

Happy Deepavali, Happy Halloween and Greetings to all our readers!

As business and leisure travel become more intertwined, today's hotels and resorts must accommodate the overlapping desires and the complex needs of increasingly sophisticated travelers. VERITAS' hospitality and leisure work reflects the identity and nature of the particular local surroundings of each site. Our designs emphasize the "guest experience" and its relation to the specific context. Within VERITAS is a team of designers who specialize in hotel-related work. Based on years of experience working with hospitality owners and operators, VERITAS understands how to design hotels and resorts that deliver excitement, efficiency and bottom-line success. Featured below are some of the hotel and leisure developments VERITAS has recently embarked upon.

We are also pleased to provide an update on the recent VERITAS Lecture Series 7 and other interesting "happenings" within the group.

We hope you will 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.

W HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR

Making a commentary about the streetwall of Jalan Ampang, the building is recessed from the road frontage, to create a plaza and a more generous drop-off area in front of the building.



The 60-storey W Hotel development is expected to be completed in 2017.

THE ANGSA, TELUK BAHANG, PENANG

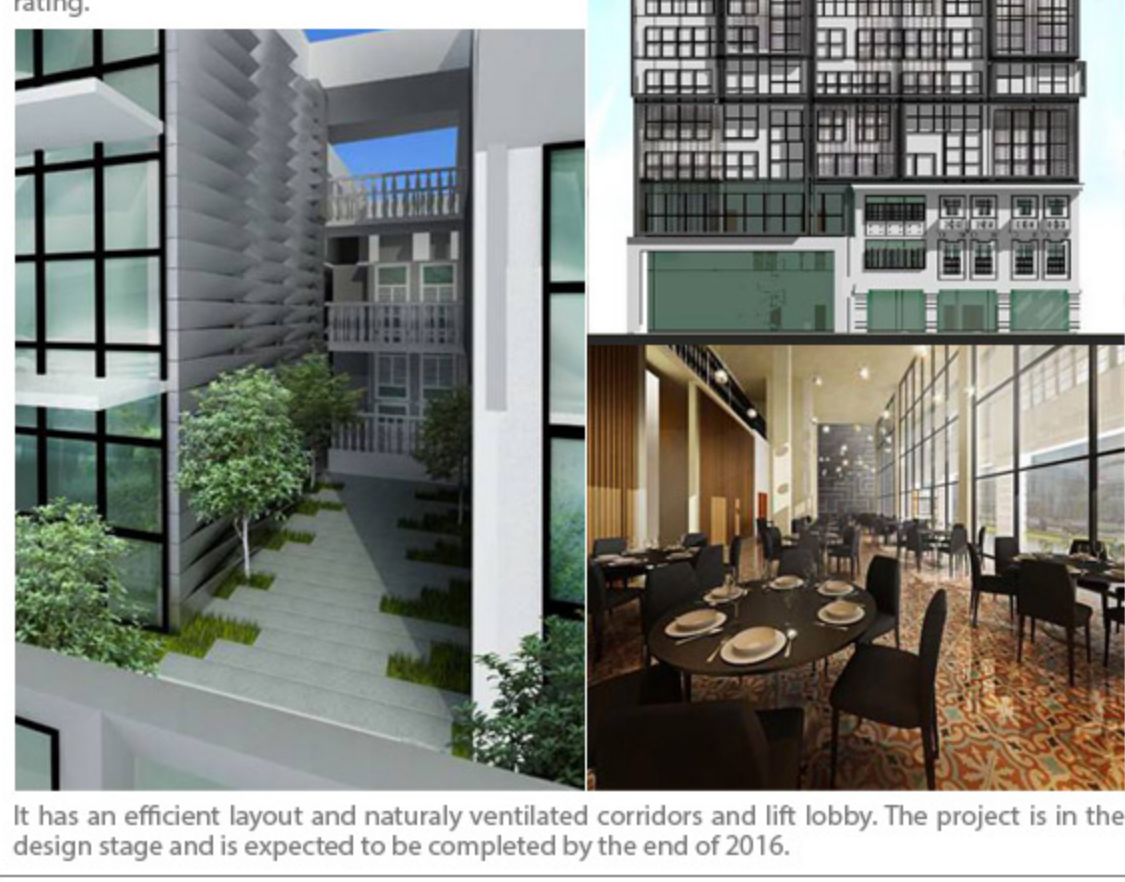
The site is located at the far end of the Batu Feringghi stretch of luxury beach hotels in Penang Island.



