

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.

• May 2012

Greetings to all our readers!

In this month's e-news, we will feature our most recently established international office: VERITAS Architects India is currently working on several exciting projects throughout the country to serve the growing demands of our Indian Clients.

Projects in India have always been an important part of the VERITAS portfolio of work. We are committed to continually improving and expanding our presence on the sub-continent, and our newly formed unit is testament to this objective. We foresee great opportunities to expand our services to the fast growing market in India.

We are also pleased to provide an update on recent activities of the Annual Staff Retreat and other interesting "happenings" at VERITAS.

WHAT'S NEW in VERITAS?

• ABOUT VERITAS ARCHITECTS INDIA

In early 2012, VERITAS Design Group expanded with the formation of VERITAS Architects India (VAI). This initiative is another step in our aspiration to eventually evolve into a total design solutions provider throughout Asia and beyond. Veritas India represents the latest addition to the expanding international presence of the Veritas Design Group; with a representative office in Mumbai serving Clients throughout the nation.

Led by its Country Manager, Iskandar Razak, the unit will lead all new architecture, interior, planning and landscape projects on the Indian sub-continent.

For the past 5 years Veritas has been actively providing professional design services to its Indian Clients and it now has a track record of prestigious projects around the country including luxurious residential towers, boutique hotels and gated communities.

Veritas' Clients in India range from large multi-national entities to emerging young real-estate development companies. With a dedicated service-centric team, Veritas India looks to expand its presence across the nation in the coming years.

This issue of e-news will feature a few of our most note-worthy ones; The Luxuria towers in Pune, a Residential Tower in Mumbai and the Tropicana Residences in Chennai are projects currently underway for Veritas. Also featured here is the Department for International Development (DFID) for the British Government.

• LUXURIA TOWERS



SUNILMANTRIGROUP
REAL ESTATE | HOSPITALITY | FINANCIAL SERVICES

Location: Pune, India
Status: Schematic Design

The Luxuria project is located in Pune along the Mumbai-Pune Bypass road, not far from the Pune IT Park. Commanding views of the scenic Pune Valley, the proposal is for an S-shaped 23-storey residential tower comprising 2 Bedroom, 3 Bedroom and 4 Bedroom Duplex Units. The developer of this exclusive project is the Sunil Mantri Group of Mumbai.



A leisure floor contains a lap pool, children's swimming pool, gym and spa facilities as well as a café and clubhouse for residents. Large 'refuge floors' punctuate the building blocks allowing light and ventilation into the large open wells on the inside of the residential blocks.

• RESIDENTIAL TOWER



Lifescapes

Location: Mumbai, India
Status: Under Construction 2012

In 2010, Rohan Lifescapes engaged VERITAS Architects to design an apartment tower for about 50 luxurious units in South Mumbai. As the site was so prominently located a block from Marine Drive, the views out to the Indian Ocean were a pivotal criteria for the layout of the individual units.



The design intent was to create a landmark at the northern point of Marine drive.

The idea was thus conceived for a tall point tower with the allowable FAR spread over 70-storeys with individual units on each floor commanding uncompromised views over the Indian Ocean.



As each unit would alternate in typical plan (one unit the exact mirror of the one above and below it), a natural alternating profile of extruded balconies was created in the façade.

• TROPICANA RESIDENCES



TROPICANA RESIDENCES

Location: Chennai, India
Status: Under Construction 2012

RFPL

The Tropicana Residences in Chennai is a unique and exclusive residential address inspired by the elements of nature and the quiet tranquility of its surrounding landscape. The Tropicana Residences will represent the new benchmark in luxury gated communities in South India.



Vastu Veda, a traditional Hindu system of design based on directional alignments is used as a guide for this design. Fifteen luxurious bungalows are intricately woven into a fabric of pedestrian walkways, lush vegetation, water features, street furniture and parks to achieve an environment of perfect harmony.



The Tropicana Residences for Rajeswari Foundation Pte Ltd is currently under construction and is expected to be completed by mid of 2013.

• DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Location: New Delhi, India
Status: Proposed in 2009

The new 3-storey office building for the Department for International Development is to be located at the British High Commission in the diplomatic quarter of Chanakyapuri, New Delhi. The linear layout of the building allows a larger open forecourt for better orientation and views towards the building when approached from the entrance.



The building is designed in a modern language to high security specifications while also relating in scale and texture to the older historical buildings on the diplomatic compound. The project was proposed in 2009, and is currently on hold.

iDeAS

Do you like advertisements as a part of our life? Advertising is a way to communicate, but majorly the persuasion of audience turns into something annoying. And that's when really creative ideas appear to change the whole concept of anticipation into interest. These ones are really grabby and effective, especially if they are under your feet literally.



