

Greetings and Selamat Hari Raya to all our readers!

In this month's e-news, we are delighted to feature some of our recent mass transit-related projects. These build on a tradition of rail projects, both heavy and light, to which VERITAS has contributed since the early-2000's starting with the double-track KTMB Rawang-Ipoh Stations.

We are also pleased to feature our recent "Buka Puasa", 3rd Staff Quarterly Meeting and other interesting happenings here 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.

MY RAPID TRANSIT (MRT) UNDERGROUND & ELEVATED (SOUTH SECTOR) STATIONS KUALA LUMPUR & SELANGOR

The Klang Valley Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) is a proposed 3-line 150 km rail system in the Klang Valley/Greater KL conurbation which envisages a "Wheel and Spoke" concept comprising two northeast-southwest radial lines and one circle line looping around Kuala Lumpur city.



The stations designed by VERITAS comprise prominent metropolitan points of interchange at locations as strategic as Bukit Bintang, KL Sentral, Pasar Seni and Stadium Merdeka. This project involves city-scale infrastructural works. The fast-track design of the stations means that a lot more emphasis is placed on the modularity and constructability of the building components. The project is currently under construction and is expected to be completed by 2016.



SUBANG SKYPARK STATION, SUBANG

The Subang Terminal 3 KTM Station denotes the importance of transport interchange that offers passengers seamless travel from one mode to another. Linked to the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport at Skypark Terminal via a covered walkway, the station offers potential high level link to this and future developments to enhance the synergy of retail, commercial and other components. The project is currently in design stage and is expected to be completed by 2016.



IPOH RAILWAY STATION REHABILITATION, IPOH, PERAK

The original building is a 3-storey historical structure with Neo-Classical and Moorish influences. The structure, built in 1935 during the British era in Malaya, is one of the earliest train stations in the country.



The upper levels of the original structure house a hotel, whereas the station facilities are confined to the floors below. The design intent was to rehabilitate the existing structure with minimal intervention whilst upgrading the main station platform. An extension of the station platform is inserted adjacent to the old structure. The roof embraces the structure-without touching it and the new addresses the old in one single, elegant gesture. This project for DRB-Hicom was completed in June 2007.

KTMB RAWANG-IPOH DOUBLE TRACKING STATIONS, RAWANG-IPOH

The project consists of 15 stations and halts along a 185km stretch between Rawang and Ipoh for the Electrified Double Track Project. These single-storey side-platform stations are to be the focal points of the existing small towns, a catalyst for growth to propel them into the league of other major townships.



The entire scheme is characterized by a rational, methodical design approach; each station entrance engages its users with direct immediacy, without ceremony or fuss.

The form of the station buildings are delineated by a hierarchy of curved canopies. Small roof canopies stagger in ascension with the pedestrians' footpaths. This project for DRB-Hicom was completed in 2007.

PUTRAJAYA WESTERN TRANSPORTATION TERMINAL, PUTRAJAYA

Designed as a transportation hub integrating multiple modes of public transportation under one roof, the Western Transportation Terminal is logistically and literally speaking the gateway into Putrajaya. The 3-storey terminal complex houses an express shuttle train traveling from the (KLIA) Kuala Lumpur International Airport into the Kuala Lumpur city center, a monorail station servicing Putrajaya, local bus terminals and taxi stations.



The structure is conceived as an assemblage of open pavilions linked to the Main Concourse, the spine and anchor for the multiple components of transportations. This public space cuts across the divisive rail tracks, unifying the entire scheme in a single, uncompromising gesture.

An architecture without walls; the Western Transportation Terminal seeks to free the spaces of absolute boundaries. This project for Monorail Malaysia Technology Sdn Bhd was completed in 2003.

BEIJING 5th RAIL, BEIJING, CHINA

The Beijing 5th Rail is part of a large transit infrastructure to link the whole of Beijing. The 5th Rail network consists of 6 stations running parallel to the Olympic site that is a few blocks away. Designed as a series of stops that tell a story to be interpreted differently, it expounds the ideals of the Olympics' sustainable cityscape development and a message of humanism.



