Architecture · Planning · Interior Design · Landscape Design · Quantity Surveying & Project Management · Environment

AUGUST 2020, E-NEWSLETTER

VERITAS

THEVERITASDESIGNGROUP.COM

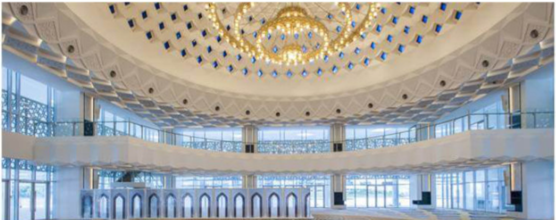
HELLO EVERYONE! SELAMAT MENYAMBUT HARI MERDEKA!

In this month's E-news, we are pleased to feature five unique projects by VERITAS Interiors. Three of these are completed projects; the ***TNB Mosque in Kuala Lumpur***, ***Boston Private Bank branch*** in San Fransisco and the ***Brunei Palace phase 1*** in Bandar Seri Begawan. Two are ongoing projects; the ***Decathlon store*** at KLCC and ***Sense of Malaysia outlets*** at various airports throughout the country.

This E-news will also cover many other ***interesting happenings*** in 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 INTERIORS SDN BHD

VERITAS Interiors Sdn Bhd has been providing interior design services since 1987, and it has since experienced rapid growth, expanding into all areas of the interior design field. Today, despite its relative maturity, VERITAS Interiors Sdn Bhd continues to pursue a ***dynamic approach to innovative design*** empowered by the principles of professionalism. VERITAS Interiors Sdn Bhd has adopted a flexible and adaptable approach to handling projects, tailored to respond to the specific needs of each particular project and the decision-making process of the Client or its representatives.

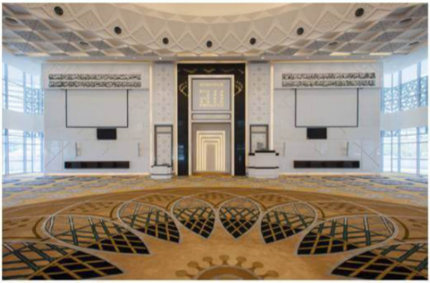


TNB MOSQUE

The new TNB campus features a brand-new mosque or "*Balai Islam*" which brings a sense of unity, beauty and strong presence to the campus. The interior design celebrates Islamic cultural motifs in the prayer hall, VIP

lounge, reception area, café and classrooms. The ambience is inspired by '*Thuluth*' calligraphy, geometry of Islamic motifs and light and shadow to cast patterns on the surfaces.

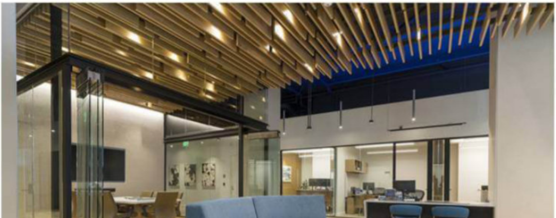
The office areas within the Balai take on a modern appearance with minimalistic textures and colours complemented by simplified motifs, using clean lines and natural lighting to highlight key features within the spaces.



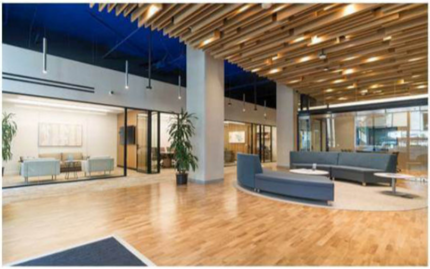
Status:
Completed 2019

PEJABAT UNIT
HAL EHWAL ISLAM TNB

BOSTON PRIVATE BANK



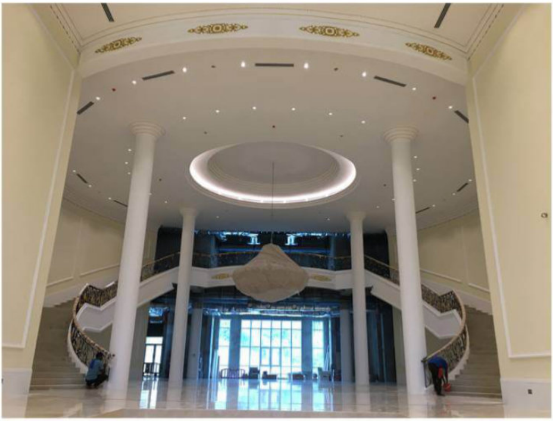
The San Francisco branch of Boston Private Bank was completed in early of 2020. Our intent was to create a space that is timeless, refined and with a clean aesthetic so as to appeal to high wealth demographics and convey professionalism. Light and texture were a core element of the design to stimulate and engage customers in a meaningful and memorable spatial experience.



