VERITAS
design·group

Hello everyone!

In this month's E-news, we are pleased to feature a project by VERITAS that inspires generosity. The Women's Aid Organization (WAO) Safe House is a unique project completed in late 2021.

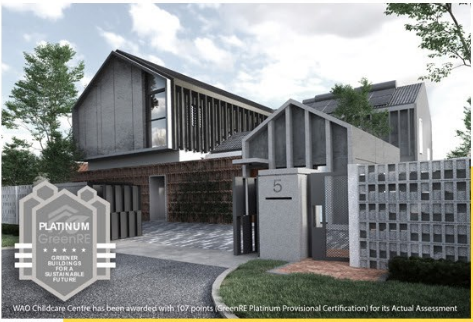
January 2022

Happy Chinese New Year and let us hope that the year of the Tiger will be about making big positive changes. This will be a year of risk-taking and adventure. We're optimistic, feeling enthusiastic again, everyone is fired up and generosity is at an all-time high.

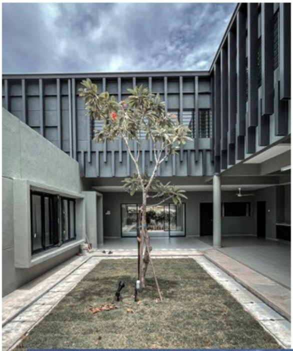
This E-news will also cover many other interesting happenings in VERITAS. We hope you enjoy this month's VERITAS E-news! And please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to know more about any of the stories featured here.

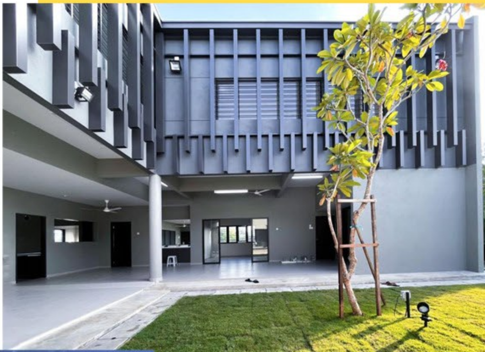
Women's Aid Organization (WAO) Safe House, Petaling Jaya, Selangor

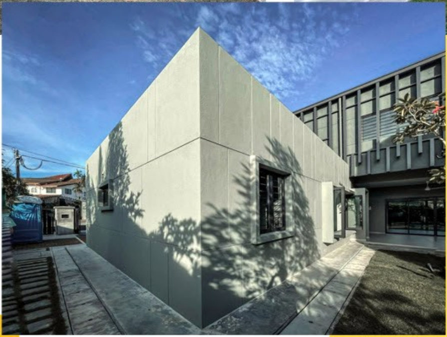
The site is located at a residential lot surrounded by friendly neighbourhoods near Taman Paramount. The existing house was a shelter home specifically for children under 18 who suffer from domestic violence.



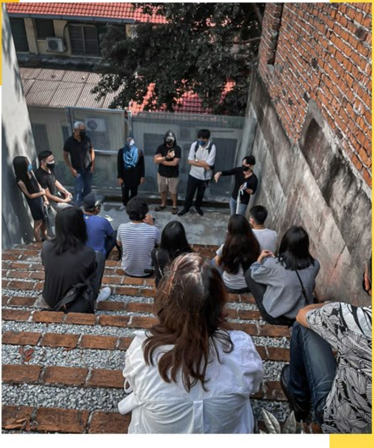
WAO Childcare Centre has been awarded with 107 points (GreenRE Platinum Provisional Certification) for its Actual Assessment

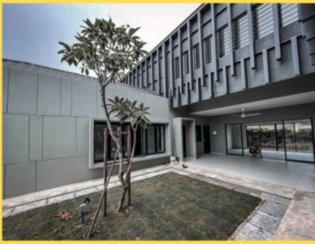






The house was struck by lightning and partially burned down in 2016. The design brief called for a restoration of the building to house 20 children. The portion of the house which remained has converted into an administrative zone while a new 2 storey annex extension serves as living spaces.

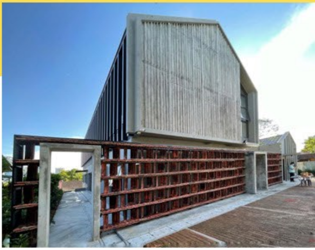




An open courtyard was formed as a communal space and the green lung of the composition. The design took inspiration from the old Melaka shophouses where the commercial spaces and the living spaces were separated by a courtyard.

