

MBAM Bulletin



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FOR MEMBERS ONLY

29TH FEBRUARY 2016

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FEBRUARY 2016 BULLETIN

We are already in the second month of the year. Time really flies when we have a lot of things in our plate. March is coming with a full plate of events ranging including the Extraordinary General Meeting and the Fellowship & Karaoke Competition both on 11th March 2016. MBAM also will be organizing a Seminar on the topic "Looking at the Practical Implications of the Nominated Subcontractor (NSC)" on 29th March 2016 at Holiday Villa Hotel, Subang Jaya. **Please contact our secretariat at 03-7984 8636 for further details on that event.**

At the same time, the construction industry is shocked by the Government's announcement on the increased levy rate for foreign workers effective 1st February 2016. The 100% levy increase from the previous rate of RM1,250 to RM2,500 for foreign construction workers is too much to bear by the employers. The increase has led to an outcry from industry players and NGOs saying that the move will affect workers and employers besides increasing the cost of doing business, and also makes sourcing for labour more difficult. After listening to the appeal by various quarters, the Government finally agreed to hold the increase of levy but at the same time they are also freezing the recruitment of foreign workers indefinitely. Finally, on 6th March 2016 MyEG has re-opened their rehiring and permit renewal programme for employers to register their foreign workers accordingly.

MBAM will continue to follow up closely on this matter and keep members updated on any progress.

JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE ON HIKE OF FOREIGN CONSTRUCTION WORKERS LEVY

On 3rd February 2016, MBAM held a Joint Press Conference in Tan Sri Datuk Tee Hock Seng Conference Room where the industry urged the Government to immediately withdraw the hikes in foreign worker's levy. The press conference was also held to appeal to the Government to urgently review and simplify the entire registration process and legalise the illegal foreign workers already working here as soon as possible.



Among the media attending the press conference

Amongst the other trade organizations that attended the press conference were Persatuan Kontraktor Melayu Malaysia (PKMM), Guild of Bumiputera Contractors (GBC), Persatuan Kontraktor India Malaysia (PKIM), Building Materials Distributors Association of Malaysia (BMDAM) and Malaysian Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Association (MACRA).

MBAM was represented by Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Deputy President, Mr Kwan Foh Kwai, MBAM Immediate Past President, Ir. Chuan Yeong Ming and Tan Sri AK Nathan, MBAM Vice Presidents, Mr Oliver Wee, MBAM Deputy Secretary-General 1, Mr Kenneth Liew, MBAM Council Member,

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The representatives from MBAM, PKIM, GBC, BMDAM and MACRA

Mr Mazlan Haron and Mr Ng Yee Ming, MBAM HR Committee Members, Ms Loh Mei Ling, MBAM Executive Director and I.

In conclusion, there should always be continuous dialogue with the industry and stakeholders before any policy are implemented. If a consensus is not reached, then at least the Government should keep the industry informed beforehand in order for the industry to be prepared for upcoming policy changes. With rising costs at all levels being felt with little "feel good" factors recently and in time to come, now is a wrong time to impose charges increase that will further increase the costs of doing business.

MBAM AFFILIATE MEMBERS ANNIVERSARY DINNER CELEBRATION

The 47th Port Dickson Builders Association Anniversary Dinner was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim and I at Dewan Tiong Kok, Sekolah Menengah Chung Hua, Port Dickson on 3rd February 2016.



MBAM Secretary General, Mr Dennis Tan with the Council Members of the Port Dickson Builders Association

MEETING WITH VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TRAINING ACADEMY COLLEGE

On 4th February 2016, MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling and MBAM Manager, Ms Chai Min Fung had a meeting with the Directors of Vocational Education Training Academy (VETA) Sdn Bhd, Mr Eric Wong, and Mr Chang Aik Ming at MBAM's Tan Sri Datuk Tee Hock Seng Conference Room.

Issues discussed in the meeting include:

- VETA intends to collaborate with MBAM to provide job placements for its trainees at MBAM Members companies.
- To gather information on the top 10 most demanded construction skills trades.

