

architecture
 planning
 interior design
 landscape design
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 environment

VERITAS

design group

february 2018 enewsletter

Hey Everyone! Gong Xi Fa Cai and we hope you all had a great Valentine Day celebration too!

In this month's E-news, we are delighted to feature VERITAS' approach to sustainability. We are also pleased to feature many exciting events at VERITAS such as our 2018 Annual Staff Dinner, the First Quarterly Meeting of 2018 and many other activities. The shortest month of the year has certainly been exciting and fun-filled here at VERITAS!

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.

VERITAS Sustainability



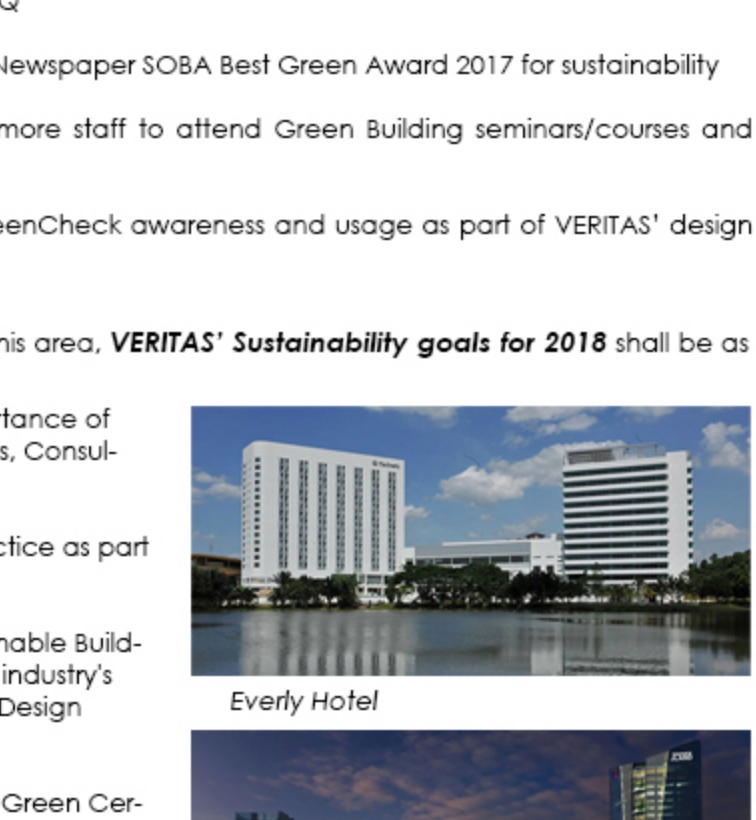
Perbadanan Kemajuan Negeri Selangor (PKNS)

The best design firms in the world are intelligently applying the principles of sustainability into their work and practice, implementing sustainable design solutions to create innovative and beautifully designed buildings and places which do not damage the environment in the process.

VERITAS is one of the world's leading integrated multi-disciplinary design firms, with a network of global offices delivering award-winning architectural designs and related professional services which realize innovative sustainable solutions for the built environment.

Since our inception in 1987, "environment" has been a key element of the 5 VERITAS core values. We continue to emphasize the environment and energy efficiency as driving concerns in the design process to realize VERITAS' core purpose - to elevate the quality of our built environment for the pleasure of humanity.

"(Sustainability) it's an ethic, a basic consideration that we have to have as architects designing buildings."
 - Robert Stern
 Dean of the Yale School of Architecture.



Winning Star Outstanding Business Award (SOBA)

Currently leading the Sustainability Portfolio at VERITAS are our **Principal Zainal Aziz** assisted by **Associate Azlina Ismail**, and among their achievements in sustainability for 2017 include:

1. Increased number of Certified GreenRE Managers and GBI Facilitators in VERITAS by 250%
2. Collaborated with VERITAS Environment to provide "Teh Tarik Talk" sessions to VERITASians on Green Building Technologies
3. Won Cityscape Global Awards for Emerging Markets 2017 - Sustainability (Built) for PKNS HQ
4. Won the Star Newspaper SOBA Best Green Award 2017 for sustainability
5. Encouraged more staff to attend Green Building seminars/courses and trainings
6. Promoted GreenCheck awareness and usage as part of VERITAS' design requirements



Menara Binjai

In order to continually improve ourselves in this area, VERITAS' Sustainability goals for 2018 shall be as follows:

1. To further improve awareness on the importance of Green Buildings for the environment to Clients, Consultants and Staff
2. To instill the importance of sustainable practice as part of new staff induction program
3. To be more involved in International Sustainable Building Competitions such as COTE Top Ten - the industry's best-known awards program for Sustainable Design Excellence
4. To revamp VERITAS website specifically for Green Certified Buildings
5. To provide updates on green topics via V-BUZZ
6. To utilize (BIM) tools and software for building analysis, code checking and green certification standards
7. Continue to carry out more Green Talks to cover more green topics such as MS1525, OTTV calculations, Green Rating Tools, etc. (we may invite external Green Building experts to provide their insights as well)



What's Happening @ VERITAS?