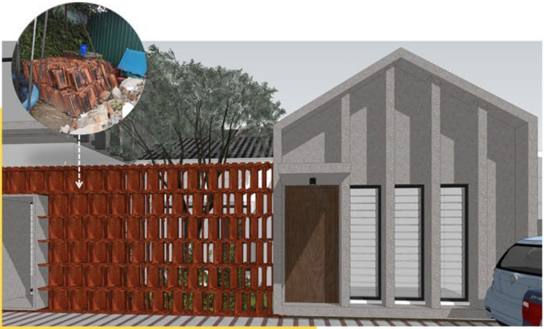
PLATINUM
GreenRE
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
GREENER BUILDINGS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

WAO Childcare Centre has been awarded with 107 points (GreenRE Platinum Provisional Certification) for its Actual Assessment



> Besides the old structures, the house uses recycled material such as the burnt roof tiles which were up-cycled and to become a screen wall to create extra privacy for the internal spaces. This is a symbol and the gesture of regeneration and we hope it will inspire and give hope to children who suffer from the violence.

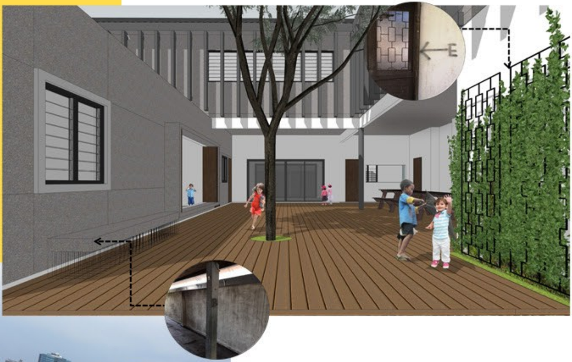
The project was led by VERITAS Principal Syah Kamaruddin and Associate Architect, Choong Wei Li.



Reuse of the burnt roof tiles, repurposed into a perforated protected screen which acts as a fenestration to give privacy to the interior.

Reuse of metal grille/gate, repurposed for gardening use

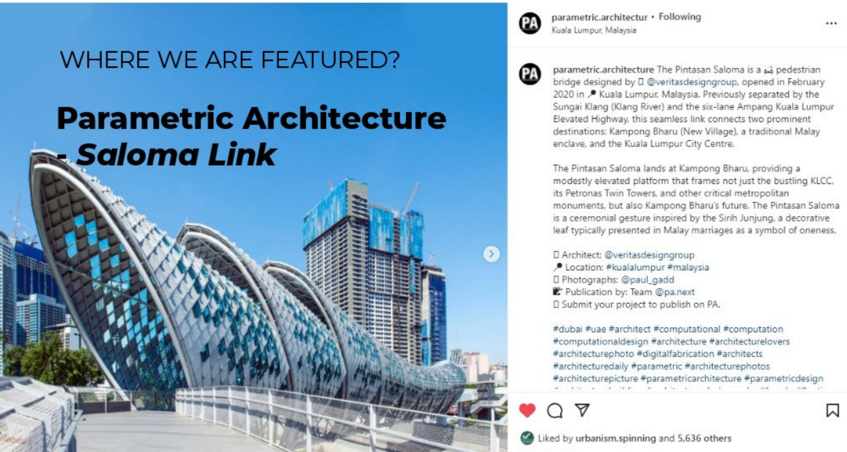
Reuse of solid timber doors, repurposed into furniture



Reuse of construction debris as the soil cover

WHERE WE ARE FEATURED?

Parametric Architecture - *Saloma Link*



parametric.architectur • **Following**
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

parametric.architecture The Pintasan Saloma is a 🚶 pedestrian bridge designed by ☐ @veritasdesigngroup, opened in February 2020 in 📍 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Previously separated by the Sungai Klang (Klang River) and the six-lane Ampang Kuala Lumpur Elevated Highway, this seamless link connects two prominent destinations: Kampong Bharu (New Village), a traditional Malay enclave, and the Kuala Lumpur City Centre.

The Pintasan Saloma lands at Kampong Bharu, providing a modestly elevated platform that frames not just the bustling KLCC, its Petronas Twin Towers, and other critical metropolitan monuments, but also Kampong Bharu's future. The Pintasan Saloma is a ceremonial gesture inspired by the Sirih Junjung, a decorative leaf typically presented in Malay marriages as a symbol of oneness.

☐ Architect: @veritasdesigngroup
📍 Location: #kualalumpur #malaysia
☐ Photographs: @paul_gadd
🎬 Publication by: Team @pa.next
☐ Submit your project to publish on PA.