1. Made by ACA-M (Associacao de Cidadãos Auto-Mobilizados), Portugal. The crosswalk is painted with names of pedestrians hit by cars. 'A quarter of the road traffic victims were not inside a car. Respect the traffic signals. Respect life.'

• BIRTHDAY GREETING

For May 2012, we would like to wish a Happy Birthday to:-

Wong Yuet Lin, David Mizan Hashim, Mohamad Asri Bin Osman, Azril Amir Bin Jaafar, Zafrul Bin Shahriman, Zaimi Bin Kamdan, Asrurulakmar Bin Mohd Yusof, Samsuriati Binti Baharudin, Muhamad Ajib Bin Embok Upak, Noor Azlina Binti Mohd Ismail, Isnawati Binti Idris, Calayde Aenis Davey, Mohd Allif Bin Abdullah, Akmyr Ahmad Syaher Bin Abdul Kadir, Regina Thangam, Shazatul Azrina Binti Abd Aziz, Affarizah Binti Ariffin, Mazdenan Bin Rawi, Tham Kong Meng and Liza Hartini Bt. Abdullah

BUNDLE OF JOY



Congratulations to our staff Teo Gaik Choo (Ai Ling) and her husband Lee Siew Poh on the arrival of their adorable baby girl born on the 30th April 2012.

Congratulations on their new bundle of joy!!!

HOME

CONTACT



WHERE are we FEATURED?



• PROTON PREVE

Our Menara Prestige project at Jalan P Ramlee was featured in Proton latest commercial; Proton Prevé. Proton Prevé is the first to sport PROTON's new signature façade.

HAPPENINGS



• BCI-ASIA TOP 10 ARCHITECTS 2011 AWARDS

Date: 22nd May 2012
Venue: Hilton Sentral Hotel Kuala Lumpur

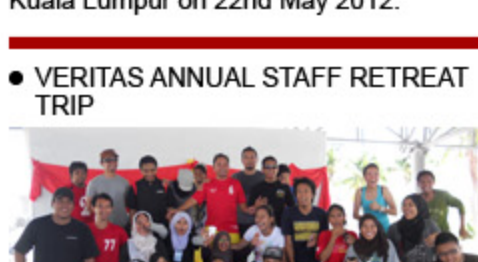
VERITAS makes it to the top ten again!

We are proud to announce that VERITAS Design Group was chosen again to be among the top ten architects in South East Asia, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. This further confirms our current status in the design industry and we are looking forward to greater success in the coming years.

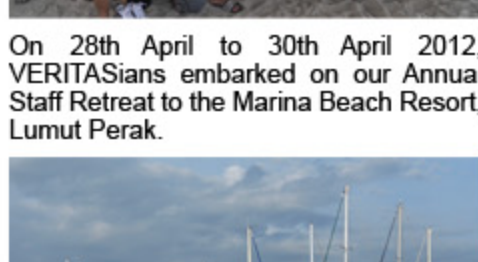
BCI Asia Top 10 Awards have become an institution for architectural communities of Southeast Asia, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Being a BCI Asia Top 10 laureate is a coveted prize among architectural firms, symbolizing the extent of their contribution to the built environment.

This award was presented to our CEO/Principal David Hashim at a dinner function held at Hilton Sentral Hotel, Kuala Lumpur on 22nd May 2012.

• VERITAS ANNUAL STAFF RETREAT TRIP

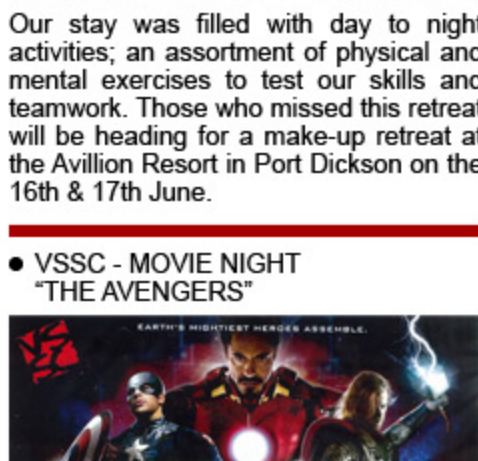


On 28th April to 30th April 2012, VERITASians embarked on our Annual Staff Retreat to the Marina Beach Resort, Lumut Perak.



Our stay was filled with day to night activities; an assortment of physical and mental exercises to test our skills and teamwork. Those who missed this retreat will be heading for a make-up retreat at the Avillion Resort in Port Dickson on the 16th & 17th June.

• VSSC - MOVIE NIGHT "THE AVENGERS"



"And there came a day, a day unlike any other... when Earth's mightiest heroes found themselves united against a common threat... to fight the foes no single superhero could withstand... on that day, The Avengers were born."

