

architecture
planning
interior design
landscape design
quantity surveying & project management
engineering

GREETINGS, HAPPY EARTH HOUR and SALAM SATU VERITAS to all our readers!!

In this month's e-news, we are delighted to feature the work of one of our international offices: VERITAS Architects Vietnam. All of us here at VERITAS are committed to continually improving and expanding our presence around the world to serve our increasingly global Clientele, and our 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 proud to feature a unique characteristic of VERITAS; our diverse international staff!! Employing architects and designers from around the world is a part of our strategy to have a more international identity, which connects VERITAS to other people and places across the globe. This is in-line with our corporate theme "IDEAS for the World".

We are also pleased to provide an update on recent activities of our 1st Quarterly Meeting for 2016, Annual Staff Dinner and other interesting "happenings" at VERITAS. 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.

VERITAS ARCHITECTS VIETNAM

VERITAS Architects Vietnam Limited constitutes one of the earliest additions to the growing VERITAS international presence with a representative office in Ho Chi Minh City serving projects throughout the Indo-China region. For the past 6 years VERITAS Architects Vietnam Limited has been actively serving the Vietnam market with a track record of prestigious projects around the country, including master plans, office towers, schools and apartments. VERITAS Architects Vietnam Limited is led by Country Manager Kristian Kelner.



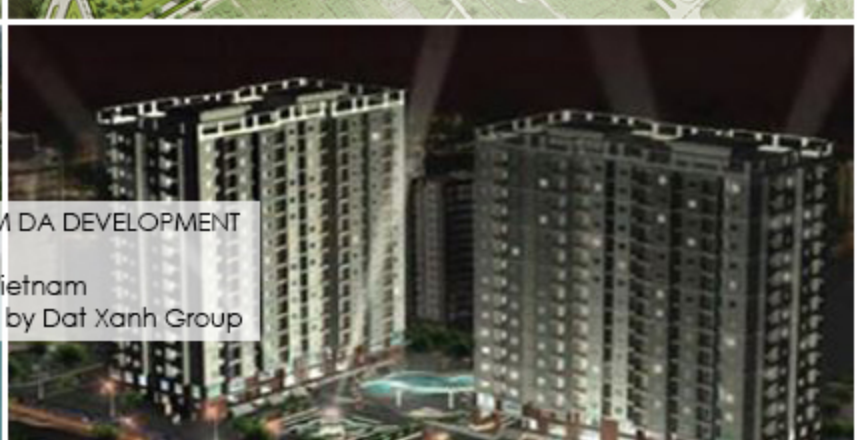
Long Tan Masterplan
Status: In progress 2015



Phu Quoc Masterplan
Client: VIETRACIMEX
Status: In progress 2015



ZEN RIVERSIDE - TAM DA DEVELOPMENT
52.300 m2 GFA
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
master plan image by Dat Xanh Group



VERITAS STAFF DIVERSITY

Diversity is an integral part of who we are, how we operate and how we see the future. As a global business, our ability to understand, embrace and operate in a multicultural world, both in the marketplace and in the workplace is critical to our sustainability. Our "diversity in the workplace" strategy includes programs to attract, retain, and develop diverse talent and provide support systems for groups from diverse geographical backgrounds.

VERITAS has always been proud to have staff from around the world. This is part of our "international" corporate culture, manifested in our global presence and current activity in 10 countries. Our goal is to have 10% foreign staff in all VERITAS group companies, something which has already been achieved in our Kuala Lumpur office. Here is a short interview with some of our international employees:

Six VERITAS international staff share their work experiences in VERITAS with Komathi Ramakrishna

- Haroon Sarfraz Qureshi, Senior Draftsperson from Pakistan (HSQ)
- Manisha Sharma Project Architect from Himachal Pradesh, India (MS)
- Margherita Mosanghini, Design Architect from Italy (MM)
- Michael Tan, Architect from Medan, Indonesia (MT)
- Miguel Angel Robles, Design Architect from Spain (MAR)
- Leon Kikoko, Intern from Kenya (VJ)

What made you want to join VERITAS?

MT: My lecturer introduced VERITAS to me after my final year at Limkokwing University; and here I am!