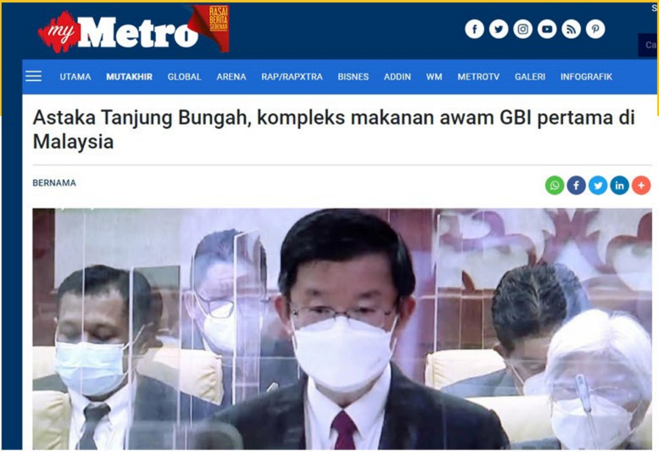
#dubai #uae #architect #computational #computation #computationaldesign #architecture #architecturelovers #architecturephoto #digitalfabrication #architects #architecturedaily #parametric #architecturephotos #architecturepicture #parametricarchitecture #parametricdesign

Liked by **urbanism.spinning** and **5,636 others**

DECEMBER 8, 2021
Add a comment...
Post

On 8th December 2021, one of Instagram's well known architecture community sites; Parametric Architecture featured one of our projects; The Pintasan Saloma. The post gained over 5000 likes. Thank you Instagram!

To read more click **HERE**



Astaka Tanjung Bungah, kompleks makanan awam GBI pertama di Malaysia

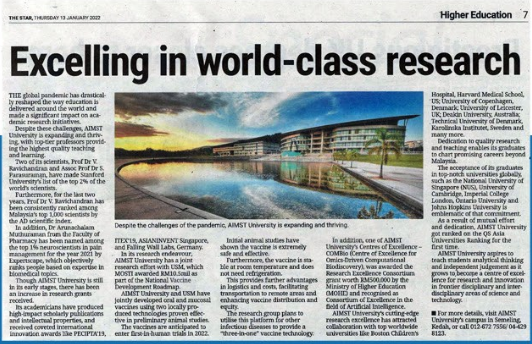
BERNAMA

Harian Metro
- Astaka Tanjung Bungah

In light of a ground-breaking ceremony held on 27th November 2022, Harian Metro identified VERITAS as being the architect for the rebuilding of Astaka Tanjung Bungah.

The food court, which was destroyed in a fire in November 2020, will be rebuilt into a food complex and is expected be the first such building to obtain Green Building Index (GBI) accreditation in the country.

To read more click **HERE**



THE STAR, THURSDAY 13 JANUARY 2022

Higher Education 7

Excelling in world-class research

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, AIMST University is expanding and thriving.

THE global pandemic has drastically reshaped the way education is delivered around the world and made a significant impact on academic research initiatives.

Despite these challenges, AIMST University is expanding and thriving, with top-tier professors providing the highest quality teaching and learning.

Two of its scientists, Prof Dr V. Ravichandran and Assoc Prof Dr S. Parasuraman, have made Stanford University's list of the top 2% of the world's scientists.

Furthermore, for the last two years, Prof Dr V. Ravichandran has been consistently ranked among Malaysia's top 1,000 scientists by the AD scientific index.

In addition, Dr Arunachalam Muthuraman from the Faculty of Pharmacy has been named among the top 1% neuroscientists in pain management for the year 2021 by Expertscape, which objectively ranks people based on expertise in biomedical topics.

Though AIMST University is still in its early stages, there has been an increase in research grants received.

Its academicians have produced high-impact scholarly publications and intellectual properties, and received coveted international innovation awards like PECIPTA'19, ITEX'19, ASIANINVENT Singapore, and Falling Wall Labs, Germany.

In its research endeavour, AIMST University has a joint research effort with USM, which MOSTI awarded RM10.5mil as part of the National Vaccine Development Roadmap.

AIMST University and USM have jointly developed oral and mucosal vaccines using two locally produced technologies proven effective in preliminary animal studies.

The vaccines are anticipated to enter first-in-human trials in 2022.

Initial animal studies have shown the vaccine is extremely safe and effective.

Furthermore, the vaccine is stable at room temperature and does not need refrigeration.

This provides further advantages in logistics and costs, facilitating transportation to remote areas and enhancing vaccine distribution and equity.

The research group plans to utilise this platform for other infectious diseases to provide a "three-in-one" vaccine technology.

In addition, one of AIMST University's Centres of Excellence – COMBio (Centre of Excellence for Omics-Driven Computational Biodiscovery), was awarded the Research Excellence Consortium grant worth RM500,000 by the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) and recognised as Consortium of Excellence in the field of Artificial Intelligence.

