

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.

October 2012

Greetings to all our readers!

In this month's e-news, we are delighted to feature our most recently established international office: VERITAS Architects USA. We will also highlight our newly formed joint-venture arrangement with MAB Consult in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. At Veritas, we are committed to continually improving and expanding our presence around the world to serve our increasingly global clientele, and our newly formed international business units are testament to this objective. We foresee great opportunities to expand our professional services to the fast growing global market.

We are also pleased to provide an update on recent activities of our 4th Quarterly Meeting, Annual Staff Dinner and other interesting "happenings" at VERITAS.

**WHAT'S NEW in VERITAS?**

**VERITAS Architects USA** • VERITAS Design Group recently expanded to the United States of America with the formation and registration of VERITAS Architects USA (VAUSA). This initiative is another step in our aspiration to eventually evolve into a total design solutions provider throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Led by VERITAS Principal, Richard Woodling, VAUSA represents the latest addition to the expanding international presence of the Veritas Design Group. The representative office in Portland, Oregon shall serve Clients in the Northwest as well as other Asia-Pacific countries.



A soft-launch cocktail function was held to commemorate the creation of our office, followed by a formal dinner at the Bluehour Restaurant in the Pearl District of Portland on 12th of October 2012. About 30 Clients, associates and friends attended this event, including the Honorary Consul to Malaysia Mr John Blackwell.

The dinner was interspersed with a few words of introduction from David and Richard, followed by welcoming remarks from several of the attendees.

**Joint Venture between MAB Consult and VERITAS** • Held at MAB Consult's office in Damman, Saudi Arabia on 29th September 2012, VERITAS officially signed and exchanged contract documents with our new business partner. VERITAS was represented by our Group President David Mizan Hashim and Principal Azril Amir Jaafar while MAB Consult by its Managing Director Abdulrahman M. AlBassam and Dr Mohammad Babsail.



David Hashim, Group President of VERITAS Design Group said "I am certain that our cooperation will succeed and evolve into a true partnership. On our part, we are committed to providing professional services of the highest standard to exceed the market expectations".



The first project in collaboration with MAB consult is a large mixed-use development in Al-Khobar, currently at design stage.

**4th QUARTERLY MEETING**

VERITAS held its 4th quarterly staff meeting for this year at the courtyard of Bangunan Getah Asli on the 20th of October. Among the highlights of the gathering were updates by our CEO David Mizan Hashim on VERITAS' international projects.



The event also featured the Core Value awards which were presented to the following VERITASian achievers:

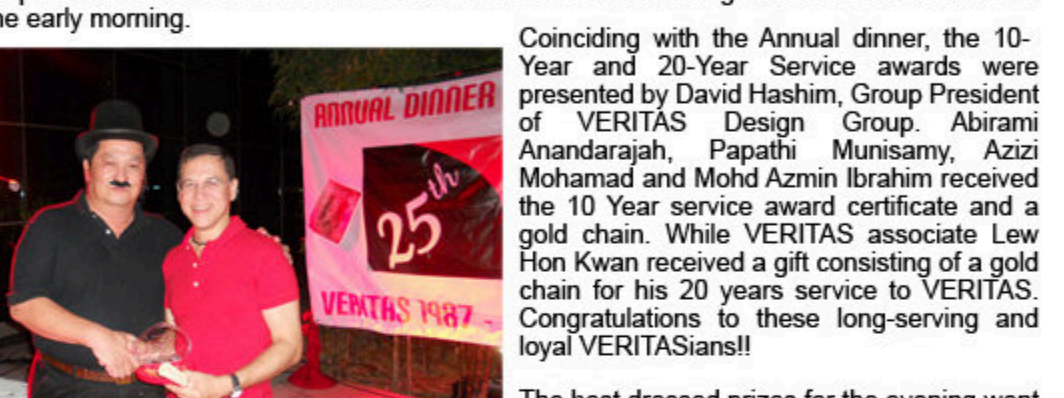
- Integrity - Juan Jesus Munoz Aguayo
- Design - Jason Seong Chen Soon
- Environment - Zanifam Sulong
- Audacity - Mohd Ashfaq Sofian
- Service - Ramli Ahmad

A birthday bash for VERITASians was held during lunch followed by the traditional cutting of birthday cakes.