VETA, located in Semenyih, Selangor, is a skills training Centre listed under the MOHR. It provides full training facilities and hostel for trainees. VETA conducts skills training Programme for Form 5 school leavers primarily in skills such as:

- Welding
- Automotive
- WSO (World Safety Organisation) compliant OSH programme
- Scaffolding Safety Erectors Training

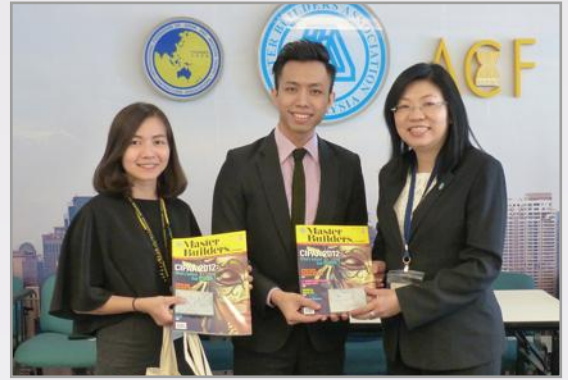
MEETING WITH SARAWAK CONVENTION BUREAU (SCB)



Representatives from the Sarawak Convention Bureau paid a courtesy visit to MBAM on 16th February 2016 with the intention to promote Sarawak as the potential host venue for our upcoming international event namely the 44th International Federation of Asian and West Pacific Contractors' Associations (IFAWPCA) Conference. Master Builders Association Malaysia is set to host this prestigious event again in 2018 after the Association last played host for it in 1998 in Kuala Lumpur.

Representatives of Sarawak Convention Bureau, Ms Weini Tan and Mr Louis Dennis

It is estimated that the convention will attract 500-600 foreign delegates into our country. The Sarawak Convention Bureau has offered attractive incentives such as monetary grant, arrangement for international speakers, consultation and etc. should the event be hosted in Sarawak. MBAM Secretariat will forward the proposal for the Organising Committee's consideration.



MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling presenting MBJ to SCB representatives as a token of appreciation

CONSULTATION MEETING BETWEEN INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS AND THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

The recent announcement by the Government to increase the foreign workers' levy has caused objection from various parties. MBAM, PKMM (Persatuan Kontraktor Melayu Malaysia), PKIM (Persatuan Kontraktor India Malaysia) and Guild of Bumiputera Contractors (GBC) have jointly called a press conference on 3rd February 2016 and subsequently submitted a memorandum to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs, YBhg. Dato' Seri Dr

Ahmad Zahid Hamidi to object the 100% increase of construction foreign workers' levy; from RM1,250 to RM2,500. The said ruling was then suspended on 12th February 2016 due to strong objections from various sectors especially from the business community, who complains that it will adversely impact all sectors. Ultimately, all cost incurred will be passed on to the end-users or consumers.

A consultation meeting between the Ministry of Home Affairs (including Government regulators) and industry stakeholders was held on 16th February 2016 and was chaired by the Secretary-General of Ministry of Home Affairs, YBhg. Dato' Sri Alwi bin Haji Ibrahim. MBAM was represented by President, Mr Matthew Tee and Vice President, Ir. Chuan Yeong Ming. Over 100 attendees were present at the meeting, mainly representatives (approximately 25 attendees) from major NGOs in various sectors as well as officers from related



During the meeting

Government regulators such as Immigration Department of Malaysia. All representatives who were present at the meeting were given an opportunity to raise their concern on the new levy structure as well as on its direct and indirect consequences to their businesses.



MBAM President, Mr Matthew Tee expressing his point of view during the discussion

YBhg. Dato' Sri Alwi highlighted that the increase of foreign levy is inevitable quoting the low levy structure adopted by the Malaysia Government compared to other countries such as Hong Kong, Singapore, etc. Besides, he said the rate is justified as currently foreign workers are enjoying public facilities. Thus, the purpose of the consultation meeting was to seek input and consent from all industry sectors on the levy structure rate that can be accepted by all parties. The business community is to provide input on the new levy rate and on the legalization process of undocumented foreign workers to the Government by early March 2016.