AIMST University's cutting-edge research excellence has attracted collaboration with top worldwide universities like Boston Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, US; University of Copenhagen, Denmark; University of Leicester, UK; Deakin University, Australia; Technical University of Denmark, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden and many more.

Dedication to quality research and teaching enables its graduates to chart promising careers beyond Malaysia.

The acceptance of its graduates in top-notch universities globally, such as the National University of Singapore (NUS), University of Cambridge, Imperial College London, Ontario University and Johns Hopkins University is emblematic of that commitment.

As a result of mutual effort and dedication, AIMST University got ranked on the QS Asia Universities Ranking for the first time.

AIMST University aspires to teach students analytical thinking and independent judgement as it grows to become a centre of excellence for research and innovation in frontier disciplinary and interdisciplinary areas of science and technology.

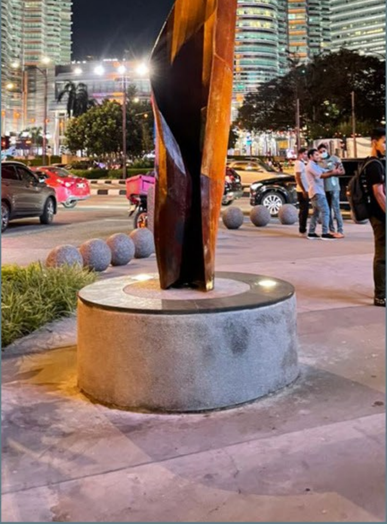
■ For more details, visit AIMST University's campus in Semeling, Kedah, or call 012-672 7556/ 04-429 8123.

On 13 January 2022, AIMST University, a project for which VERITAS was the landscape architect, was featured in the Star Newspaper.

The advertorial emphasized the world-class research facilities of this campus in Malaysia. The university provides an opportunity for students to obtain a prestigious degree at a lower cost.

THE STAR

- *AIMST UNIVERSITY*
(Asian Institute Of Medicine, Science And Technology)



Pintasan Saloma Sculpture

The Sireh Junjung, is the design inspiration behind the Saloma Link Bridge. Sireh Junjung is a traditional ceremonial custom which involves the rolling of betel leaves offered in Malay weddings as a symbol of community. The Sireh represents a ceremonial gesture that embodies the bond between both fabrics: KLCC and Kampong Bharu. It signifies a welcoming gesture as one embarks upon their journey between Kampong Bharu and KLCC.

The sculpture is currently placed along Jalan Ampang in front of NZ restaurant. Visit it and tag us!

VERITAS

We are pleased at **100%** pass at **VERITAS**,

CONGRATULATIONS!

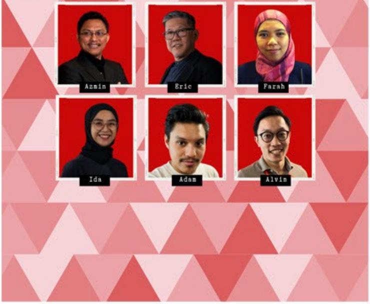
to all our 9 architect candidates from VERITAS Architects

who passed LAM Part 3 Professional Exam (Oral)

Jess
Hanif
Michael

LAM Part 3 Professional Exam

Towards the end of 2021, we received great news that 9 of our architect candidates who took part in the LAM Part 3 Professional Exam (Oral) had passed the exam! They are; Jesslyn Loi, Hanif Hamidi, Michael Tan, Azmin Ibrahim, Eric Tham, Farah Yusof,



Nurhidayah Yezid, Adam Faiz, and Alvin Choo.

Congratulations for all your hard work and thank you ever so much to our awesome Principals and Associates for their relentless guidance and mentorship!

To read more click **HERE**

Astaka Tanjung Bungah Officiation Ceremony

VERITAS Penang has undertaken the architectural design for the Astaka Mutiara Selera in Tanjung Bungah on a pro-bono basis. The original food court was destroyed in a tragic fire incident in November 2020.

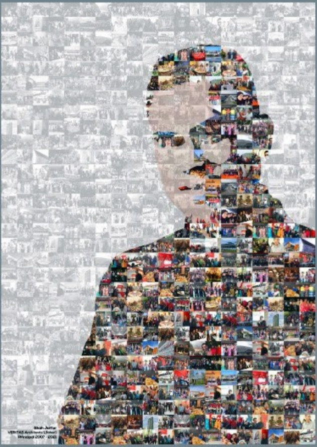
On 27th November 2021 a ceremony was held to officiate the construction of the new food court attended by the Chief Minister of Penang YAB Tuan Chow Kon Yeow. Our VERITAS Penang Principal, Eric Tham together with his team also attended the ceremony which was held at the site.