It is relatively secluded from the Georgetown and Tanjung Bungah conurbation; approximately 1 hour's drive from the centre of town. The project is scheduled to be completed by early 2017.



The new VIVID HOTEL for Vanguard Hotels Pte Ltd, is the development of two adjoining bungalow lots which face Jalan Bangsar in KL Sentral adjacent to the global headquarters of Bank Rakyat.



The Novotel Ampang is a budget 3-star hotel at the edge of the heritage zone on Jalan Ampang. The design incorporates sky terraces, roof-top gardens and a pool and is designed to achieve high energy efficiency for GBI GOLD rating.



The Imperial Lexis is 5-star hotel for KL Cosmopolitan Sdn Bhd on Jalan Kia Peng in Kuala Lumpur. The hotel will provide 196 rooms in a 53-storey tower. Construction planning is under way and the hotel is expected to open in late-2017.

ACHITECTURE MALAYSIA – HOTEL 105



One of our boutique hotel projects; Hotel 105 on Malay Street in Georgetown, Penang was featured in the Vol. 26 issue 5 of Architecture Malaysia Magazine. The design aspires to bring together the past and present by inserting an entirely new 3-storey steel pavilion into the rear of the typical long and narrow shophouse site while preserving the front block with its historical street façade and original timber floor structure. This project was open to the public in August 2013.

so WHO are the NEWCOMERS at VERITAS

Welcome on board new VERITASians:
Architects Wan Nurul Huda, Mohd Rachidi bin Muhamad, Project Manager, Sazali Bin Awi, Assistant Architect Nur Aisyah binti Mohd Rozi and Draughtperson Izzarni binti Abd Shukur for VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur

Architect Peter Hubinsky and Inmaculada Sevilla Nacher for VERITAS Architects Penang
Junior Designer Selvaraj Arthanarieswaran for VERITAS Interiors Sdn Bhd
Senior Quantity Surveyor Azni Shaheeda binti Ishak for VERITAS Contracts Sdn Bhd

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

For October 2014, we are delighted to wish a Happy Birthday to Tribe 5 Babies!!
Lau Kok Sun, Ahmad Nazmi bin Mohamed Anuar, Lillian Tay Wai Fun, Abdul Rahman bin Mat Ali, Pappathi Munisamy, Noor Halwani binti Ab Rahman, Lee Yueh Nan, Yazid Omar, Muhammad Fadzli Abd Aziz, Wan Muhamad Rosmadi Wan Hassan, Qairie Asyraf bin Hamid, Fakhrul Ridzuan bin Mokhtar, Mazliyani Alang, Ng Wei Huan, Mohd Asri bin Mohd Markom, Norhaida binti Hamzah, Siti Norhajarina binti Misran, Iza Fazlina binti Hamzah and Muhamad Hafidza bin Kamaruddin.

I'M GOING TO SUCCEED BECAUSE I'M CRAZY ENOUGH TO THINK I CAN.

BUNDLES OF JOY

Congratulations to our VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur Draughtperson Mohd Khalil Mohd Saufee and his wife Noor Imanie Bt Che Yahya on the arrival of their charming baby boy, Aayan Malyque B Mohd Khalil who was born on 9 October 2014. Best wishes to the proud parents!!

Is there anything HAPPENING?



VERITAS LECTURE SERIES 7 (VLS)

The VERITAS Lecture Series or VLS is an annual half-day conference sponsored by VERITAS, the main objective of which is to present useful industry information and unique learning experiences to our Clients about subjects of relevance to the design and property development industry.



PKNS GBI RATING

This year's VERITAS Lecture Series was entitled "Metropolis: Transport Oriented Development (TOD) for Kuala Lumpur" and was held on 2nd October at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center. The keynote speaker was Puan Nor Fanim Mohd Amin of Suruhan Jaya Pengangkutan Awan Darat (SPAD) and the other 5 speakers were Mr. Ng Yiek Seng of VERITAS Design Group, Cik Izzati binti Tan Sri Mohamad Salim of Malaysian Resources Corporation Bhd (MRCB), Ms Audrey Teo Loh an architect experienced in TOD, Mr. Ho Chin Soon of Ho Chin Soon Research Sdn Bhd and Mr. Allen Folks of AECOM Asia. Each presenter provided a different perspective of the topic to an audience of over 200 Clients and Consultants.