Gua Damai Extreme Park

On 27th January 2018 VERITASians gathered for a VERITAS Sports and Social Club (VSSC) organized event in Gua Damai Extreme Park. The event included educational caving in the Ichibawa Cave, 250m zipline gliding, abseiling and jungle trekking. Around 35 VERITASians joined the activity that lasted the whole day. Good Job VERITASians!



Pre-Chinese New Year Dinner

On 8th February 2018, VERITAS had its Pre-Chinese New Year Dinner at the Oversea Restaurant, Jalan Imbi. All Chinese VERITASians and Clients came together for a night of delicious "non-halal" Chinese cuisine and wine, wishing for a prosperous new year ahead.



VERITAS Annual Dinner

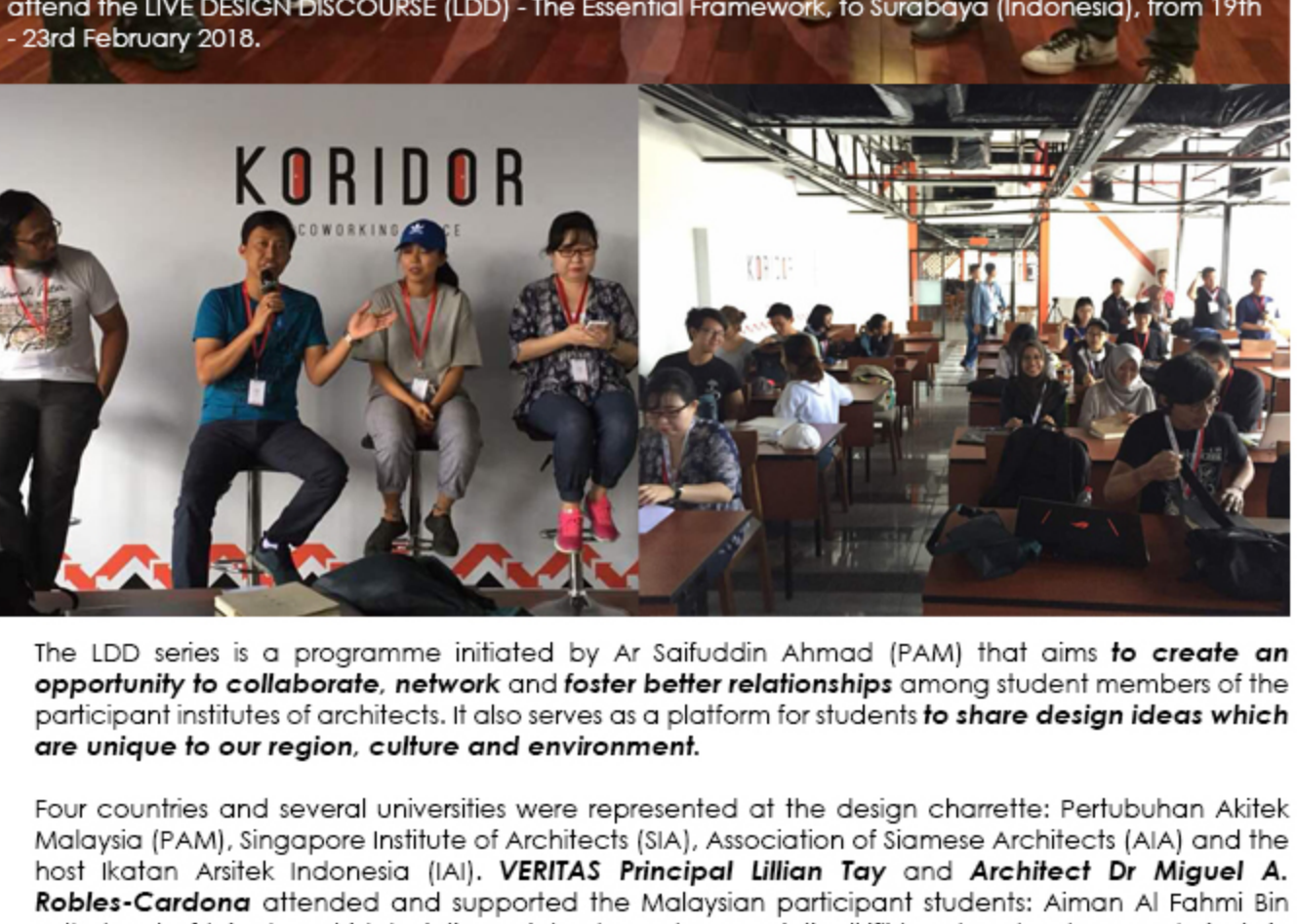
On 10th February 2018, the VERITAS Annual Dinner was held at the Bridge Bar, GTower in Kuala Lumpur. The theme of the evening was "Continental Night". Over 200 staff from the various VERITAS offices in Kuala Lumpur, Penang and Johor Bharu attended this gala event which went on till early in the morning.



