

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.



In this month's e-news, we are delighted to feature an in-depth expose of one of our newly completed projects: the Everly Hotel in Putrajaya. The hospitality industry is a broad category of fields within the service industry that includes lodging, restaurants, event planning, theme parks, transportation and cruise lines. A business hotel like the Everly is an establishment that provides lodging on a short-term basis for mostly regular business travellers, and VERITAS is committed to continually improving the standard of expertise in this area.

Also we would like to share with you other interesting "happenings" at VERITAS.

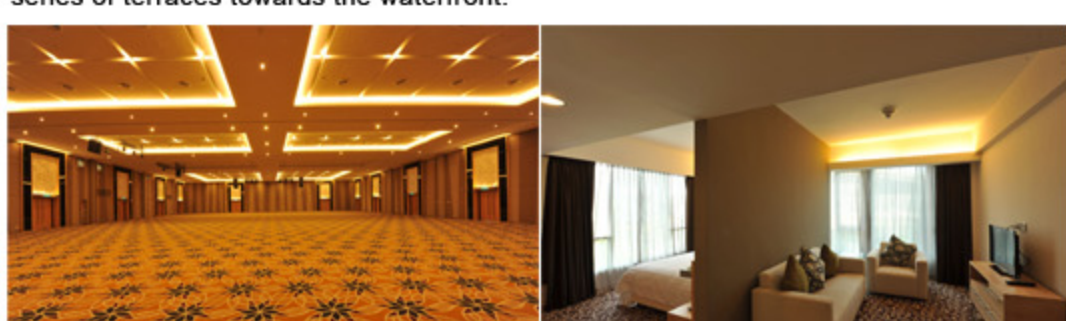
● **WHAT's NEW in VERITAS?**
The Everly Hotel, Putrajaya



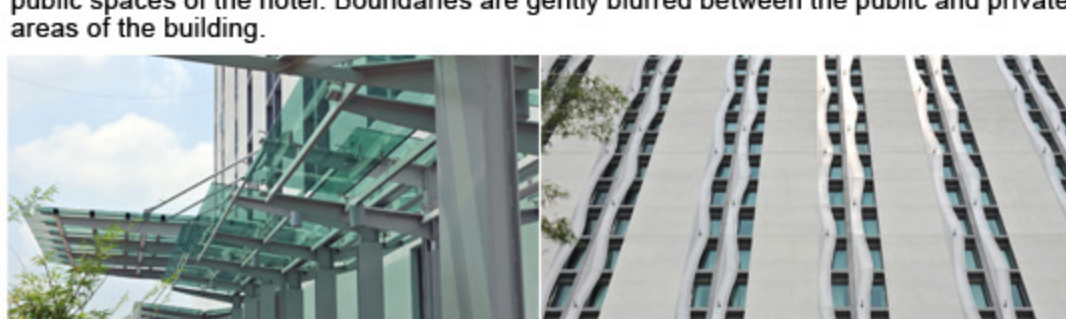
The site for the hotel is a crescent-shaped lot confronting the sweeping panoramic vista of the Putrajaya Wetlands' Waterfront. The hotel is flanked inland by commercial and residential districts, sharing waterfront views of government offices across the water with the Alamanda Shopping Complex. Based on the area's demographic, the Everly is positioned as a 3-star business hotel targeting the business community of Putrajaya and some leisure visitors.



The building hugs the curvilinear profile of the waterfront, increasing water frontage and allowing every room to have dramatic views of the water. Ceiling heights of the rooms are carefully controlled in order to maximize the number of rooms within the prevailing height restriction. As a result of this, the massing is long and low, and steps down in a series of terraces towards the waterfront.



Poolside facilities and public spaces are arrayed on a cascade of descending crescent terraces orientated towards the panorama, with generous pedestrian links connecting the hotel to the public realm of the wetlands boulevard which seamlessly merges into public spaces of the hotel. Boundaries are gently blurred between the public and private areas of the building.



The hotel negotiates the transition between the denser urban landscape of the surrounding precinct buildings and the open vista of the waterfront. This is reflected in the sequence of spaces, the casual pedestrian experience whilst walking through the buildings and the differentiation between the detailing of the waterfront and inland facades.

Louvers and other sun-shading devices are employed on these facade to minimized solar heat gain. Locally sourced materials and Malaysian influences are constantly used throughout the interiors of the building.

● **is there anything HAPPENING?**



Selangor Times - A Touch of 'Keris' for Klang Bridge

One of our recently secured projects, the "3rd Klang Bridge" was featured on the front page of the Selangor Times newspaper.