We are proud to announce that VERITAS' project the new Perbadanan Kemajuan Negeri Selangor (PKNS) HQ in Shah Alam has been awarded the prestigious GBI Platinum rating. The GBI platinum is the highest green building recognition in the country and the certification standard is among the highest in the world. With this recognition, the building has joined 6 other non-residential buildings in Malaysia to have achieved this recognition to date.

P. RAMLEE THE MUSICAL



VERITAS entertained some of our Clients for an exclusive musical charity show on the 8th of October 2014. This 3 hour spectacular musical is a tribute to the remarkable talent and legacy of Malaysia's greatest entertainment icon, Tan Sri P. Ramlee.

4TH QUARTERLY MEETING



VERITAS held its 4th quarterly staff meeting for 2014 at Menara Getah Asli on the 18th of October. Among the highlights of the gathering were updates by the various group Principals and a talk by Group President David Hashim on how the corporate cultures of dynamic companies tend to resemble not families but professional sports teams.



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

- Integrity: Wilia
 - Design: Michael Tan
 - Environment: Noor Halwani Ab. Rahman
 - Audacity: Mohamed Nadzeem bin Abdullah
 - Service: Alif Arif Iskandar Abd Wahab
- Congratulations to all the 5 Core Value awardees!!

Where are We FEATURED?

VERITAS' Lecture Series 7 was featured in numerous media; The STAR, News Straits Times Press

STARBUZ | FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER 2014

Malaysia eyes more TODs

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia aims to set up more transportation-oriented developments (TODs) to achieve its 40% modal share target by 2030.

Land Public Transport Commission (SPAD) deputy general manager for policy, planning and research Nor Fanim Amin said its vision is to enhance public mobility using public transportation.

"One of the strategies is to establish an integrated and efficient multi-modal network," she said at the Veritas Design Group's lecture series yesterday.

Two examples of TODs already up and running are KL Sentral and Terminal Bersepadu Selatan, Nor Fanim added.

"The rapid growth in mobility trends over the years will continue to increase in future, and if left unchecked, will lead to massive economic losses in productivity and pollution," said Nor Fanim.

She highlighted that according to data from the Road Transport Department, the number of motor vehicles will increase by 1.4 times to 31 million from 22 million motor vehicles currently.

TODs are defined as a mixed-use residential and commercial area designed to maximise access to public transport, often incorporating features to encourage transit ridership.

"A TOD neighbourhood typically has a centre with a transit station or stop, surrounded by relatively high-density development with progressively lower-density development spreading outward from the centre," said Aecom South-East Asia vice president for design, planning and economics, Allen Folks, during his presentation.

SPAD is targeting to have a public transport modal share of 40% in urban areas by 2030.

so WHO's the STAFF OF THE MONTH

Our staff of the month for October is Jonathan Lowe, commonly known as just "Jon" among staff and friends. He was born on 8 August 1988 and he has been a part of the VERITAS dream team since January 2013 as an Assistant Architect.

KR: You have been working with us since 2013 as an AA. Throughout these 2 years how has VERITAS been treated you?

JL: VERITAS is a place where you find friendly colleagues, and where I have been given a lot of opportunities to learn and practise my own philosophy and approach to design.

KR: Tell me a little about the projects that you're working on right now.

JL: I am currently working on the Vivid Hotel; a 21 storey hotel in KL Sentral. This project first came in as a branding exercise. A hotelier wanting to start a new brand to compete among the existing hotels in the market. Vivid, clearly among the haze lines, an awakening to life. This ideology drove the design to be a directive experience for the user, to be simple and clean yet edgy. It's a budget hotel but with a twist. Apart from Vivid Hotel, I am also working on a residential project – the Kyla.

KR: Where did you graduate from and when?

JL: I graduated from Oxford Brookes University in the UK in 2012

KR: Describe VERITAS in your own words?

JL: ha ha ha.... Can I have another question instead? VERITAS it is a Latin word, however the adaptation behind it for this architectural practise, the truth by design, it definitely means something there. From my understanding it is what you're doing, be honest to the design, to the philosophy we held on to, to create better spaces for a better place for humanity.

so WHO got HITCHED!!

We would like to congratulate our VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur Project Architect, Ahmad Rodzaneh Ahmad Rodzi and his wife, Siti NurBaya Abd Rahman (who used to work for VERITAS Architects Johor) on their recent marriage.

The 'Bersanding' ceremony was held on the 25th October at the bride's residence in Klang. Rodzaneh and Baya are just one of many couples who met at VERITAS and have gone on to happy marriages together!