To read more click **HERE**

MAJLIS PELANCARAN PROJEK
ASTAKA TANJUNG BUNGAH, DAERAH TIMUR LAUT (DTL)
27 NOVEMBER 2021 (SABTU)
YAB TUAN CHOW KON YEOW

ENANG 2030
A Family-Focuse
Green and
Smart State
that Inspires the
Nation

Shah Jaffar Farewell



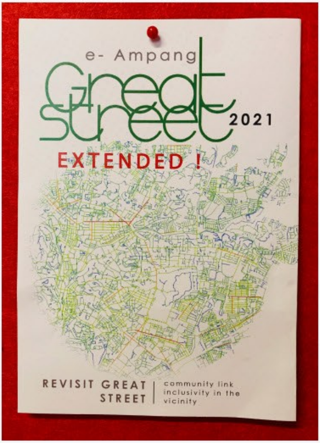
2021/12/21 13:01

21st December 2021, the VERITAS Johor team held a farewell gathering for our VERITAS Johor Principal, Shah Jaffar at Hotel Amari, Johor Bahru. Shah has decided to retire to pursue his personal interests.

As a token of appreciation the VERITAS Johor team presented him with a montage of Shah's portrait on canvas. The montage was created from a compilation of photos taken during his tenure from 2007 to 2021. His leadership had been inspirational, and his time at VERITAS has been a true gift. Thank you for being such a wonderful person and supportive leader.

Wish you the very best in your future endeavors!

To read more click **HERE**



AMPANG GREAT STREET Forum 2021

On 30th December 2021, VERITAS Group Vice President, Ar. Lillian Tay spoke at the Ampang Great Street Forum 2021 organized by the UTM Design Forum. The forum highlighted on two Great Streets of Kuala Lumpur that are located in Jalan Ampang and Kampong Bharu. The ambitious urban development that is vigorously happening there has caused fragmentation between districts, so Lillian provided some solutions and ideas to help reduce the impact.

To read more click **HERE**

e-Ampang Great Street Forum 2021: EXTENDED!
18 of 24 in the call | 24:31
View
Mu...
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Hakeem ...
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Eddie Zawira Nordin
Zulaikha Azuz
Ar Hj.. Shamsul
Lillian Tay
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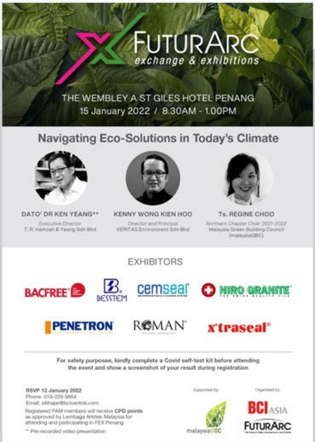
i·d·e·a·s for the world

Saloma Link Bridge, Kuala Lumpur
IMAGEABILITY
GATHERING POINT
CONNECTIVITY & ACCESSIBILITY

Futurarc Forum: *Energy Efficiency - The Key Towards a Compact, Resilient and Sustainable Future*

On 15th January 2022, VERITAS Environment Principal, Kenny Wong gave a talk at St Giles Hotel, Penang entitled: Energy Efficiency - The Key Towards a Compact, Resilient and Sustainable Future. Global warming is happening at an alarming pace and the effects of it are being felt throughout the entire world. The recent flooding in the country is a strong reminder that climate change is real.


FUTURARC exchange & exhibitions

THE WEMBLEY A ST GILES HOTEL PENANG
15 January 2022 / 8.30AM - 1.00PM

Navigating Eco-Solutions in Today's Climate

DATO' DR KEN YEANG**
Executive Director
T. R. Hamzah & Yeang Sdn Bhd

KENNY WONG KIEN HOO
Director and Principal
VERITAS Environment Sdn Bhd

Ts. REGINE CHOO
Northern Chapter Chair 2021-2022
Malaysia Green Building Council
(malaysiaGBC)

EXHIBITORS

BACFREE · BESSTEM · cemseal · NIRO GRANITE
PENETRON · ROMAN · x'traseal

For safety purposes, kindly complete a Covid self-test kit before attending the event and show a screenshot of your result during registration

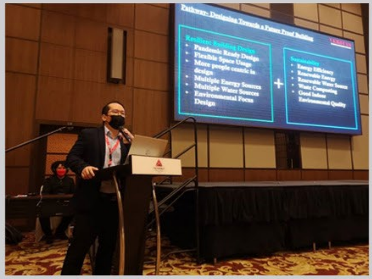
RSVP 12 January 2022
Phone: 019-228 5664
Email: sitihajar@bcicentral.com