Status: Completed 2020

Baffle ceilings for acoustics complimented the use of warm materials such as wood, cork and warm colour synthetics. Lighting was subdued and warm to highlight key rooms and areas within the space and punches of colours and drama were added in the furniture and graphic branded elements. This project was done in collaboration with MK Think Architects in the USA.

BOSTON PRIVATE
WEALTH • TRUST • PRIVATE BANKING
255
255



BRUNEI PALACE PHASE 1

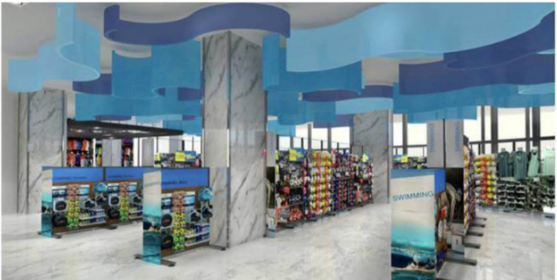
The Brunei Palace in Bandar Seri Begawan has two phases of design and construction and VERITAS has recently completed the first phase of the project. Phase one comprises of common areas such as the Entrance Hall, Formal Dining Room, Sunken Lounge and Veranda. The conceptual design inspiration came from the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg, Russia; expressed in the ornamental crown moldings, marble feature walls and floors.

The colour palette is of light and dark brown tones with highlights of gold. The informal areas of the palace will take on a more rustic design, focusing on the beauty of Moroccan tiles and fabrics as well as the casual comfort of their recreational and living spaces.

Status: Completed 2020

DECATHLON

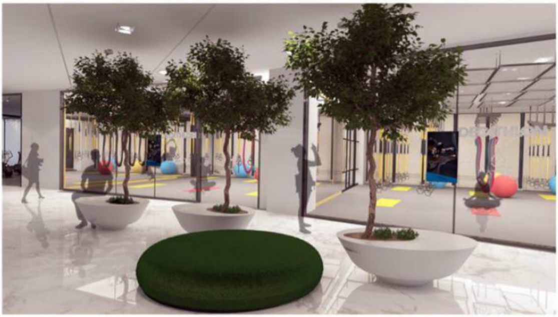
Decathlon's first experiential store in Malaysia will open in the KL City Centre in late 2020. As the world's leading sport retail brand, Decathlon is setting the standard high and curating the new experience in which customers shop and purchase on the *"high street"*.

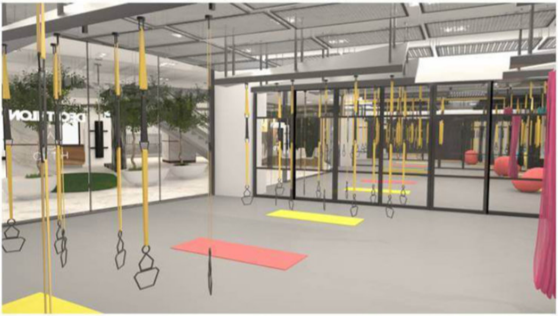


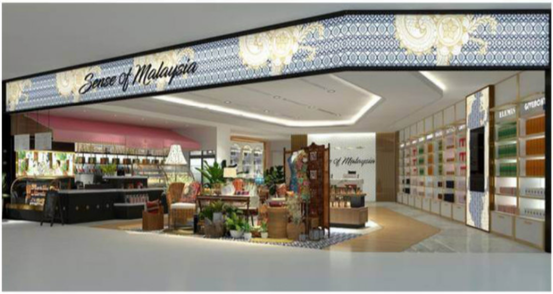
Long gone are the shopping habits of purchasing an item and testing it out at home only to return it to the store for refunds or exchange. Customers now want to personally test and feel these items before purchasing.

In this new experiential store where testing and trying equipment is the most important element of the space, you are surrounded by all aspects of sports. Waves of water, scenes of Malaysian jungles where you would hike, running track start and finish lines are just some examples of the concept of the interiors. In addition to retail, this space provides studios for classes, medical rooms for treatment and innovation stands for new equipment to be exhibited.