MS: My husband Kuber was already working with VERITAS on the MRT project and he spoke well about the firm and encouraged me to join. Not because of any other reason than it's the best!

LK: This is the only company that accepted me... ha ha ha! But the truth is that it was because of my mum; she had heard a lot of great remarks about VERITAS and she told me to try it out!!

What are your expectations from VERITAS?

MS: VERITAS is a good place to work: VERITASians are very friendly people, especially toward newcomers. One of my expectations from VERITAS is to improve my communication skills, especially English.

MM: I must say that there is a good relationship between the staff and the Principals. At VERITAS, the staff are kind and treat you like one of their family members. My hope is to see many more female architects being given opportunities to handle big projects. And I do see that here!! I love to work at VERITAS because I am given this opportunity.

What are the changes you have seen in VERITAS throughout the months/years you have been here?

HSQ: REVIT drafting software was introduced and it is expanding very well among the drafting team.

MAR: I am still new, just 5 months here and I am still adapting to the VERITAS Culture. I come from a very serious working background; the environment of my previous company was totally different compared to VERITAS. I see VERITAS is more relaxed and we have fun all the time!

VERITAS design group

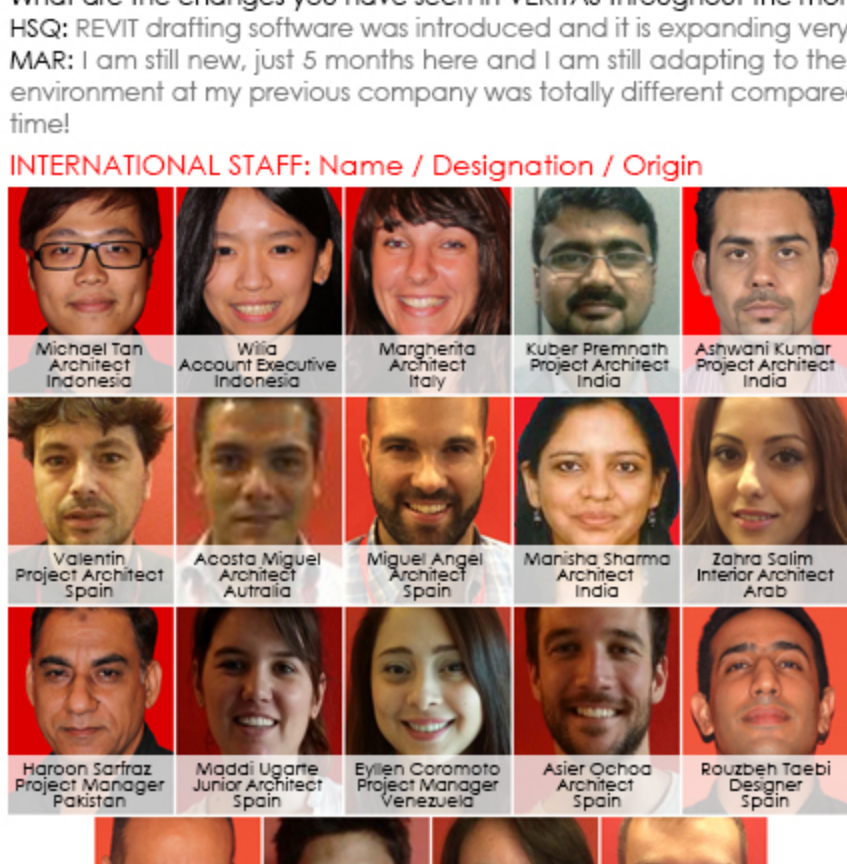
What is it like to work in Malaysia compared to your own country?

MT: Greater exposure was what I was looking for, but of course it is more lucrative to work in Malaysian compared to Indonesia.

HSQ: There have been many sacrifices as my family is still in Pakistan. But there are also lots of things that I gain from working in Malaysia. Constantly there are new developments, new applications of technology, and most important of all: the opportunity of working with people from around the world.

MS: Working here in Malaysia is quite good for me even though I am far away from home. I do miss India, but being here in Malaysia is a great learning opportunity.