**VERITAS ANNUAL STAFF DINNER**



The VERITAS annual staff dinner was held on 20th October at the 30th Level of Menara Binjai in Kuala Lumpur. More than 150 staff attended this gala event which went on till the early morning.



Coinciding with the Annual dinner, the 10-Year and 20-Year Service awards were presented by David Hashim, Group President of VERITAS Design Group. Abirami Anandarajah, Papathi Munisamy, Azizi Mohamad and Mohd Azmin Ibrahim received the 10 Year service award certificate and a gold chain. While VERITAS associate Lew Hon Kwan received a gift consisting of a gold chain for his 20 years service to VERITAS. Congratulations to these long-serving and loyal VERITASians!!

The best dressed prizes for the evening went to Bianca Mayara Rodrigues for ladies (Lady in Black) and Muhammad Afiq Rosman for male (Man in Black). Congratulations to the winners!

**THE MALAYSIAN NATURE SOCIETY (MNS)**



Veritas Design Group sponsored and supported The Malaysian Nature Society (MNS) - Pesta Sayap 2012 (Festival of Wings) event held on the 21st of October at the Kuala Selangor Nature Park.

At this year's event, the environmentally featured an exciting range of environmentally related activities such as Pesta Sayap Nature Tour, Nature Craft Competition, Fireflies Hunt, Water Conservation Hunt, Drawing and the best nature games.

Colouring Competition, exhibitions, wildlife face painting and other nature games. A mini concert featured local musicians such as Wadifa Percussion, 5forty2 and Markiza and Piter Hasan, with proceeds from donations going back to conservation activities in and around the park.

**so WHO'S the STAFF OF THE MONTH?**

Its Adrinfaad Adnan!! or more commonly known as "Adrin" among his colleagues and friends. He was born on 31st May 1983, and has been a part of the Veritas dream team since September 2012 as a project architect. VERITAS is also pleased to announce Adrin (AF) as country manager for our operations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



Komathi Ramakrishna (KR) gets in-depth info about Adrinfaad (AF)

KR: You were told to pack your bags and head-off to Saudi Arabia sometime next week. How do you feel about this?  
AF: Very relieved!!! I have been waiting for my Saudi Visa to come through for the past 2 months. It looks like I'll finally be off next week... yahoo!!

KR: Have you been to Saudi Arabia before? What do you like most about the country? Work/people/clients/ food/entertainment life?  
AF: Yes, Saudi Arabia has a very interesting culture. By the way Koms, there are no cinemas la! Looks like I will have to find other means of entertainment. A new hobby perhaps!!

KR: Where did you graduate from and in what year?  
AF: I received a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the International Islamic University (UIA) in 2006 and a MBA in Construction Business early this year.

KR: Where would you be based in Saudi?  
AF: In Damman near Al-Khobar, in the Eastern province of Saudi Arabia.

KR: What would you likely do during the free time? (In Saudi Arabia)  
AF: I'll try to explore different parts of the city and meet up with locals and make new friends. There are a lot of places in Saudi Arabia to visit. This will be a great opportunity to see the country up-close!

KR: How are our Saudi projects moving along? What are you working on currently?  
AF: We are designing a mixed-development in Al-Khobar for our Client, the Tamimi Group.

KR: How would you describe VERITAS in less than 10 words?  
AF: VERITASians are very helpful and willing to explore further.

KR: What is your favorite word/quote?  
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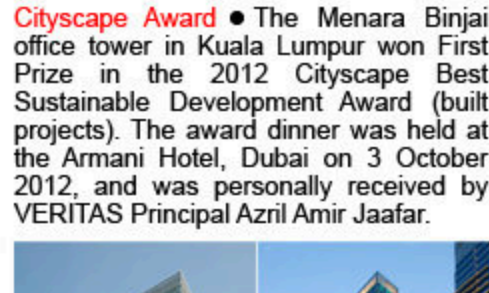
KR: Do you have any goals set for VERITAS Saudi Arabia?  
AF: We are planning to establish a very strong presence there. Besides Qatar and UAE, Saudi Arabia is ahead in the emerging construction industry.

