Hello everyone!

In this month's E-news, in conjunction with International Women's Day which fell on 8th of March, we are pleased to feature some of the amazing women in VERITAS. This is a special feature to honor their achievements and contributions to the firm.

march 2021 e-newsletter

VERITAS

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.

THE WOMEN OF VERITAS

The women of VERITAS are strong and extremely talented individuals who excel in this typically male-dominated industry.

Women working in the design profession often face a variety of challenges that inhibit their career growth.

> *"Four accomplished women in VERITAS were randomly chosen to express their views and opinions as an inspiration to all the other women in the profession."*

Aina has been with VERITAS for the past 10 years and has risen to be the Senior Associate leading the Design Core team at VERITAS KL office. She has worked on many distinguished projects and her most recent masterpiece is the Angsana Spa Resort, Teluk Bahang, Penang.

What is the biggest challenge for a women architect in Malaysia?

As any woman in any career, the hardest part is juggling the multiple responsibilities at work and at home. Our profession in particular, requires a lot of overtime and after-hours work. Finding a work-life balance is always a struggle. However, it is an interesting career where you are constantly learning and exploring new things.

As women, we must be brave to be the best versions of ourselves. We also shouldn't be fixated on striking a balance. Instead, we should be ready to face whatever challenges arise. Another challenge is that we are often taken for granted and not considered authoritative. I have experienced in my projects where my opinions were not taken seriously. This has pushed me to learn how to make a mark and never be afraid to step up to the task, even if it may seem difficult.

> *"Overcoming these challenges is the first step towards success, and I am trying to do exactly that."*

Angsana Spa and Resorts

Senior Associate Aina Zuber

What are the most effective ways to counteract the negative stereotypes of feminism, especially in the workplace?
We have heard many negative stereotypes addressed to women - less effective in leadership, lacking entrepreneurial spirit and competitive edge.

I think it is important for us to continuously get honest feedback from our colleagues. Beyond helping us to better manage expectations from others as we do our work, as well as to increase our self-awareness, getting honest feedback helps us counter any negative stereotypes of feminism that may be arise. Countering negative stereotypes directly is important as many people do not realize that they have a negative mindset on women in the first place.

Nicole has been with VERITAS for the past year and she is currently working on major projects such as the Oxley Towers (Tower 2), Jakel Wangsa Maju tower and the talest tower at Bukit Bintang City Centre.

Architect Nicole Hernandez

Jakel Wangsa Maju

Oxley Towers

In your opinion, how do you think VERITAS can inspire women to pursue a career in architecture in this era?
I feel that education is a basic human right, and as a result of education, we all do better. VERITAS, has given women the platform to contribute in a male-dominant field and ensured that there is no aspect a woman cannot handle.

We shouldn't shy away from being a BadAss if necessary (or Wonder Women).

Do you think we should address feminism and equality in Malaysia more? Why?
Why do we support gender equality? Of course because it's fair, right and just, but it's more than that. Gender equality is actually a way for us to get the lives we want to live. Gender equality is in the interest of countries, of companies, of women, children and their partners. It's not a zero-sum game, it's not a win-lose. It is a win-win for everyone, and what we also know is that we cannot fully empower women and girls unless we engage boys and men.

Environmental Engineer Aida Elyana

How can women better enable each other instead of compete? What needs to change in your opinion?
Women should be true cheerleaders, empowering other women and celebrating every single tiny success in life. But success should not be determined only in career - it should be in all of life. Be a kind daughter, granddaughter, niece, auntie, friend, mother, wife and colleague. Mindset is important for change to be a better version of yourself. Believe that you are in control of your own ability, willing to learn and improve.

What do you think helped you get so far in your career? How can we mentor young girls to dream bigger?
Always learning and never stopping. Learning is a lifelong process. That is how I can better myself and lift my career. Also, always believe in yourself, even though sometimes we might feel doubt whether or not we can complete a difficult task. The most important thing is to understand the problem and always keep going. Move at your own pace, but keep going till you reach the finish line.

For young women, let's not be defined by our gender but by our capabilities as individuals and believe our existence in the world has purpose. Know your skills and strength. Find a positive role model, find the right support group, i.e, a positive woman entrepreneur or circle of positive friends that always support your dreams.

What does the colour pink means to you?
Pink is the universal colour of oneself and of others. Affection, inner peace and kindness.

MK27 Mont Kiara Residential

Menara UOB2

Aida has been with VERITAS Environment for the past 8 years. She is currently working on the Menara UOB2 fit-out work to achieve Platinum Rating under Green Mark and Healthier Workplaces, the Petronas Leadership Centre to achieve Dual Platinum Rating under GBI and LEED Certification and Menara JLand fit-out work for GBI Gold Compliance.