INTERVIEW WITH ASTRO AEC

I had an interview with ASTRO AEC on 21st February 2016 at Saujana Golf and Country Club on the suspension of intake of foreign workers. The interview gave MBAM the opportunity to share our views and to educate the viewers of ASTRO AEC on the latest trend and issues in the Malaysian construction industry. In the interview, I mentioned on MBAM stand that suspending the intake of all foreign workers will most probably negatively impact the construction industry in the medium term, when new construction projects that requires new manpower are launched. It must be noted however that the Rehiring Programme which started on 15th February 2016 will not be affected as reportedly mentioned by Ministry of Home Affairs, Secretary-General, Dato' Sri Alwi Ibrahim on 19th February 2016.

The construction industry in Malaysia is perennially facing the issue of manpower shortages. The reliance on foreign workers are brought about by a number of factors such as the lack of locals joining the industry as well as the lack of incentive to increase mechanization and the usage of Industrialised Building System (IBS) and is not solely because the industry wanting cheap labour. The decision to suspend the intake of all foreign workers will exacerbate the shortage of manpower already affecting the construction industry.

*MBAM Secretary General,
Mr Dennis Tan being
interviewed by reporter
from Astro AEC*



MBAM Secretary General, Mr Dennis Tan presenting the MBAM 60th Anniversary Coffee Table Book as a token of appreciation



CHINESE NEW YEAR GATHERINGS

MBAM President, Mr Matthew Tee hosted a Chinese New Year Dinner on 17th February 2016 at Unique Seafood Damansara Restaurant & Banquet. The dinner was attended by MBAM Immediate Past President, Mr Kwan Foh Kwai, MBAM Deputy President, Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Vice Presidents, Tan Sri Dato' Sri Sufri Bin Haji Mohd Zin, Tan Sri AK Nathan, Mr Liew Hau Seng, Mr Thomas Samuel, MBAM Treasurer General, Mr Eric Lai, MBAM Deputy Secretary General 1, Mr Oliver Wee, MBAM Deputy Secretary General 2, Mr Ong Ka Thiam, MBAM Council Members, Mr Chong Tat Yam, Mr Lau Yew Mun, Mr Kenneth Liew, MBAM Alternate Council Members, Mr Teoh Teik Thiam and Mr Steven Aroki, MBAM Honorary Advisors, Dato' Tan Kia Loke, Mr Yee Wing Peng, Mr John Tong and I.



*MBAM Council Members at the Chinese New Year Dinner
hosted by MBAM President, Mr Matthew Tee*

The Lighthouse Club Kuala Lumpur Chinese New Year Get Together was held on 18th March 2016 at El Sid's, 1 Jalan Setia Puspa, Kuala Lumpur. The Get Together was attended by MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling and MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim.

The Malaysian Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Association (MACRA) New Year Open House was held on 22nd February 2016 at MACRA Secretariat office at Kuchai Entrepreneurs Park. The Open House was attended by MBAM President, Mr Matthew Tee, MBAM Deputy Secretary-General 1 and Chairman of MBAM Contracts and Practices Committee, Mr Oliver Wee, MBAM Council Member and Chairman



*MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling (4th from left)
with Lighthouse Club members*



*MBAM President, Mr Matthew Tee (1st from right) with the President
of MACRA, Dato' Sri Dr. Ricky Yaw (standing in the centre)*

of MBAM Mechanical & Electrical Committee, Mr Kenneth Liew, MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling, and MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim.

Building Materials Distributors Association of Malaysia (BMDAM) New Year Gathering was attended by MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling and MBAM Senior Managers, Mr Michael Thong and Mr Lenny Lim, MBAM Senior Executive Officer, Mr Leon Leong and I at Oriental Banquet, Petaling Jaya on 25th February 2016.

BMDAM President, Mr Yang Kian Lock (3rd from right) with MBAM Secretary General, Mr Dennis Tan and MBAM Secretariat



ON THE JOB TECHNICAL TRAINING VISIT TO SUNGAI BULOH MRT DEPOT

Wee together with Mr Vincent Lim, M&E Committee Members led the delegation of 23 participants for the visit.