Status: In Progress



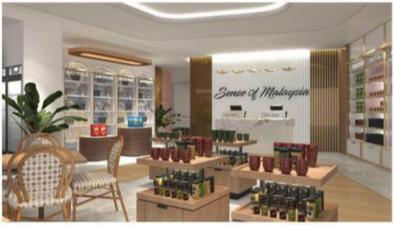


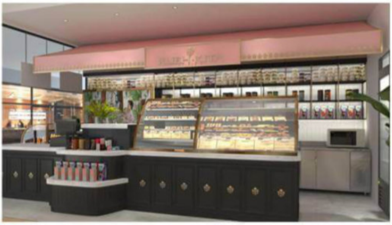


SENSE OF MALAYSIA

Sense of Malaysia is a collection of retail outlets which will be located in all airports in Peninsular Malaysia. It is a retail store that provides F&B, local artist crafts, local premium brands and general souvenirs of Malaysia.

The interior design will encompass cultural elements associated with the area in which the airport is based. For example, motifs that resemble Kuching or Penang will be incorporated into the floor tiles in their respective locations. Nyonya crafts and patterns will be used in the built-ins and wall finishes of the retail space. The purpose of differentiating each outlet is to promote and unify the beauty and cultural elements of all the states of Malaysia and to celebrate what they have to offer.



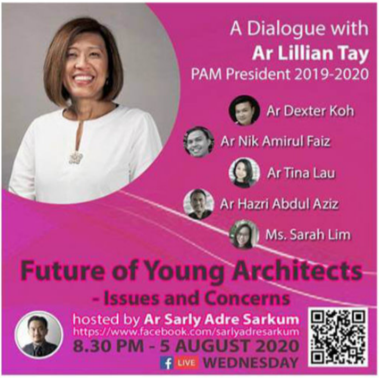


Status: In Progress

WHERE WE ARE FEATURED?

FUTURE OF YOUNG ARCHITECTS

On 5th August 2020 ***VERITAS Vice-President Lillian Tay*** joined the Future of Young Architects dialogue session through Webinar. Lillian spoke about the issues and concerns of the future of young Malaysian architects. The dialogue session was hosted by Ar Sarly Adre Sarkum and was very well attended.



STAR PROPERTY: RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY IN DESIGN

On 10th August 2020 an article written by ***VERITAS President David Hashim*** was featured in the Star Property section of the Star newspaper. David wrote about resilience and sustainability in design and explained the difference between them and the importance to understand these two concepts to overcome the current as well as future crisis.

StarProperty

Resilience And Sustainability In Design

EDGE NEWSPAPER: CREATING IDEAL CITIES

On 6th July 2020 ***VERITAS Vice-President Lillian Tay*** was featured in the Edge Newspaper's City and Country section. The article entitled "*Creating Ideal Cities*" highlighted the ideal cities for Malaysia and explored what are the changes necessary to achieve urban design excellence. Lillian also expressed her views on the importance of sufficient recreational space for public use.

Creating ideal cities

WHAT'S HAPPENING

STAFF QUARTERLY MEETING

On 15th August 2020 VERITAS conducted its third Staff Quarterly Meeting for year 2020 via Zoom. ***VERITAS President David Hashim*** gave a speech highlighting the challenges and opportunities faced by VERITAS in the context of pandemic. Following the introduction, VERITAS Sports and Social Club (VSSC) organized virtual games with attractive prizes. Special motivational speakers, ***Mr. Suresh Randhawa*** and ***Mr. Chiang Ning*** gave inspiring insights on surviving hard times with the right attitude. VERITAS General ***Manager Nik Hasnini*** also briefed everyone about the upcoming VERITAS Headquarters move to Wangsa 118 later this year.

VERITAS NEWSFLASH

OVERITAS has recently launched a new digital platform to inform our Clients about the latest news industry - relevant news in town. The inaugural VERITAS Newsflash is on Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL)'s latest parking requirements for development (enforced since 26 November 2019) and can be downloaded from the following DBKL website link : **HERE**

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NEWS FLASH
LATEST UPDATES IN THE INDUSTRY AND PROFESSION
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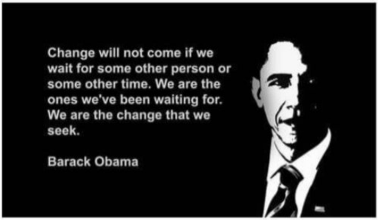
Pelan Bandar Raya Kuala Lumpur 2020
(PBRKL 2020)
27 JULAI
HINGGA
25 OGOS
Lokasi Pameran & Sema



Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.