HOME

CONTACT



**Is there anything HAPPENING?**



**Cityscape Award** • The Menara Binjai office tower in Kuala Lumpur won First Prize in the 2012 Cityscape Best Sustainable Development Award (built projects). The award dinner was held at the Armani Hotel, Dubai on 3 October 2012, and was personally received by VERITAS Principal Azril Amir Jaafar.



Chris Seymour, Managing Director of engineering consultancy firm, ARCADIS Gulf, and one of the judges of the awards, said: "The entries for this year's awards took a big step forward with all projects demonstrating an impressive depth of field in terms of geography, creativity and ingenuity. The quality of the entries has definitely improved, raising the bar further and bringing the Cityscape Awards for Emerging Markets increasing credibility on an international scale."

Menara Binjai is located within the Golden Triangle of Kuala Lumpur. The 32-storey building is notable for its environmentally conscious design, characteristic facade and sophisticated finish. The Menara Binjai is the first office tower in Malaysia to receive both GBI Certification and Green Mark Gold certified by BCA Singapore.

**PAM WORLD DAY OF ARCHITECTURE 2012**



**"ARCHITECTS ARE CITY CHANGERS"**  
On Saturday 13 October 2012, Pertubuhan Aritek Malaysia (PAM) organised a one-day seminar at The Gurney Resort Hotel & Residences, Penang to demonstrate the chosen theme. Lillian Tay Wai Fun, Principal of Veritas Architects gave a presentation on the topic: "How Architects Could Transform the City"



**WHERE are we FEATURED?**



**JV between MAB & VERITAS** • The Joint Venture ceremony between MAB and VERITAS Design Group held at Damman, Saudi Arabia was featured in Arab daily newspaper 'Al-Yaum' on 15th October 2012.



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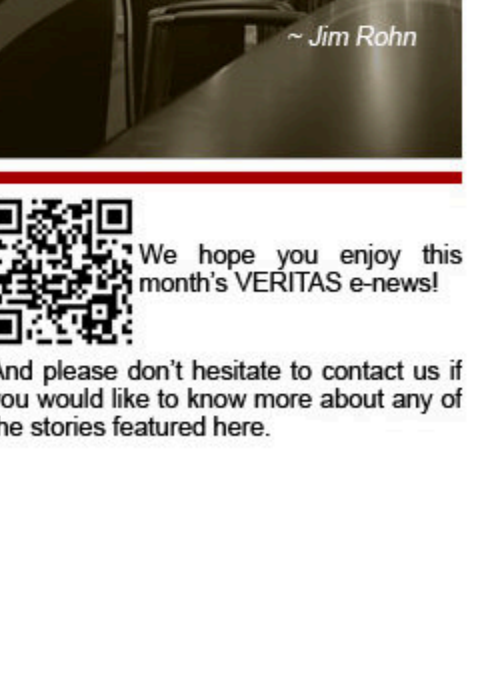
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**MINI Black Box** • One of our recently completed projects, the "MINI Black Box Glenmarie" was featured in the October 2012 issue of the Architecture Malaysia magazine.

Menara Binjai bags Best Sustainable Development award



Our recent award-winning project was featured in the:

- "BERITA Awani" - 12th Oct 2012
- The Sun newspaper: 26th Oct 2012
- The Edge Malaysia - Oct 29 - Nov4 2012

**NEWCOMERS**

Welcome on board new VERITASians: Draughtman Roostam Ahmad for VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur & Resident Architect Mohd Noor Irwan Masturi; Technical Assistant Ahmadkhairul Sabirin; Architect Rosli and Assistant Architect Muhammad Afiq Rosman for VERITAS Architects Johor. We hope they will have a long and rewarding career at VERITAS.

**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

For October 2011, we would like to wish a warm Happy Birthday to:-

- Librans (23 September - 22 October): Lau Kok San, Lillian Tay, Abdul Rahman, Papathi Munisamy, Noor Halwani, Ng Wei Huan & Jacky Lee.
- Scorpions (23 October - 20 November): Mazliyani Alang, Lew Hon Kwan & Qairie Asyraf.

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH**



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 stones featured here.