Registered PAM members will receive **CPD points** as approved by Lembaga Arkitek Malaysia for attending and participating in FEX Penang

** Pre-recorded video presentation

Supported by: malaysiaGBC

Organised by: BCI ASIA FUTURARC

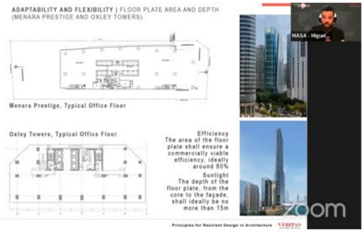


As the saying goes

> "Good Design
> is Sustainable,
> Great Design
> is Responsible"

A Talk on ***"Principles for Resilient Design in Architecture"*** by Miguel Robles.

On 15th January 2022, Associate Architect Miguel Robles gave a talk on Principles for Resilient Design in Architecture for the Malaysian Architecture Students Alliance (MASA), under Pertubuhan Arkitek Malaysia (PAM). The event was hosted via Facebook Live.



ADAPTABILITY AND FLEXIBILITY | FLOOR PLATE AREA AND DEPTH (MENARA PRESTIGE AND OXLEY TOWERS)

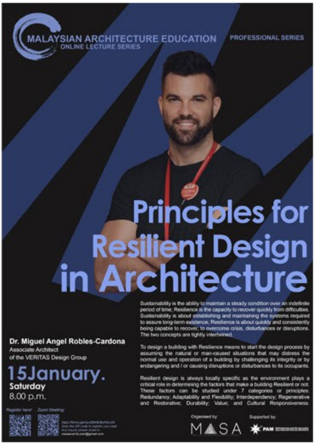
Menara Prestige, Typical Office Floor

Oxley Towers, Typical Office Floor

Efficiency
The area of the floor plate shall ensure a commercially viable efficiency, ideally around 80%

Sunlight
The depth of the floor plate, from the core to the façade, shall ideally be no more than 15m

Principles for Resilient Design in Architecture VERITAS design group



MALAYSIAN ARCHITECTURE EDUCATION
ONLINE LECTURE SERIES

PROFESSIONAL SERIES

Principles for Resilient Design in Architecture

Sustainability is the ability to maintain a steady condition over an indefinite period of time; Resilience is the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties. Sustainability is about establishing and maintaining the systems required to assure long-term existence; Resilience is about quickly and consistently being capable to recover, to overcome crisis, disturbances or disruptions. The two concepts are tightly intertwined.

To design a building with Resilience means to start the design process by assuming the natural or man-caused situations that may distress the normal use and operation of a building by challenging its integrity or by endangering and / or causing disruptions or disturbances to its occupants.

Resilient design is always locally specific as the environment plays a critical role in determining the factors that make a building Resilient or not. These factors can be studied under 7 categories or principles: Redundancy; Adaptability and Flexibility; Interdependency; Regenerative and Restorative; Durability; Value; and Cultural Responsiveness.

Dr. Miguel Angel Robles-Cardona
Associate Architect
of the VERITAS Design Group

15January.
Saturday
8.00 p.m.

Register here! Zoom Meeting

Organised by: MASA
Supported by: PAM

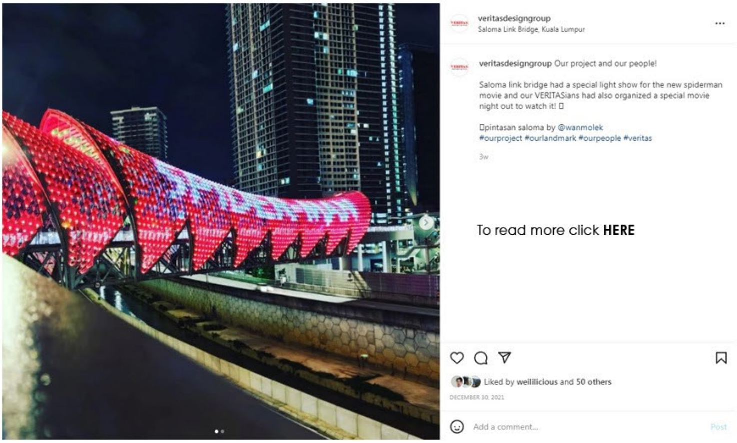
Resilient design is always locally specific as the environment plays a critical role in determining the factors that make a building resilient or not.

