

Greetings, Happy Winter Solstice, Merry Christmas and Salam Satu

In this month's e-news, we are delighted to present the recent accomplishments of our environment/energy focused consultancy; VERITAS Environment Sdn. Bhd. These include the Cost @ Work software program, the GreenCheck sustainability tool and the green-touring of three of our noteworthy projects: the Etiaq Tower, J Land Tower and International School of Kuala Lumpur.

While sustainability has always been an important part of our design even more aware of the need for a new paradigm in design practice that respect, VERITAS is committed to continually improving the standard of expertise in this discipline, and the formation of VERITAS Environment Sdn. Bhd is testament to this objective.

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VERITAS ENVIRONMENT SDN. BHD. (VESB) - VESB offers green building consultancy services to building owners, developers and design consultant teams in a process integrating engineering with architecture. Its goal is to economically and efficiently assist in the creation of high performance sustainable buildings and environments without compromising on design. VESB is led by **CK Tang**, a leading expert in energy efficiency for building in tropical climates. He wrote the National Energy's UNDP-JKR's Building Sector Energy Efficiency Project (BSEEP) practices. CK is widely acknowledged as Malaysia's leading expert on energy-efficient design and is a member of the international Conference.

COST @ WORK - This customized software was created by C.K. to specification to provide peak cooling load computation and annual building material/equipment capital cost. The most interesting part of the database of building materials and equipment to calculate the building then hunts for the lowest capital cost and/or lowest lifecycle cost of combinations of building materials, equipment and air-conditioning. A version of this software has been in operation since early 2016 and has proven that in most cases, energy efficiency in buildings can be improved while actually reducing capital cost! **In fact, capital cost reduction of up to 7% of total building construction cost has been regularly demonstrated with this software, while at the same time improving energy efficiency in the building.**

Using GreenCheck reduces negative impacts on the environment, and building performance. The **main objectives** of this tool are to reduce create healthy, productive environments.

The VERITAS GreenCheck design tool has the ability to:

- optimize site potential;
- minimize non-renewable energy consumption;
- use environmentally preferable products;
- protect and conserve water;
- enhance indoor environmental quality; and
- optimize operational and maintenance practices.

ETIAQ OFFICE TOWER

The Etiaq Office Tower is an 85-storey development comprising of a 35-storey office tower with an office podium car-park located on a site of 50,000 sm along Jalan Bangsar, Kuala Lumpur.

The project is seeking two sustainability certifications: **gold certification under the Green Building Index (GBI)** and **platinum certification under GreenRE**. Key features required to achieve these certifications include energy efficient mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and fixtures, renewable construction materials and sustainable site development.

This building has a simple daylight harvesting strategy that makes use of existing building solutions without increasing development cost to the owner. This solution addresses the concern of speculative office building developers that is highly sensitive to additional cost required for green features in a building. The daylight harvesting strategy proposed was based on addressing glare from two distinct sources; due to direct sunlight and due to the bright tropical sky. The Etiaq HQ is scheduled to complete in early 2018.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF KUALA LUMPUR (in collaboration with HOK)

Located on a 26-acre site in the suburbs of Kuala Lumpur, the new campus for the International School of Kuala Lumpur (ISKL) will be an opportunity to bring all three parts of ISKL (elementary, middle and high school) back together again in one location in a new space fully appropriate to the School's unique identity.

The new campus will accommodate 2,000 students with a provision to expand to 2,500 students in the future, and it is to be a sustainable exemplar both for the region and the world, aiming to obtain a **GBI Platinum rating**.

The International School of Kuala Lumpur (ISKL) is designed to achieve near zero carbon emission, near zero potable water use and near zero solid waste to landfill while incorporating permaculture strategy. Near zero carbon emission target will primarily be achieved via reducing the energy index of the building to below 50 kWh/(m².year). A photovoltaic array placed on the roof will provide most of the energy that is required. The ISKL is under construction and will be completed in 2018.

WHERE are we FEATURED?