VERITASians were entertained by the "cabin crew" at the lounge entrance to bring them on a "world tour". They were then entertained by various performances, competitions and lucky draws. The evening's highlight was the Performance by Tribes I.D.E.A and S according to the continent each tribe belonged. The Tribal Challenge winner was Tribe I.D.E.A for a sketch they explained the complex of famous European countries. The best-dressed winner for ladies went to Noor Misbah who came as Pocahontas and for the gentleman it went to Meer Herme who came as an Australian Aborigine. Congratulations to all the winners!



Live DESIGN Discourse Competition



The Essential Framework, 19th - 23rd February 2018, Surabaya (Indonesia)

The VERITAS Fund for Excellence (VFE) recently sponsored four Malaysian Architecture students to attend the LIVE DESIGN DISCOURSE (LDD) - The Essential Framework, to Surabaya (Indonesia), from 19th - 23rd February 2018.

Four countries and several universities were represented at the design charrette: Pertubuhan Arkitek Malaysia (PAM), Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA), Association of Siamese Architects (AIA) and the host Ikatan Arkitek Indonesia (IAI). VERITAS Principal Lillian Tay and Architect Dr Miguel A. Robles-Cardona attended and supported the Malaysian participant students: Aiman Al Fahmi Bin Abdul Kashaf (UiTM), Syahidah Binti Samair (UM), Nurul Husna Binti Zulkipli (IUM) and Muhammad Aizat Bin Anuar (UTM). Ar Nur Safura Abd Razak tutored the team during the design exercise in Surabaya.

i.d.e.a.s for the world

Where Are We Featured?



New Straits Times

On 1st February 2018, VERITAS' upcoming project the new Indian High Commission was featured in the News Straits Times property section. The story highlighted the design concept for the proposed new building on Jalan Duta which will feature India's traditional heritage and culture. VERITAS President, David Hashim, was also quoted as saying that the design embraces the evolving role of the modern diplomatic mission as a cultural emissary.



Veritas設計獲印度專員署青睞

Veritas設計集團為大馬路印度專員署建築師事務所設計的新建築設計圖，從眾多設計公司的設計圖中脫穎而出，雀屏中選。該專員署的要求：圖為印度駐馬最高官員簽署。正式移交書給Veritas設計集團首席執行官David Hashim。

Sin Chew Daily

On 3rd February 2018, the Chinese newspaper Sin Chew Daily again featured VERITAS being chosen as the designer for the new Indian High Commission building on Jalan Duta. The article provided a brief description of how VERITAS was chosen for its innovative design approach, based on the incorporation of contemporary design in balance with technical and financial suitability.



M101 SKYWHEEL TO MAKE A LANDMARK STATEMENT IN KL



Star Metro

On 7th February 2018, VERITAS Project M101 Sky wheel was featured in the Star Property section. The article explained that the new project will be a landmark statement in Kuala Lumpur. This award-winning freehold development offers a unique destination retail environment and is poised to be an international landmark and a major tourist attraction.