The participants at the depot

by SMH Rail Sdn Bhd in its plant in Rasa, Hulu Selangor. It is the first train to be fully assembled in Malaysia. It is estimated that the journey from Sungai Buloh to Kajang will take about 1 hour and 10 minutes. After the briefings, Mr Kenneth Liew, MBAM M&E Committee Chairman thanked the MMC-Gamuda KVMRT (PDP) Sdn Bhd and their staff for hosting the technical visit, and presented a memento to Mr Leng Hua Teng as a token of appreciation.

During the visit the delegates were brought to see the Infrastructure Workshop & Works Train Stabling, Rolling Stock Maintenance Office, Electric Train Workshop, Car Body Wash Plant, as well as the Administration Building & Operation Control Centre. Overall, the feedbacks from the participants were that the study visit was educational and had enhanced their knowledge on the subject.

Inside the train



Group photo of the participants

SESSION 1: PUBLIC RELATIONS AS A TOOL TO BUILD BUSINESSES

a professional emcee and is one of the few who can emcee fluently both in Malay and English. This one-day seminar proved to be useful for MBAM Members in understanding the role of public relations and how to go about conducting it. The training was attended by 16 participants who came from various communications related backgrounds.



Group photo with the participants of the PR Training



Mr Ishak Nengah having a discussion with the participants

Other Key Events Attended by MBAM Representatives in February 2016

2nd February 2016

Launch of Public Consultation with the Industry Players was attended by me at the Dewan Perdana Ballroom, Palm Garden Hotel, IOI Resort, Putrajaya.

4th February 2016

Workshop on Green Procurement Study in Malaysian Construction Industry was attended by MBAM Senior Executive Officer, Mr Leon Leong at Ballroom 2, Tingkat 2, Hotel Maya, Kuala Lumpur.

16th February 2016

Working Group on the Anti - Bribery Management Systems (WG-ABMS) Meeting No. 1/2016 was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim at Bilik Mesyuarat Utama, Level 7, Blok D6, SPRM Headquarters, Putrajaya.

17th February 2016

CIDB Briefing on Iron and Steel Product and LED Product was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong at Bilik Sabah, PWTC, Kuala Lumpur.

CIDB - Accreditation + Training for Construction Workers was attended by MBAM Vice President, Ir. Chuan Yeong Ming, MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling and MBAM Manager, Ms Lee Siew Mei at Level 35, CIDB HQ, PWTC, Kuala Lumpur.

SIRIM Casco Meeting on Cement Eco Product was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong at Bilik Casco, Block 3, SIRIM Berhad.

18th February 2016

Meeting with YJACK Technology Shd Bhd was attended by MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling and MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong at Tan Sri Datuk Tee Hock Seng Conference Room, MBAM's Office, Taman Desa.

Malaysia Steel and Metal Distributors' Association Chinese New Year Open House 2016 was attended by MBAM President, Mr Matthew Tee and MBAM Deputy Secretary General 2, Mr Ong Ka Thiam at Perdana Ballroom, Bukit Jalil Golf Club, Kuala Lumpur.

19th February 2016

Soft Launch of Healthcare Build Environment Asia 2016 was attended by MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling and MBAM Manager, Ms Chai Min Fung at Grand Ballroom A, Seri Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

Focus Group on Registering Property (FGRP) Meeting No. 1/2016 was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim at Bilik Majlis, MPC, Petaling Jaya.

23rd February 2016

Industry Advisory Council Meeting No. 1/2016 Polytechnic Education Department was attended by MBAM Vice President cum Chairman of the Education Committee, Tan Sri Dato' Sri Sufri bin Haji Mohd Zin, and MBAM Deputy Chairman of the Education Committee, Mr Andrew Ong at Putrajaya Marriott Hotel, Putrajaya.

24th February 2016

SIRIM - Working Group on Constituent Materials and Concrete Meeting No. 2/2016 was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong at SIRIM Berhad, Shah Alam.