These ideals are merged with the story of Beijing to create a simple but elegant built form; solid and natural at the base, it opens up to lighter clear transparent canopies to allow generous daylight to the platforms. This project for Beijing General Municipal Engineering and Design Research Institute was completed in 2007.

SO WHO'S THE STAFF OF THE MONTH? - ZULHELMI SHAHIB



Zulhelmy Shahib, fondly known as Zul, is married to his high school sweet heart Seniy Azrana Lily. They have one child Mikail Zulhelmy, 7 years old. Zul has been working with VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur since April 2013 as a Project Architect.

KR: What made you decide to take up an architecture course?
 ZS: As a kid, I had always wanted to become a pilot. But I ended up in the art stream and then I discovered architecture during my teen years. Now I hope I will design airports instead!

KR: Tell me a little about the projects that you are working on right now.
 ZS: I am working on the Tropicana International school and a 50-storey Service Apartment at Bukit Bintang, both for Tropicana Corporation Berhad. I'm also working on the Skypark LRT Station for KTMB and a State Government office building in Miri, Sarawak.

KR: Who is your favourite architect and why?
 ZS: Frank Lloyd Wright; because he developed a language of architecture that was truly radical in appearance at the time.

KR: If you were given a chance to take up one of the EXCO member's position which would it be and what major changes would you do?
 ZS: hmmm...of course I want to be a director or at least an associate. Which I know it will not come true!! If Well the 2nd question is something we should implement immediately; I would go all out on hiring as we need more team players in our project team/ design team/production urgently!!

KR: Describe VERITAS in your own words?
 ZS: Let me put it in a metaphorical way... VERITAS is like a puzzle wherein each piece represents us indifferent colours, and some pieces are bigger than others.



so WHO ARE the NEWCOMERS at VERITAS?

Welcome on board new VERITASians:



Project Cordinator Mohd Fahami Bin Yahya for VERITAS Architects Penang.
 Assistant Architect Ooi Shu Shen and Joe Chiang draughtperson Muhammad Hafizi for VERITAS Architects Johor.
 Admin Assistant Mohd Radhwan Tajul Ariffin for VERITAS Environment Sdn Bhd.
 Junior Interior Designer Keshia Mogopa for VERITAS Interiors Sdn Bhd.

BUNDLE OF JOY

It has certainly been a "productive" month for VERITAS:



Congratulations to our VAKL draft person Marlia bt Dzulkefli and her husband Mohamed Nasaruddin on the arrival of their baby girl, Nayli Amni bt Mohamed Firdaus born on 1 July 2014. Best wishes to the proud parents!!

Congratulations also to our VAKL draft person Rahimi b Ramli and his wife Shahidah bt Mohd Zahudi on the arrival of their baby boy, Muhammad Firdaus Ilyas Bin Rahimi born on 7 July 2014.

Congratulations also to our VERITAS Johor Bharu Assistant Architect Atiqah Nur Yahya and her husband Aiman Bin Ibrahim on the arrival of their lovely baby girl, Aisha Aleena Binti Aiman born on 13 July 2014.

Congratulations also to our VERITAS Johor Bharu Assistant Architect Norhaida Binti Hamzah and her husband Azril Khairol bin ISmah on the arrival of their twin baby boys born on 15 July 2014. Best wishes to the proud parents!! Best wishes to the proud parents!!

VERITAS IN THE NEWS



Options for urbanites of all ages



ZOUK KL

One of our exciting special projects the "Zouk Club KL" was featured in the Star Metro section of the Star newspaper. It will be the latest entertainment and lifestyles center of Kuala Lumpur. The new 60,000 sq ft club will contain VIP lounges, a cafe and a roof top deck. The Zouk project is expected to be completed by early of 2015.



is there anything HAPPENING?