Penang Medical & Technology Hub

Nurhidayah or commonly known in VERITAS as "Penang Ida" has been with the VERITAS Penang office for the past 13 years and she is currently working on extraordinary projects such as Penang Medical and Technology Hub, Trehauz, Astaka Mutiara Selera and Bertam Phase 1.

Associate Nurhidayah Yezid

Trehaus

Bertam Phase 1H

As a women architect do you think gender perspective plays a role in architectural design? If yes, why?

It is often important to look at architectural design in a gender perspective to achieve a more holistic approach that will take into consideration not just gender itself, but also age and minority needs. For example in designing a school for pre-schoolers, a designer must take into consideration the special needs of young children, special needs of the elderly in designing retirement homes and of women in designing safe public spaces.

What advice would you give your 20-year-old self?

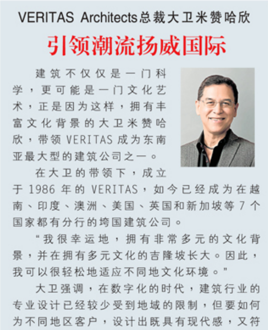
My 20-year-old self was 18 years ago (I just revealed my age!). I would tell myself to keep learning, and that it's okay to make mistakes along the way. Because with each mistake you make, you will learn from it and not repeat the same one again.

疫境求存 逆流而上

WHERE WE ARE FEATURED

On 18th March 2021 VERITAS Group President David Hashim was featured in the Nanyang Siang Pau newspaper.

The article featured David for being nominated as a finalist in the Master Category for the Entrepreneur of the Year 2020 award by Ernst & Young. Among the 5 finalists, one will be chosen in April to receive Malaysia's Master Entrepreneur of 2020 award.



VERITAS Architects总裁大卫米赞哈欣

引领潮流扬威国际

建筑不仅仅是一门科学，更可能是一门文化艺术，正是因为这样，拥有丰富文化背景的大卫米赞哈欣，带领VERITAS成为东南亚最大型的建筑公司之一。

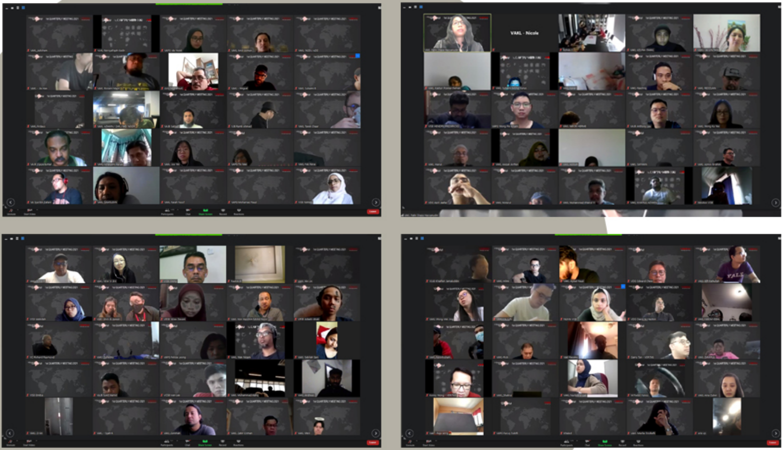
在大卫的带领下，成立于1986年的VERITAS，如今已经成为在越南、印度、澳洲、美国、英国和新加坡等7个国家都有分行的垮国建筑公司。

"我很幸运地，拥有非常多元的文化背景，并在拥有多元文化的吉隆坡长大。因此，我可以很轻松地适应不同地文化环境。"

大卫强调，在数字化的时代，建筑行业的专业设计已经较少受到地域的限制，但要如何为不同地区客户，设计出既具有现代感，又符

合当地文化的建筑物，才是最大的难题。

WHAT'S HAPPENING

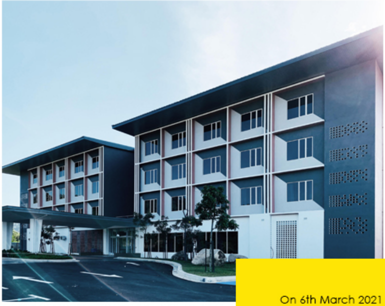


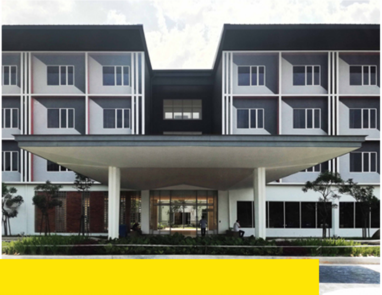
1st Staff Quarterly Meeting 2021

On 27th February 2021 VERITAS held its 1st quarterly meeting for the year 2021 via Zoom. VERITAS President David Hashim gave a rousing speech on the plans for VERITAS for the year 2021, predicting exponential growth of the group. Following that Ms. Jennifer Ong, the founder and publisher of Hospitality Asia, gave a motivational speech which was well-received. The meeting continued with the updates and plans of the VERITAS Sports and Social Club (VSSC), CARE, VFE and Career Development by their respective leaders.