To listen more about this talk, you can follow the link **HERE**

VERITAS Movie Night

VERITAS has been organizing movie nights for the past few years under the VSSC (VERITAS Sports and Social Club), focusing on a fun-filled after-work activity. This time around, the movie chosen was: SPIDERMAN: No Way Home.

We had a fun night with the VERITAS Family after a year without social activities together.



veritasdesigngroup
Saloma Link Bridge, Kuala Lumpur

veritasdesigngroup Our project and our people!

Saloma link bridge had a special light show for the new spiderman movie and our VERITASians had also organized a special movie night out to watch it! □

□pintasan saloma by @wanmolek
#ourproject #ourlandmark #ourpeople #veritas

3w

Liked by **weililicious** and **50 others**

DECEMBER 30, 2021

Add a comment...

Post

To read more click **HERE**

VERITAS Landscape Camping Trip

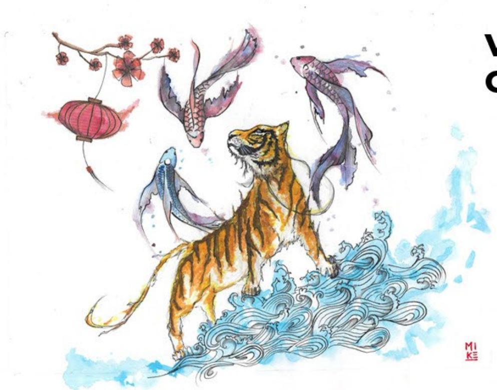
On the 4th and 5th December 2021, VERITAS Landscape organized a camping trip at Pantai Acheh, Pulau Indah.

It was a short but relaxing getaway for the VERITAS Landscape team and was filled with activities of team bonding to motivate the team to work together, develop their strengths and to address any weaknesses.

Final Portfolio Presentation invitation by Politeknik Merlimau, Melaka

On 17th January 2022, Hanil Fikri bin Abd Ghani, an Architect with VERITAS Johor was invited by Politeknik Merlimau, Melaka, as a Panel member for their Architecture Diploma students Final Portfolio Presentation.

Well done Hanil!

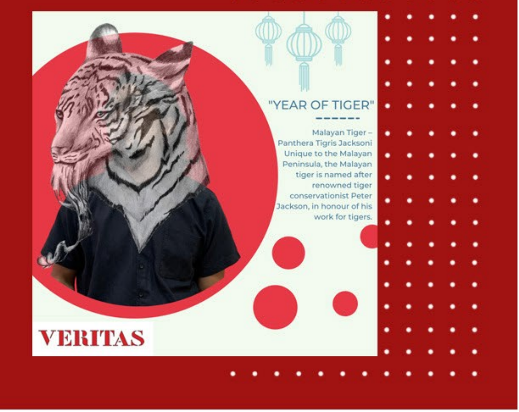


VERITAS Chinese New Year

For 2022 Chinese New Year, it is the year of the TIGER and in Fengshui this means it's a year made for bold action. Tiger years are times of change, even more so because it's the year of Water Tiger. Water is connected to being sensitive, creative and open to change. As architects and designers we are deeply connected with these characteristics.

To give a taste of our creative side, VERITAS asked some of our designers to show off their artistic skill in free-hand sketching.

Have a look at the outcome in our video **HERE**



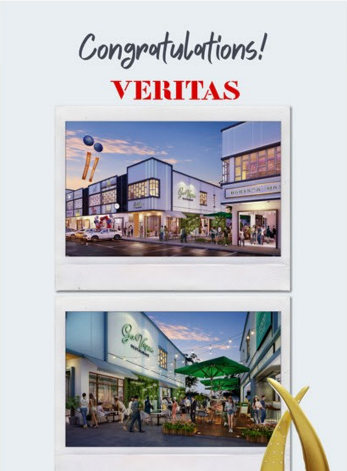
Malayan Tiger – Panthera Tigris Jacksoni Unique to the Malayan Peninsula, the Malayan tiger is named after renowned tiger conservationist Peter Jackson, in honour of his work for tigers.

VERITAS
YEAR OF THE TIGER 2022

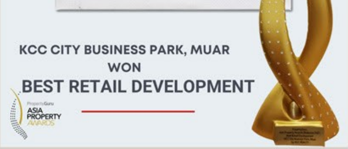
KCC CITY BUSINESS PARK, Muar won the award for BEST RETAIL DEVELOPMENT

23rd December 2022, VERITAS Johor project, KCC City Business Park Muar received the award for Best Retail development from PropertyGuru "Asia Property Award Malaysia 2021".

Congratulations VERITAS Johor!