Inspired by Bugis culture, the third Klang bridge has incorporated elements of "keris" (traditional dagger) and "pinis" (traditional boat) in its design. The proposal for the bridge by VERITAS was picked by the Selangor state government from many entries in an open design competition. The project is currently under conceptual design stage and is expected to complete by end of 2016.



University Of Reading Malaysia: Ground Breaking Celebratory Lunch



A Grand Launch ceremony of University of Reading Malaysia was held at the Thistle Hotel, Johor Bahru on 27 February 2013. This was to mark the ground breaking of their first overseas campus. The event was hosted by Sir David Bell KCB Vice-Chancellor of University of Reading along with Professor Tony Downes, the Provost and Chief Executive of University of Reading Malaysia. The event was attended by VERITAS Group President David Hashim and principal Shah Jaafar.

DATUM ECONOMIC FORUM 2013
"Building Urban Communities"

On the 1st of March, VERITAS Design Group President David Hashim gave a talk at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre on the topic "Building Urban Communities" at the Datum Economic Forum, the inaugural and annual conference organized by PKNS' subsidiary Datumcorp International (DCI) and supported by the Leaders International magazine, American Leadership Development Association (ALDA) and the Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS).



MALAYSIAN ANNUAL REAL ESTATE CONVENTION - MAREC 2013
Changing Trends - Managing Future Challenges



On the 8th of March 2013, VERITAS Design Group President David Hashim gave a talk at the Malaysian Annual Real Estate Convention (MAREC) 13 Conference held at the Sime Darby Convention Centre Kuala Lumpur.

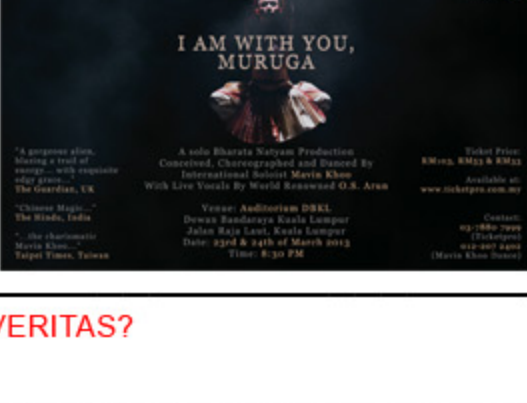


The title of David's speech was "Metropolis: The Future Asian City".

David focused his presentation on the latest happenings in the Asean real estate environment. The audience comprised leading players from the various real estate related industries.

MAVIN KHOO DANCE PERFORMANCE

A large group of VERITASians were treated to an 80-minute performance by solo Bharata Natyam choreographer and dancer Mavin Khoo entitled "I Am With You, Muruga" with live vocals by world renowned Indian classical musician O.S. Arun. The performance was held at the Auditorium DBKL on the 23rd March 2013. It was truly exciting and an unusual show for most of us.



● **so WHO are the NEWCOMERS at VERITAS?**

Welcome on board new VERITASians:
Architect Tammy Lee Suk Cheng and Nurliyana Bt. Ahmad Hairi; Assistant Architects Liyana Che Ismail and Mohamad Hafiz Bt. Mohd Shah; Draftperson Maisarah Binti Yusof, Human Resource Executive Sarah Bt Kamal Hamidon and Driver Zaharani Bin Yunus for VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur. Design Architect, Sukri Md Jali and Assistant Architect, Yvonne Chew Yun Yi for VERITAS Architects Johor



● **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

For March 2013, we would like to wish a warm Happy Birthday to:-
Thavir Pichai, Ricky Poo Sah Yoong, Shahrel Bin Salihin, Teh Peng Fei, Shafino Shamsuri, Nik Ahmad Nozlan Nik Mohd Yusof, Abirami Anandarajah, Nor Hisham Bin Muhamad, Nasyitah Binti Ahmad Zaini, Juan Jesus Munoz Aguayo, Shah Rizal Bin Abu Hasan, Mohd Syukri Bin Yusof, Ben Lee Cheik Kai, Lim Beng Choo Sukri Md Jali, Yvonne Chew & Mustaqim Mohamed

● **Jokes: Phone Line**

A young businessman had just started his own firm. He had just rented a beautiful office and had it furnished with antiques.

He saw a man come into the outer office. Wishing to appear the hot shot, the businessman picked up the phone and started to pretend he had a big deal working. He threw huge figures around and made giant commitments.

Finally he hung up and asked the visitor, "Can I help you?"

"Yeah, I've come to activate your phone lines."



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.

● **WHAT's NEW ELSeWhere?**



● **Inspiring Hotels Architecture – 24 Buildings**

Hotel architecture tends to look like office building architecture in some cases, and not that interesting office architecture, but the dull type.



Fortunately, there are also cases of fortunate and well thought architectural plans for hotels, showcased in this article through a few examples. A small number of these are just projects or in construction, but the rest are just architectural marvels.