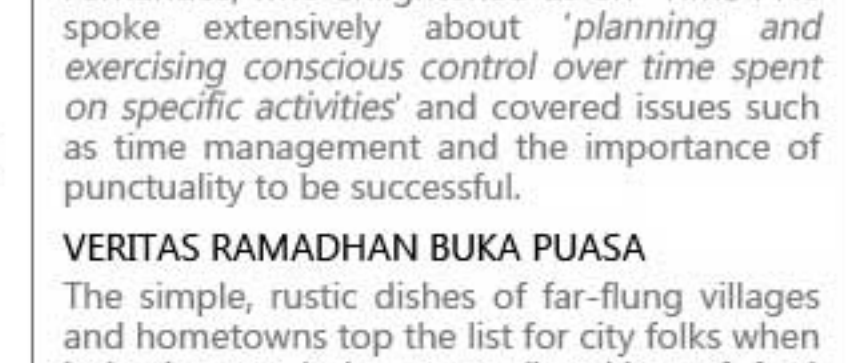
VERITAS 3RD STAFF QUARTERLY MEETING

VERITAS held it's 3rd staff quarterly meeting for 2014 on 19 July. The meeting kick-started with a warm welcome to all the new staff who recently joined the VERITAS family.

There was a special guest appearance by practised speaker Mr. Nelson Philips Fernandes, who enlightened us on "Time". He spoke extensively about planning and exercising conscious control over time spent on specific activities and covered issues such as time management and the importance of punctuality to be successful.

VERITAS RAMADHAN BUKA PUASA

The simple, rustic dishes of far-flung villages and hometowns top the list for city folks when it is time to buka puasa (breaking of fast) during the Ramadan month.



VERITAS RAMADHAN BUKA PUASA (VERITAS ARCHITECTS KL, VERITAS INTERIORS, VERITAS PLANNING, VERITAS LANDSCAPE, VERITAS CONTRACTS)

On the 17th July 2014, the management of VERITAS organized the annual "Buka Puasa" or "breaking of fast" at the JW Marriott Hotel on Jalan Bukit Bintang. The "best dressed awards" for the evening were also presented. The winner for the female category was Aimi Roslan and for the male category was Yousof Sabri both from VAKL HQ. A delicious buffet spread of local delicacies and western cuisine was prepared, and a large attendance of VERITASians ensured that the event was a big success!



VERITAS RAMADHAN BUKA PUASA (VERITAS JOHOR)

On the 9th July 2014, VERITAS Johor organized "buka puasa" at the Restaurant Kampung Danga, Johor Bharu. The VERITAS staff and their spouses and their kids were treated with a mind-boggling spread of evergreen kampung dishes and international cuisine. All the kid had joy written all over their face as Managing Director of VERITAS Johor gave a way angpow packet.



PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE FORUM (PPF)

VERITAS Architect Aimi Roslan gave a talk at the Professional Practice Forum (PPF), KL Convention Centre on 25th of June 2014 during the KL Architecture Festival (KLAF 2014) in conjunction with 16th Asia Congress of Architects (ACA-16). Her presentation was on "Unlock The Box: Architectural Sluggishness in the Digital Era of Neo-Modernism".



ANNOUNCEMENT



NOTIFICATION OF OFFICE CLOSURE DUE TO HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI

Ramadhan Mubarak from all of us in VERITAS Design Group. In conjunction with the Aidilfitri holidays, we wish to inform you that our offices will be closed from Monday 28th July 2014 and Tuesday 29th July 2014. On behalf of VERITAS Management and staff, we would like to wish you Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri Maaf Zahir dan Batin.

WHO CELEBRATED THEIR BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH?



Margerita, Raiyah Bt Maksum, Aziz Bin Md Nasaruddin, Raja Azriq Azwan Bin Raja Hussin, Nozaima Bin Mahadi, Azizi Bin Mohamad, Hilman Norman Bin Insanul Kamil, Ng Yiek Seng, Mohd Nasrun B. Muhd Nor, Yeong Mun Yee, Kamarulnizam, Zamirul Ikram Bin Zainal Abidin, Adibah Binti Abdulllah, Gurdish Kaur Shingara Singh, Muhd Hafiz Bin Zainal Abidin, Nurul Atiqah Ahmad Fauzi, Cham Sew Choo, Mohamad Hafiz Bin Mohd Shah, Tin Mei Mei, Suhaimi B Sa'at, Lim Kok Sang, Khalifah Bin Jamaluddin.



~Frank Lloyd Wright