Gamuda KVMRT as well as overseeing the design of the M101 tower on Jalan Tun Razak; a mixed-use development. Apart from managing his portfolio of projects, Edward is in charge of enhancing knowledge of technology and statutory requirements among our colleagues. Inspired by his new role, Edward remains active in running projects and participate about design and architecture.

KR: Tell me a little about the projects you are working on right now.  
EC: I'm currently working on the elevated and underground MRT stations for Gamuda KVMRT as well as overseeing the design of the M101 tower on Jalan Tun Razak; a mixed-use development.

KR: What was your proudest moment working with VERITAS?  
EC: I work on fast pace projects and this can be highly demanding. I dedicate my success to the team of colleagues who work with me to meet intense deadlines.

KR: What is your favorite building and why?  
EC: It has to be Fallingwater in Pennsylvania, USA, also known as Kaufmann Residence by Frank Lloyd Wright. It is one of Wright's greatest masterpieces both for its dynamic use of materials and for its integration with the striking natural surroundings.

KR: What are your hobbies?  
EC: I love to travel. Travelling gives me a different perspective to life. You meet people from different cultures, with differing cuisines, art and design as well.

KR: What is your future plan with VERITAS?  
EC: Push myself to greater heights, it's how to accomplish your goals!!

KR: Describe VERITAS in your own words  
EC: Great Exposure for those who want to take challenges

### so WHO got HITCHED!!



AMIRAH BEE BINI ABDUL AZIZ & MOHD RAFIE BIN ABDUL AZIZ  
We would like to congratulate our VERITAS Architects Johor colleague, Amirah Bee and her husband, Mohd Rafie on their recent marriage. The wedding ceremony was held on the 9th January 2016 at Dewan Tun Sri Mahfuz Khalid, Kuala Lumpur.

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Imagination is more important than knowledge. Imagination encircles the world."

### HAPPENINGS

FEDERAL TERRITORY KUALA LUMPUR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (FTKLA) CROSS COUNTRY RUN



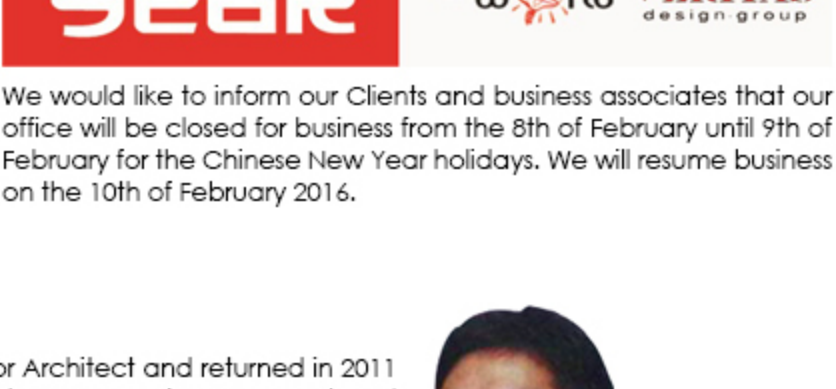
This is VERITAS' first year to do their running shoes for the FTKLAA charity run. This year's FTKLAA race was held on Tuesday, 17 January 2016, with a route of 10.3km through the commercial heart of Kuala Lumpur. David Mizan Hashim, President of VERITAS Design Group joined the VERITAS team to complete the race as Finishers. Well done runners!!



VERITAS SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB JOHOR (VSSC JB)  
The VERITAS Sports & Social Club Johor held a BBQ Party on the 23rd of February for the Tropex Condominium. About 50 staff and family member attended this party which was hosted by VERITAS Johor's Condo Designer Fathi who is one of the proud owner of this awesome condo designed by VERITAS Johor. VERITAS employees and their family members were treated with a scrumptious BBQ Platter and the kids had fun at the pool.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

VERITAS' NEW PRINCIPAL



We are delighted to announce that Associate Edward Chew has been promoted to the position of Principal at VERITAS Design Group!  
Edward was engaged by VERITAS between 2001-2004 as an Architect and returned in 2011 as an Associate. He is currently leading several major projects, including the Line 1 and Line 2 MRT Stations and a 80-storey mixed-use development where he is doing an awesome job. Congratulations Edward!!

### BCI-ASIA TOP 10 ARCHITECTS 2016 AWARD

VERITAS makes it to the top ten again!  
We are proud to announce that VERITAS Architects Sdn Bhd was chosen again to be among the "top ten" architects in Malaysia. This further confirms our current status in the design industry in South-East Asia and we are looking forward to greater success in the coming years.



BCI Asia Top 10 laureates have become an institution for architectural communities of Southeast Asia, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Being a BCI Asia Top 10 laureate is a coveted prize among architectural firms, symbolizing the extent of their contribution to the built environment.

### CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS - VERITAS DESIGN GROUP



We would like to inform our Clients and business associates that our office will be closed for business from the 8th of February until 9th of February for the Chinese New Year holidays. We will resume business on the 10th of February 2016.

ideas world VERITAS design group

~ALBERT EINSTEIN~