The VERITAS Sports Club organized this well-attended staff event at the long anticipated movie of the year, "The Avengers". VERITAS employees and their family members were treated to a two and a half hour private movie experience at TGV KLCC Theater on 18 May 2012.

so WHO's the STAFF OF THE MONTH?



Its Iskandar Razak!! or more commonly known as "Isk" among staff and friends. He was born on 8th February 1979, and has been a part of the Veritas dream team since February 2009 as a project architect.

VERITAS is also pleased to announce the promotion of Iskandar as country manager for our India operations. This promotion is in recognition of his outstanding contributions and accomplishments.

Komathi Ramakrishna (KR) gets in-depth info about Iskandar Razak (IR)

KR: You have been based in India for about 4 months, did you immediately blend-in or did it take sometime?

IR: I am still adjusting to the climate and people. Before this, I had already been working on projects in Mumbai so there was no culture shock.

KR: What do you like most about Mumbai? Work / people / clients / bollywood actress / models / food?

IR: The city has a busy vibe like there is contagion. It always feels like there are lots of things happening and it has the potential to go along way still. The people are interesting and some tremendously ambitious. Lots of pretty girls too....

KR: Where did you graduate from and in what year?

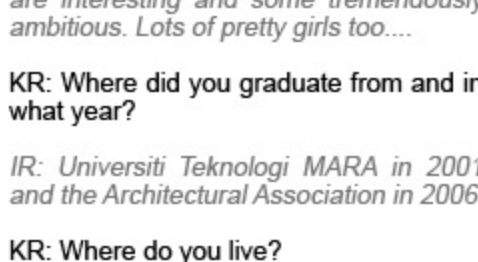
IR: Universiti Teknologi MARA in 2001 and the Architectural Association in 2006.

KR: Where do you live?

IR: Colaba, Mumbai. The view from my apartment is awesome!

KR: What do you do during free time? (In Mumbai)

IR: I try to explore different parts of the city and meet up with local friends. I started sailing in the bay over the weekends recently but the monsoon season is just starting so no more sailing for awhile.



KR: What is your favorite fashion line and why? (any favorite Indian designers)

IR: Fab India. Best cotton shirts.

KR: How are our India projects moving along? What are you working on?

IR: The Trump Tower, the Walkeshwar Residential Tower in Mumbai, the Prabhadevi Residential Tower in Mumbai, Casabella in Pune and Wave City Residences in Delhi. Some move faster than others. Development in Mumbai can be a slow process.

KR: How would you describe VERITAS in less than 10 words?

IR: A serious regional player, which can still go much further.

KR: What is your favorite Indian quote?

IR: Jaiho!

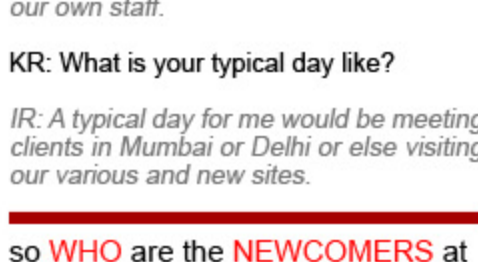
KR: Do you have any goal set for VERITAS India?

IR: To be working on more complex and challenging projects soon as well to have our own staff.

KR: What is your typical day like?

IR: A typical day for me would be meeting clients in Mumbai or Delhi or else visiting our various and new sites.

so WHO are the NEWCOMERS at VERITAS?



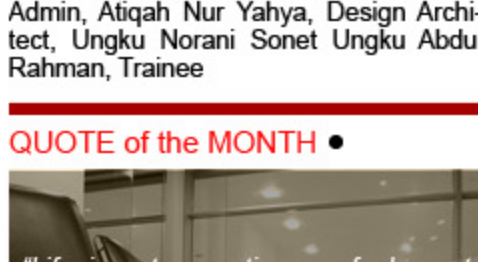
Welcome on board new VERITASians: for VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur

Muhami Tuisman, Draughtperson
Daisy Mae Serrano, Draughtperson from Philippines, Wan Mohamad Rosmadi Wan Hassan, Draughtperson, Muhammad Fazzli B Abdul Aziz, Draughtperson, Havier Lecumberri, Trainee from Spain

for VERITAS Architects Johor

Devi Subramaniam, Receptionist cum Admin, Atiqah Nur Yahya, Design Architect, Ungku Norani Sonet Ungku Abdul Rahman, Trainee

QUOTE of the MONTH



"Life is not a continuum of pleasant choices, but of inevitable problems that call for strength, determination, and hard work"

- Anonymous Indian proverb quote



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.