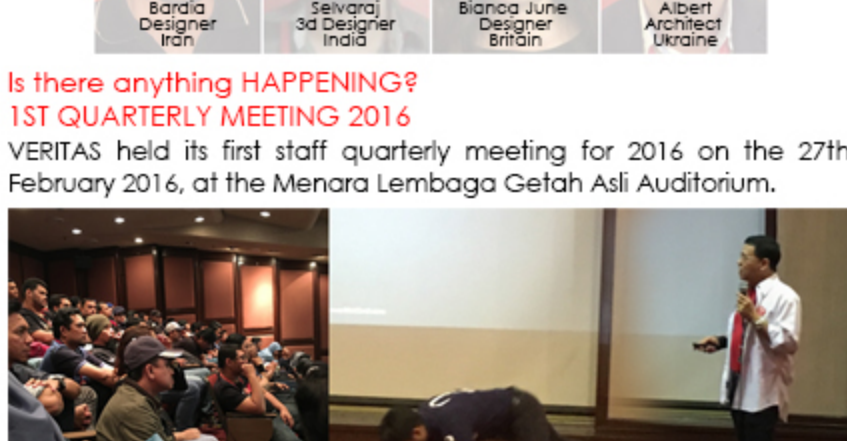
INTERNATIONAL STAFF: Name / Designation / Origin



Is there anything HAPPENING?

1ST QUARTERLY MEETING 2016

VERITAS held its first staff quarterly meeting for 2016 on the 27th February 2016, at the Menara Lembaga Getah Asli Auditorium.



Our Group President David Mizan Hashim gave a short but rousing introductory speech encouraging all VERITASians to adopt a positive attitude for 2016. Following this introduction, guest speaker and cross-fit guru Coach Dann presented useful tips on the Biggest Loser & MetconX fitness programmes. He spoke intensively on how to eat right and exercise for good health and to boost confidence!

A birthday bash for VERITASians was held during lunch followed by the cutting of a huge cake.

ANNUAL DINNER

The VERITAS Annual Dinner was held on 27th February at the Sheraton Hotel in Kuala Lumpur. The theme of the evening was "Galactic Night". Over 200 staff from the various VERITAS offices in Kuala Lumpur, Penang and Johor Bharu attended this gala event which went on till the early morning.



Staff were entertained by various performances, games and lucky draws. The best-dressed prize for ladies went to Komathi Ramakrishna, who dressed up as Neytiri, the Na'vi princess from the story Avatar and for the gentleman it went to Helmi Mohd Nor who wore a Darth Maul costume from the character in Star Wars. Congratulations to all the winners!

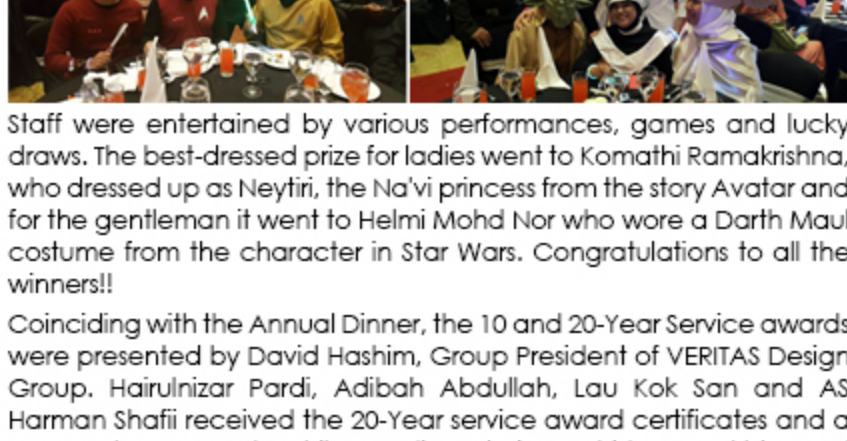
Coinciding with the Annual Dinner, the 10 and 20-Year Service awards were presented by David Hashim, Group President of VERITAS Design Group. Hairulnizar Pardi, Adibah Abdullah, Lau Kok San and AS Harman Shafiq received the 20-Year service award certificates and a RM10K cheque each, while Caroline Chui, Noorisham Mokhtar and Che Amaluddin Che Harun received the 10-Year service award certificate and RM5K cheque each. Congratulations to these long-serving and loyal VERITASians!!