CONSTRUCTION MALAYSIA

The W Hotel and The Residences in Kuala Lumpur was featured in the October issue of the Construction Malaysia Journal. This project is a 55-storey mixed-use tower situated on a 5,192 square-metre site. The components include 354 apartments, a roof-top swimming pool, a four level below-grade parking deck and a ground floor entry lobby, above-grade parking deck, sky lobby with restaurant and lounge spaces, conference centre, grand ballroom with pre-function and support spaces, amenity level with spa and outdoor pool, and nine levels of hotel rooms with an additional level of mid-suites with terraces. The W is expected to be completed by mid-2017.

THE STAR, SMEBIZ

David Mizan Hashim, Group President of VERITAS Design Group was featured in the SMEBIZ section of the Star Newspaper on 5th December. The article featured the **History of the VERITAS Design Group and its achievements throughout its 30 year's existence**. VERITAS will be celebrating this anniversary in August 2017.

Building on a desire to design

One life-changing conversation turned David Mizan Hashim's life around as he not only changed career direction, but also decided to change his base to Malaysia instead of overseas.

THE EDGE FINANCIAL DAILY

The VERITAS Kickstarter Day was featured in the 9th December issue of The Edge Financial Daily. This fun-filled outdoor event was held in conjunction with the Kuala Lumpur Car Free Morning by Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL). A total of about 100 VERITASians and their families participated in a cycling tour of KL, mapped out to enjoy the bi-monthly car-free morning. The event which took about two hours to cover, saw many VERITASians returning with the fulfilled looks of a good work-out. Upon return to the starting point at the VERITAS office at Bangunan Getah Asli, the team joined to the steps of Zumba. The merriment of this exercise set-off the mood for more dance steps and fun on the floor.

STAR METRO

The above VERITAS Kickstarter Day was also featured in Star Metro on 22nd December 2016.

VERITAS Sports and Social Club (VSSC) GO-KARTING

The VERITAS Sports and Social Club (VSSC) held a Go-Kart Race Event on 3rd December 2016 at the Shah Alam Circuit, Selangor. This game tested VERITASians' F1 spirit and driving skills in order to overcome obstacles in this exciting race. Congratulations to all the winners!!

VERITAS JOHORE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB (VJSSC) held a BBQ party for VERITASians and their family members at the Tropez Condominium (one of VAJB's projects) from 4.30 pm to 9 pm on 17th December 2016. About 70 adults and kids attended the party. Everyone had a good time, mingling, enjoying the food and using the condo facilities ... especially the 3 swimming pools!

UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT ASIA CONFERENCE 'Education as a catalyst for development'

On 7th December 2016 VERITAS Group President, David Mizan Hashim was part of a conference panel which discussed the topic: **'Master Planning: Recognizing the Economic Benefits Arising from an Education City.'** Other well-known speakers Dr. Paul Marshall, Rahul Mittal and Jayabalan Parasingam were also part of this panel. The discussion focused on exploring the potential and strength of Education City development and offering diverse business opportunities to potential investors.

VERITAS CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PARTY

VERITASians and their families celebrated the festive season with a Christmas and New Year party at the Etiaq Tower. The event featured a decorated Christmas tree, festive food, and a night of socializing and dancing.

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WHO'S THE STAFF OF THE MONTH?

Our month of December is **Account Executive, Wilia** from Pematangsiantar, North Sumatra, Indonesia. She has been in Malaysia for almost 7 years and is still counting. She loves eating but hates to gain weight. Ha ha ha..... **Kate Ker (KK)** gets in-depth info about Wilia (WC).

KK: Why do you only have one name in your name?
W: My name was his own story. For me, I was born on Christmas 1992 during Suharto era, before reformation, when discrimination and violence against people of Chinese descent in Indonesia were very strong. Chinese Indonesians have suffered an identity crisis, unable to be accepted by both native Chinese and native Indonesians. Because of feeling unsecured, my parents name me "Wilia" but with surname, neither Chinese surname nor Indonesian name so that I cannot be able to fit into many types of societies, even countries. And, I love it!