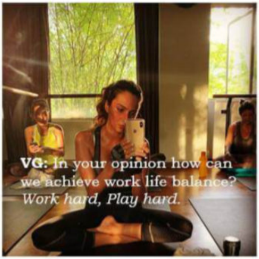
Barack Obama

STAFF OF MONTH

Our staff of the month for August is VERITASian **Emitsa Shirazi**, commonly known as just "*Emitsa*" among her colleagues and friends. Emitsa is currently holding the position of ***Interior Designer*** and has been with the firm for almost 2 years. Emitsa shares her personal story with **Venuthan Ganasan (VG)**:

VG: How would you describe working at VERITAS in a movie title? And why?
Whiplash. Its thriller built on a brilliant undercurrent of social commentary about what it takes to make it in an increasingly competitive and cutthroat world. How far are you willing to push yourself to succeed? How far are you willing to push someone else to force them on the path to success?
It's a great movie and it's all about hard work to the limit for getting the maximum result.

VG: Have you tried incorporating designs inspired from your home country? If yes, what are those and why?
I'm From Iran and grew up in Dubai. I have been using both country as an inspiration in many of my works. Persian architecture has a very long and complex history with the greatest contribution to the world's culture. While Persian styles have a significant difference from any other Islamic architecture, they have strongly influenced buildings throughout much of the Islamic world. Designing the Brunei Palace for example I have



VG: In your opinion how can we achieve work life balance?
Work hard, Play hard.

used many elements from both Persian architecture for the prayer room and many areas influenced by luxury design and houses in Dubai.

VG: What's your passion or hobby? Is that what inspired you to become an Interior Designer?
My hobbies are Travelling, yoga, modeling and motorsport. I love traveling. I found it most interesting getting to know every culture and walk around seeing the architecture and try local food from every city that I go. I also enjoying doing Yoga which relaxing and while making deep connection with my mind and body. It's a reminder to love myself. I use to be a full-time model with many agencies around Asia and Dubai. But I chose my dream job as an interior designer and of course as I am getting older, I have to do modeling as more of a hobby than career. Apart from that I have deep love for motorsports, for excitements and rush.

Since young I have paid attention to design of furniture and architecture. Unlike my friends at that age or my classmates, I was into 'Home and Furniture' magazine rather than 'Celebrities'. When I was 14 years old in London my father was working with a famous Italian architect that designed his office room with fully glass facade. I loved watching him design and draw while listening to the rain hitting the glass panel. That was one of my biggest inspiration to become an Architect/designer.

WHO'S CELEBRATING THEIR BIRTHDAY-AUGUST

3rd Mohd Ashfak Sofian, Norsyafiqah Abd Kadir
5th Juraini Jantan
6th Mohd Fazly Ab Latif, Ikhwan Afif Zakaria
7th Zairul Adam Mohd Azni, Nekmat Bin Abu, Khairi Izwan Zakaria
8th Mohd Norfaizan Mohd Yusoff
9th Noor Saiful Bin Safie
11th Garry Tan Chun Rong
13th Wan Zalelawati Wan Mohamed
14th Devi Subramaniam
15th Nurulhuda Mhd Non
18th Siti Nurhajar Alias
21st Hairulnizar Pardi
22nd Mohd Arif Mohd Yaakob
24th Rozaini Majid
25th Noorhisham Mokhtar, Che Amaludin Che Harun, Azlisham Kassim, Saniah Ibrahim
26th Suhaib Khairuddin, Mohammad Ayzad Che Abdullah Fauzi
28th Mohd Firdaus Ahmat

NEW STAFF

Chu Jia Jun
@ Architect

Alvin Choo
Hua Ping
@ Architect

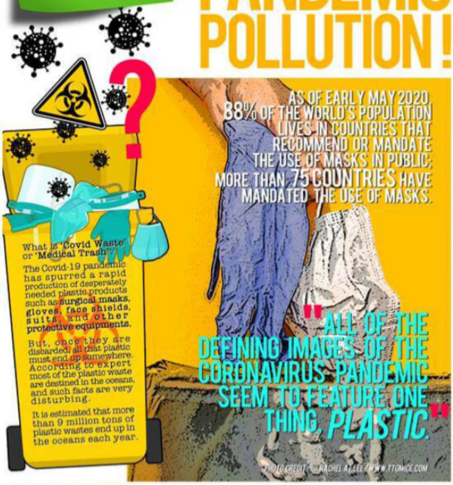
NEW BORN

Congratulations to VERITASians ***Adam Faiz Azizudin*** and his spouse ***Nur Fatimah Mohd Khairi*** for the arrival of their new baby girl ***Ayna Atiya Adam Faiz*** on 26th July 2020!