● **WHERE are we FEATURED?**



Fourth Asia Design Forum
Thought provoking sequential dialogue on design.

VERITAS is proud to be featured in the Fourth Asia Design Forum, a thought-provoking sequential dialogue on design. The forum is organized in partnership with members and associates of the Malaysian Interior Industry Partners Association (MIIP). It got underway with the introduction of participations in a sequential dialogue which was played-out in a "Roulette" format. At the conclusion of each round, Lillian Tay shared her views/critique on the presentations and summarised them for the audience to consume and comment.

● **Building & Investment Magazine - Fourth Asia Design Forum**

One of our Principals Lillian Tay was featured in the Fourth Asia Design Forum article of the Building & Investment Magazine in their January/February Issue. The forum is organized in partnership with members and associates of the Malaysian Interior Industry Partners Association (MIIP). It got underway with the introduction of participations in a sequential dialogue which was played-out in a "Roulette" format. At the conclusion of each round, Lillian Tay shared her views/critique on the presentations and summarised them for the audience to consume and comment.

● **so WHO's the STAFF OF THE MONTH?**

Redzuan has been with VERITAS for over 2 years now. We decided to get to know him a little better since he is VERITASIAN of the month for March '13! He has been working with VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur as a Project Manager on some very exciting projects.



Komathi Ramakrishna (KR) gets in-depth with Mohd Redzuan (MR)

KR: What made you decide to take up an architectural course?
MR: I developed an interest in design when I was working as a bank clerk and wanted to further my studies at that time. I still remember how my sister persuaded me to pick architecture as my career.

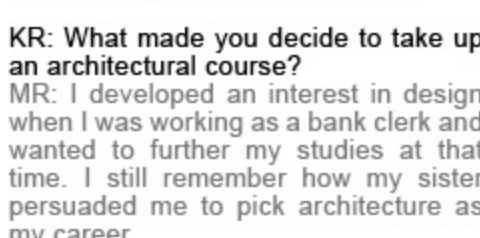
KR: Tell me a little about the projects that you are working on right now.
MR: Currently I'm in the midst of handing-over the Everly Hotel Putrajaya for Putrajaya Holdings Berhad. I am also working on a Condominium at Ampang Hilir, Glenmarie Gardens for DRB HiCom, Luxuria Apartment in Pune and the Wave Residences in New Delhi, India.

KR: What was your proudest moment working in VERITAS?
MR: I feel most satisfied when the project is being completed. I guess those are my proudest moments. I am actually feeling it right now as the Everly Hotel project will be soon handed over.

KR: How satisfied are you with our 2012 bonus?
MR: Man you break my heart.....hmmmmmmmmmm thank you!!!\$\$\$\$shopping time!!

KR: What are your interests/hobbies?
MR: Well as most of you know, I'm an avid soccer fan and one time player. Now I only play for 5 min before I tire-out. Like most of us, I'm passionate about our Malaysian football scene.

KR: Describe VERITAS in 10 words?
MR: Tag in - white board - ignore smoking memo - huddle - ice cream bell - sleepless - tag out!!

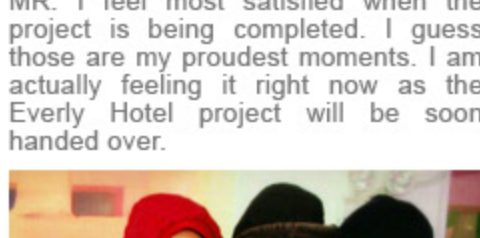


KR: What is your favourite building and why?
MR: I don't really have any favourite building, can we skip this question please?

KR: Can you describe a little about Redzuan?
SB: His performance is excellent and he is very meticulous with his work as well. But at times he can be very stubborn.... but I mean that in a nice way!!

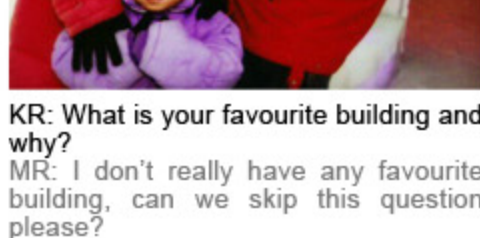
● **BUNDLES OF JOY**

Congratulations to various members of the VERITAS JB team who have been unusually "productive" lately:



Congratulations to our VERITAS Johor staff Iza Fazlina binti Hamzah and her husband Muhammad Jazmi bin Supangat on the arrival of their adorable baby boy, Muhammad Izz Zihayr born on 11th March 2013. Best wishes to the proud parents.

● **QUOTE OF THE MONTH**



"The significance of a man is not in what he attains, but rather what he longs to attain."
~ Khalil Gibran