SOUTH COMMERZ BANK
Spinning


KCC CITY BUSINESS PARK, MUAR
WON
BEST RETAIL DEVELOPMENT

To read more
click **HERE**

Staff of Month

Our staff of the month for January is VERITASian Pinky Tan Jun Inn, commonly known as just "**Pinky**" among her colleagues and friends. Pinky is currently holding the position of Project Architect and has been with the firm for almost 2 years. Pinky shares her personal story with **Aimi (AI)**:

• • •

AI: What is your hobby or passion?
I am very fortunate to have developed a strong passion for architecture as my career unfolds and expands. Being an architect is not just about sketching and designing, but also about contract administration and supervising the construction to its completion.

Apart from work, I love to travel and explore nature because it helps you see things in different perspectives. You realize how big the world is and how small your day to day problems are.

On my free time, I enjoy rock climbing, running and yoga. I think health should be everyone's top priority because only with good health, you can focus on your work and passion.

AI: What's something a colleague did recently that made a positive impact?

Working in VERITAS has been very eye-opening. I cannot pin-point this experience to a specific thing that a colleague has done but the sense of teamwork in this company in general is very strong.

The VERITAS team works together to help each other grow and learn new things. Everyone is very helpful and willing to share their knowledge and experience.

We can always count on each other to solve the challenges or problems that we encounter in our projects.

AI: Name 3 of the most useful personality to you as an architect.

Great Communication Skills

In this line of work, we need to be able to understand well not just what our Clients want but also what they need. Only then can we create a holistic design that fulfils the brief and complies to the statutory requirements.

Enthusiasm

This is a character that is beneficial not just in architecture but also in every aspect in life. Enthusiasm keeps me focused, and it is the most important thing that helps me push through all the difficulties and challenges. Besides, who would want to work with someone that looks tired and bored all the time?

Self-confidence

Being confident is definitely one of the most important characteristics or skills an architect should have. We need to show others that we are confident and strongly believe in our core design values. Only then our Clients feel confident and trust in our approach and design.

AI: If you had a choice to choose a superpower, what would it be and why?

I think I would choose Teleportation or Superspeed. Both of which would allow me to travel and see more places in a much shorter amount of time. Saves the time to queue and scan MySejahtera too, isn't that great?!

AI: How would you design a spice rack for the blind?

It really depends on the budget of the Client. With the technological advancement these days, I would probably go for a voice activated interface. "Hey Spice Rack, can I have the Paprika please?"

For a more economical version, a round rotatable rack with braille labels on top would be good as it will be easier for them to navigate and find what they need.

New Staff

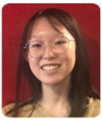
VERITAS Architects SDN. BHD. (Kuala Lumpur)

Nur Amira Abdul Aziz
Production Architect

Nif'aa Mohamad Nazeef
Intern

Muhammad Amirul Faiz Fazlee
Production Architect

See Wan Qi Beth
Intern



Lim Hui Yi
Assistant Architect

Lim Min Yee Eunice
Intern

WHO'S celebrating their BIRTHDAY - January

Tarek Chaar 1st
Atiqah Nur Yahya 1st
Suhaimi Baba 4th
Abdul Malek Kanchil 4th
Zaniman Sulong 4th
Mohd Syarikin Mohd Zailani 5th
A S Harman Buyong Shafii 6th
Ramli Ahmad 10th
Kelvin Chen 10th
Loi Pei Yin 12th
Ahmad Muzhafar Ab Aziz 12th
Ehsanuddin Azhar 12th
Yogeswary Karthikayan 13th
Nur Fatihah Abd Rahman 15th
Nuha Abdul Qader 15th
Shahrul Maasom Ab Halim 26th
Mohd Redzuan B Ramli 26th
Kenny Wong 27th
Wan Tzay Tarng 28th
Arthanarieswaran Selvaraj 28th
Khairulfadzli Nasri 31st

> **I never lose.**
> **I either win or**
> **I learn**
>
> **~ Nelson Mandela**

Bundle of Joy!

We are delighted to welcome 3 bundles of joy in VERITAS this month!

On 15th December, our staff, Muhammad Ikhwan Mohd Aripin and spouse Norsharina Adlan welcomed a baby boy Idris Syah Muhammad Ikhwan.

Congratulations!

Hello my name is Felwis Chong Jun Herng! I was welcomed to the world on 20th January 2022 by my dad; Chong Yeh She (Issey) and mom; Ng Shearly. Can't wait to meet you all soon!

On 4th January 2022, our VERITAS Penang staff, Ahmad Faruq Zulkifli and spouse Nur Aini Hanis Suhaimi welcomed a baby boy Ahmad Zufar Aqif Ahmad Faruq.

Many congratulations!