VERITAS
design·group

52 SHADES OF GREEN
1 year | 52 initiatives | weekly | 2020
ACID GREEN
ISSUE 14
VOL. 3
AUG 07

PANDEMIC POLLUTION!



AS OF EARLY MAY 2020, 88% OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION LIVES IN COUNTRIES THAT RECOMMEND OR MANDATE THE USE OF MASKS IN PUBLIC; MORE THAN 75 COUNTRIES HAVE MANDATED THE USE OF MASKS.

"ALL OF THE DEFINING IMAGES OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC SEEM TO FEATURE ONE THING, *PLASTIC.*"

PHOTO CREDIT : © RACHEL A. LEE / WWW.TTGMICE.COM

What is 'Covid Waste' or 'Medical Trash'?

The Covid-19 pandemic has spurred a rapid production of desperately needed plastic products such as **surgical masks, gloves, face shields, suits, and other protective equipments.**

But, once they are discarded, all that plastic must end up somewhere. According to expert most of the plastic waste are destined in the oceans, and such facts are very disturbing.

It is estimated that more than 9 million tons of plastic wastes end up in the oceans each year.

for more info , check out :
https://www.waste2wear.com/covid-19-increased-plastic-waste/
https://www.oceanographicmagazine.com/news/ocean-covid-waste/
https://inhabitat.com/discarded-face-masks-now-threatening-wildlife-habitats/
https://www.nst.com.my/world/world/2020/06/602743/world-choking-covid-19-contaminated-waste
https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/jun/08/more-masks-than-jellyfish-coronavirus-waste-ends-up-in-ocean

"THE WEARING OF THE MASK WHICH IS BECOMING WIDESPREAD IN THE NAME OF THE PRINCIPLE OF HEALTH PRECAUTION, SHOULD NOT POSE MORE PROBLEMS THAN IT SOLVES."

WWW.OCEANOGRAPHICMAGAZINE.COM
PHOTO CREDIT : © OPERATION MER PROPRE, FACEBOOK

"WITH A LIFE SPAN OF 450 YEARS, THESE MASKS ARE ECOLOGICAL TIMEBOMB GIVEN THEIR LASTING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES FOR OUR PLANET."

WWW.OCEANOGRAPHICMAGAZINE.COM
PHOTO CREDIT : © OPERATION MER PROPRE, FACEBOOK

1 PLANET, 1 CHANCE. GREEN IT LIKE YOU MEAN IT

www.theveritasdesigngroup.com

PHOTO CREDIT : © LSU

DISPOSABLE GLOVE PHOTOGRAPHED AND GEO-TAGGED IN NEW YORK.

DISPOSABLE MASK DOCUMENTED IN SHENZHEN CHINA, PPE TRASH BINS ARE COMMON IN PUBLIC WHICH MAYBE THE REASON WHY THE QUANTITIES OF PPE LITTER ON THE STREET SEEM LESS THAN OTHER COUNTRIES.

PHOTO CREDIT : © LSU

MEDICAL TRASH ARE LITTERING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD AROUND THE WORLD.

A GLOBAL RESEARCH BY
LOUSIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
PROFESSOR MARK BENFIELD

"WHAT IS WORRYING, WHILE THE AMOUNT OF WASTE INCREASES RECYCLING CAPACITY DECREASES."

PHOTO CREDIT : © LSU

DISCARDED PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT OR 'PPE' TRASH DOCUMENTED IN TURKEY.

DID YOU KNOW?

"TODAY, GOVERNMENTS AROUND THE GLOBE MAKE THE WEARING OF FACE MASKS COMPULSORY IN ENCLOSED SPACES BECAUSE IT IS AN IMPORTANT MEASURE TO PREVENT COVID-19 FROM SPREADING. HOWEVER, THERE'S A FEW ISSUES THAT SHOULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED."

1. The disposable face masks many consumers wear, are a ***new source of single-use plastic waste***.
2. Disposable face masks are generally made from a few layers of different types of plastic, called ***"Polypropylene"***. ***This makes the total product difficult to recycle***.
3. Polypropylene in thin form ***has the tendency to deteriorate into very small pieces quickly, if wrongly disposed***. These pieces do not deteriorate unless they're exposed to high temperature or intensive UV rays.