E-Sports Tournament

On 5th March 2021 VERITAS Sports and Social Club (VSSC) organized an E-Sport Tournament. The game night was held at the Wangsa118 loft and six participants from each tribe took part in the tournament. The champion for the E-Football tournament was Ayzad Fauzi from Tribe A and for the E-Combat tournament the champion was Adam Faiz from Tribe D. Congratulations to the winners!





Harmony Hill Park Site Visit

On 6th March 2021 VERITAS organized a site visit to a recently completed project; the Harmony Hill Park retirement complex, Selangor. Situated in the serene hills of Semenyih, VERITAS Architects designed this retirement nursing home that accommodates 288 beds with supporting facilities. The project is expected to redefine excellence in the retirement sector and will commence operations by mid-year. The site visit was led by the project's Principal Ng Yiek Seng.

International Women's Day Celebration

On 8th March 2021 VERITAS celebrated International Women's Day at the loft of Wangsa 118.

The women of VERITAS wore pink to commemorate the day and they gathered at the loft for an afternoon filled with fun games and lunch. A special in-house made video was showcased to honor the women of VERITAS with inspiring words and motivational anecdotes.

VERITAS
design·group

Women's Day
8March
2021
MATASAB

SOBA Award

VERITAS is proud to announce that it has received the gold medal for the Star Outstanding Business Award (SOBA) for the category of Best in Corporate Social Responsibility for the year 2020.

STAR OUTSTANDING BUSINESS AWARDS
EST IN CSR
VE RM5 MILLION

Star
SOBA
STAR OUTSTANDING BUSINESS AWARDS
2020
WINNER
(Above RM25 Million Turnover)
GOLD AWARD
BEST IN CSR

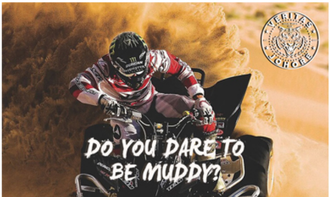
On 17th March 2021 VERITAS Principal Alif Arif together with the General Manager Nik Hasnini, Associate Wong Ka Yee and Human Resources Manager Keshvinder Kaur attended a gala dinner to receive the award.

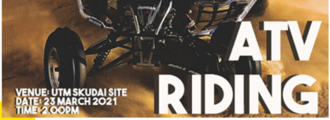
Graduation Ceremony Mid-Tier Companies Development Programme

The Time to EXPORT is Now.
MATRADE
Graduation Ceremony
MID-TIER COMPANIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Wave 6 & Wave 7

The Time to EXPORT is Now
Graduation Ceremony
MID-TIER COMPANIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Wave 6 & Wave 7

On 23rd March 2021 VERITAS Group President David Hashim received a certificate from MATRADE to celebrate the firm's graduation from the Mid-Tier Companies Development Programme. The Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI), YB Senator Datuk Lim Ban Hong presented the certificate at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel.


VERITAS JOHORE
DO YOU DARE TO BE MUDDY?



ATV Outing

On 23rd March 2021 VERITAS Johor Sports and Social Club (VJSSC) organized a ATV riding event for staff and their family. Around 12 VERITASians and their family members joined the event which was held at the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) Skudai site. It was a fun filled afternoon for everyone.

WHO'S celebrating their BIRTHDAY - March

1st Mohd Azizul Hakim Rahimi
2nd Nurul Nazreen
6th Kasturi Ponnerchelvan
8th Mohamad Hasbullah Bin Yunus
9th Adam Faiz Azizudin, Mohd Faizal Abdul Rahman
12th Nurulelyana Ramli
22nd Jaf Reen Narissia Inas Jaf Faizal
14th Abirami Anandarajah
24th Ezrid Nur Riezam Zambri
28th Yew Yi Zhi
29th Chong Yeh She
30th Poo Sah Yoong
31st Samsudin Zainal Abidin

Newly Weds

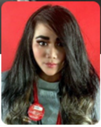
Congratulations to VERITASian Alvin Choo Hua Ping on tying the knot with Lim Yu Chen at the Thean Hou Temple on 20th March 2021.

New Staff

Mohamad Nordin Bin Yahaya
@ Resident Architect

Asmazaris Bin Ismail
@ Inspector Of Works

Qistina Binti Mohd Zamri
@ Assistant Document Controller



Hawatul Aqilah Binti Norhisham
@ Landscape Executive

Nurul Syafiqah Bt Md Jazam
@ Admin Assistant

"If you don't like
the road
you're walking,
start paving
another one.
Dolly Parton