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W: We shall have ice creams more often!
KK: Describe VERITAS in your own few words?
W: Work Hard, Play Hard

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Edward Chew Fook Kong, Mohd Azli Bin Ismail, Azizuddin Shadhan, Durrah Bin Mohamad, Tan Ai Lin, Helmi B. Mohd Nor, Choong Wei Li, Sarah Lim, Zainab A. Rauf, Nurul Syazwani Binti Mastika, Ainazura Zuber, Nur Zafira Binti Aziz, Shakhtee Kumar A/L Subramaniam, Syahril Nizam Kamaruddin, Mohd Fauzee Yusof, Wilia Chia, Mohd Zar Bin Omar, Anis B Azmi and Musriah Binti Amkaromi

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J LAND TOWER

Menara Johor Land is a 30+ storey corporate office tower set in the heart of Johor Bahru City Centre (JBCC), Johor. Located above the Aria Shopping Mall (previously known as Plaza Komtar), Menara Johor Land is designed to be an **iconic gateway** to the CBD, and its floor plates taper towards the observatory deck on the topmost floor to create a maximum aerial view of Singapore and Johor Bahru.

A detailed building energy simulation study showed that it is possible for a building owner in a proposed multi-tenanted high rise office tower to **reduce** up to 73% energy consumption as the operator of the building. This energy reduction reduces the energy running cost for the building owner from a baseline of RM 2 million per year to a running cost of RM 500,000 per year. The building energy intensity of the building (including tenant energy consumption) reduces from 212 kWh/(m².year) down to 82 kWh/(m².year).

A holistic energy efficiency approach was proposed to achieve such high efficiency gain. Approximately 50 passive and active energy efficiency features were tested for this building. Many of the efficiency gains are in the region of 1-2% energy reduction per design improvement. In addition, the peak cooling load of the building was reduced by 34% due to these design improvements, allowing a smaller air-conditioning system to be implemented for this building.

Menara Johor Land is **targeted** to be an award-winning corporate office tower with **Classic and GBI Gold Rated Certification**. The tower is under construction and is expected to be completed by mid-2017.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

VERITAS LEADERSHIP RETREAT

On the 2nd - 3rd of December 2016, the Principals of VERITAS including the Group EXCO and Associates held their 2nd 2016 Leadership Retreat at the Grand Lexis Hotel, Port Dickson. The purpose of the 2-day retreat was to prepare a **rigorous leadership strategy and plan** for 2017 and beyond.

SME 100 AWARDS

We are proud to announce that VERITAS has won the SME 100 Award for 2016!!

The SME100 Awards is an Annual Recognition programme organised by SME Magazine, recognizing the fastest moving businesses of the SME sector. The Awards identify and recognise SMEs based on a basket of quantitative and qualitative criteria with a focus on growth (turnover, profit and market share) and resilience (best practice, sustainability and vision).

CONGRATULATIONS WINNER

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PREMIER ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN FIRM WORLDWIDE

SME 100 Awards

FAST MOVING COMPANIES

David Hashim, Group President of VERITAS received the award on behalf of all VERITASians at a gala dinner which was held at the Palace of Golden Horses on the 9th December 2016.

HERVANTAGE - ARCHITECTS IN MALAYSIA BFM RADIO

VERITAS Principal, Lillian Tay was featured on a BFM interview on 29th November 2016. As a veteran of the architecture profession, Lillian Tay shared her views on how the architectural scene has evolved and why more women are choosing architecture as a viable career choice. Listen to her podcast at: <http://www.bfm.my/resource-centre-herantage-architects-in-malaysia-lillian-tay.html>

VERITAS TAYLOR'S UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVE DESIGN 2016

VERITAS Design Group Head of Corporate Communications **Komathi Ramakrishna** and Design Architect **Dr. Miguel Cardona** were jurors for the final year module of the Community Service Initiative for Design 2016 at Taylor's University.

The event took place at the Centre of Design and Architecture gallery (CODA) at Taylor's Lake side campus on 15th December 2016. Dr. Miguel and Komathi narrowed the 8 shortlisted schemes to the top 3 who presented their work on the presentation day. The winning scheme **'Borak Borak'** received RM3,000 in cash sponsored by VERITAS. For more info on the winning scheme, see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2ZqVd8GZg&feature=youtu.be>

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