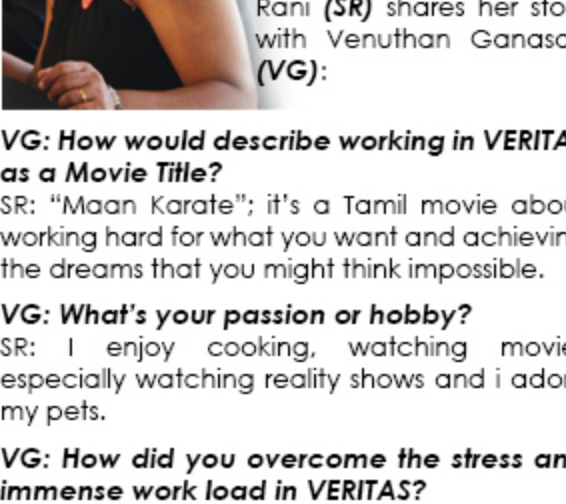
VERITAS Principal, Lillian Tay Chill and Chat Session at World Urban Forum (WUF) PAM Booth

On 9th February 2018, VERITAS Design Group Principal, Lillian Tay gave a talk at the World Urban Forum (WUF9). The talk was held at the Persatuan Arkitek Malaysia (PAM) booth from 4pm to 6pm. Lillian shared her experiences as an Architect, and the challenges and opportunities related to the practice of architecture for projects in the public realm.



VERITAS 2018 First Staff Quarterly Meeting

On 10th February, VERITAS held its first staff quarterly gathering for the year at the Menara Lembaga Getah Asli Auditorium. Group President David Mizan Hashim gave a short but rousing introductory speech on the theme of VERITASians themselves being the most valuable assets of the company. Following this introduction, guest speaker Alistair King presented useful tips on professional English speaking.



So, WHO IS THE STAFF OF THE MONTH?

Our staff of the month is Administration Support Sellorani Jestapan or commonly known as just "Rani" among all VERITASians. 2018 marks her 20th year serving VERITAS and we are so proud and thankful for her support and dedication in the firm. Rani (SR) shares her story with Venuthan Ganasan (VG):

VG: How would describe working in VERITAS as a Movie Title?
 SR: "Maan Karate"; it's a Tamil movie about working hard for what you want and achieving the dreams that you might think impossible.

VG: What's your passion or hobby?
 SR: I enjoy cooking, watching movies especially watching reality shows and i adore my pets.

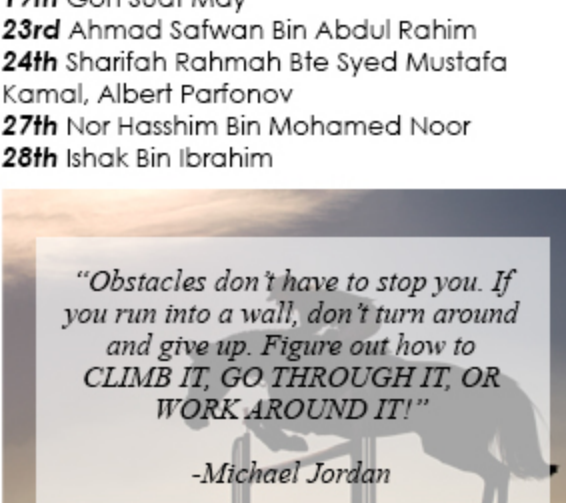
VG: How did you overcome the stress and immense work load in VERITAS?
 SR: If necessary I walk away from my workstation and have a brief conversation with my colleagues and I always try to manage my workload according to priority.

VG: What is the best message you have with VERITAS?
 SR: In this 20 years I have met many characters, some are still around and many have left for better advancement in their careers. VERITAS will always be a biggest part of my life.

VG: If you were given a chance to change anything in VERITAS, what would that be?
 SR: We should design a corporate shirt for everyone to wear on Mondays or Fridays.

VG: Working for 20 years in VERITAS what will be the message you would like to give to all VERITASians?
 SR: I believe life is a journey and it's full of surprises and hardships. However, you will enjoy everything that life has to offer if you are in a place where your heart belongs. We just have to be honest and hardworking.

SO, WHO are the NEWCOMERS at VERITAS?



WHO'S celebrating their BIRTHDAY - February

1st Roseinda Binti Razak, Au Ming Jun
 2nd Muhammad Siddiq Bin Othman, Mohd Zamri Abd Lateh, Mohd Rafiuddin Bin Jasman
 8th Mohd Izzat Bin Saidi
 10th Mohd Fairis B. Jamahari
 11th Rahimi Bin Ramli
 13th Muhammad Azraei Bin Ramli
 14th Felicio Leong Bee Shim
 15th Misamuddin Muda Bin Mohamed Ibrahim
 19th Goh Suat May
 23rd Ahmad Safwan Bin Syed Mustafa
 24th Sharifah Rahmah Bte Abdul Rahmat Kamal, Albert Parfonov
 27th Nor Hashim Bin Mohamed Noor
 28th Ishak Bin Ibrahim



"Obstacles don't turn you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to CLIMB IT, GO THROUGH IT, OR WORK AROUND IT!"
 -Michael Jordan