ASIAN STRATEGY & LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (ASLI) CONFERENCE



On 26th February 2016, VERITAS Group President David Hashim gave a talk at the Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI) Conference at the Sunway Hotel in Petaling Jaya. David shared his expertise and opinions on the expansion and verticalization of the urban fabric in Greater Kuala Lumpur.

so WHO are the NEWCOMERS at VERITAS?



Welcome on board new VERITASians:
We hope they will have a long and rewarding career at VERITAS.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Zakiyah Binti Subadar, Md Noor Faizal Hassan, Mohd Azrul B Mohamed Nasir, Mohd Faizal B Abdul Rahman, Adam Faiz B Azizudin, Abirami A/P Anandarajah, Miguel Angel Robles Cardona, Sam Ying Jie, Syed Azmi Bin Syed Mustafa, Lian Kian Lek, Zahra Salim Shirazi (Emtsai), Chong Yeh She, Issey, Poo Sah Yoong, Aditijaya Azmi, Asier Ochoa, Eylen Calderon, Nurmaryana Irdian Zaffri, Mohamad Zahamiz Othman, Sukri Md Jali, Nuruleyana Ramli, Boey Yohng Yan, Amirah Bee Abdul Aziz And Mohd Hasbullah Yunus @ Hassan.

WHERE ARE WE FEATURED?

THE EDGE FINANCIAL DAILY NEWSPAPER



The VERITAS Annual Dinner held recently was featured in the Home section of The Edge Financial Daily Newspaper on Tuesday March 1st.

MALAYSIA SME MAGAZINE



The VERITAS Annual Dinner was also featured in the Malaysia SME Magazine of March 5th - 18th issue.

THE STAR BIZ - CHANGING TACTICS



VERITAS' project "Oxley Towers" was featured in a 2-full page Business section of the Star Newspaper on 21st March 2016. This Singapore-listed property developer Oxley Holdings Ltd (Oxley) CEO Dato' Othman Omar and VERITAS Group President David Hashim elaborated on this signature project which is set to transform KL CBD's skyline into a cityscape befitting the future. Adjacent to the world-renowned Petronas Twin Towers and KLCC along Jalan Ampang these three new iconic towers will gracefully soar high into the sky and house some of the best names in the world for retail, services and hospitality.

This freehold 3.11-acre development will be a high-rise mixed development comprising of 3 towers ranging from 28 to 79 storeys. The world's renowned luxury brand Jumeirah Group will bring their brand here in the form of Jumeirah Kuala Lumpur Hotel and Jumeirah Living Kuala Lumpur Residences, to be housed within 1 of the 3 towers. The Oxley Towers is expected to be under construction by the middle of 2016.

FOCUS MALAYSIA MAGAZINE - SCALING NEW HEIGHTS



VERITAS Principal Lillian Tay was featured in the March issue of Focus Malaysia. It featured on VERITAS' expertise in handling skyscrapers and very tall structures. The article identified VERITAS as one of the top firms capable of handling "Super-Tall" buildings.

REHDA YOUTH GREEN TOUR



A successful building tour initiated by the Real Estate and Housing Developer's Association (REHDA) Youth division and hosted by the VERITAS Design Group and Ranhill Bersekutu Sdn Bhd was held on 9th March 2016 to Menara Binjai, KLCC attended by 80 participants.

VERITAS Principal Ar. Lillian Tay, Rnhill Bersekutu Engineer Ir. Arvind V. Menon and Mr. David Hong of Rho Joo Saik Sdn Bhd shared their experiences and challenges to complete Menara Binjai.

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 a BCA Green Building Certification and Green Mark Gold certified by BCA Singapore. It also received the Cityscape Dubai Best Sustainable Development Award (Built) in 2012.

BUNDLE OF JOY



Congratulations to VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur Mohd Hafiz Afzan and his wife Raihan Bt Abu Kassim on the arrival of their adorable baby boy Mohd Aimar B Mohd Hafiz Afzan born on 22nd March 2016.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going."

~Jim Rohn~