25th February 2016

SIRIM Working Group Meeting on Ceramic Tiles was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong at SIRIM.

26th February 2016

Working Group Committee for Temporary Works and Scaffolding in the Site Meeting No.2/2016 was attended by MBAM Safety & Health Committee Member, Mr Michael Yap and MBAM Assistant Manager, Mr Mohd Farhan at Bilik Mesyuarat Resak, CIDB, Tingkat 32, PWTC, Kuala Lumpur.

Yours faithfully,

MASTER BUILDERS ASSOCIATION MALAYSIA

DENNIS TAN

MBAM Secretary General

MBAM SITE SAFETY SUPERVISOR (SSS) COURSE TRAINING CALENDAR 2016

		2016				
STATES	CLASS	FEB	MAC	APR	MAY	JUNE
KUALA LUMPUR	FULL TIME	29 Feb - 7 Mac		4 - 11	16 - 23	
KUALA LUMPUR	WEEKEND	27 Feb - 20 Mac		2 - 24	14 May - 5 June	
PENANG	FULL TIME		16 - 23		5 - 12	
JOHOR	WEEKEND		18 Mac - 3 Apr		6 - 29	
KOTA KINABALU, SABAH	FULL TIME		31 Mac - 7 Apr			
KUCHING, SARAWAK	WEEKEND	27 Feb - 20 Mac				
MIRI, SARAWAK	FULL TIME			23 - 30		
BINTULU, SARAWAK	FULL TIME				21 - 28	

**** Please contact MBAM Secretariat for SSS Training in Kuantan (Pahang), Ipoh (Perak) & Kuala Terengganu (Terengganu)**

**** Dates of scheduled training are subject to change from time to time**

Weekend (WE) Classes will be conducted on :

Saturday & Sunday : 8.00 am to 7.00 pm

Contact Persons:

Ms Fieya / Ms Ida / Mr Farhan / Ms Chai

Tel: 03 - 7984 8636 **Fax:** 03 - 7982 9811 **H/P:** 017- 625 3368

E-mail(s) : mbam13@mbam.org.my / mbam14@mbam.org.my / mbam16@mbam.org.my / mbam06@mbam.org.my

Please download the Application Form from MBAM website: www.mbam.org.my

MBAM Safety & Health Award 2016

Golden Helmet Award for Leadership in Safety & Health

Presented to a person who has made an outstanding and significant leadership contribution to Safety & Health in the Construction Industry.

- Nomination is open for Malaysian only.
- Nomination is open for Government Servants, CEOs, Directors & MD and others.



Safety & Health Award for Site Personnel

This award is presented to a person who have shown high commitment to the implementation of Safety and Health at Construction site(s).

Participation is open for:

- All local construction site personnel* (Malaysian only) who performed direct supervision of workers.
- Is Accredited by DOSH/CIDB (if any).
- Recognition by company on the OSH performance (if any).
- Involvement in other NGO activities related to safety (if any).
- Past MBAM Safety & Health Awards recipients are not eligible for participation.



Term and Condition

- The Panel of Judges of the Awards have the right to disqualify entries which contained false information / declaration.
- All documents will be treated with the strictest confidence and can only be viewed by the Panel of Judges.
- The decision of Panel of Judges is final. Any appeal will NOT be entertained.
- Winners of the Awards shall be able to share their knowledge and contribution on OSH in any of MBAM related events upon invited.
- The closing date for Nomination/Participation is **15 April 2016 (Friday)**.



MBAM Safety & Health Award 2016



MBAM Safety & Health Award was officially launched by the Honorable Minister of Human Resources, Malaysia - YB Datuk Seri Dr. S. Subramaniam on 13 December 2011 at the MBAM CEO Luncheon at Sunway Resort Hotel and Spa.

MBAM Safety & Health Awards is jointly organized by Master Builders Association Malaysia (MBAM) and the Lighthouse Club, Kuala Lumpur.

The Golden Helmet Award and MBAM Safety & Health Award for Site Personnel for the year 2016 will be awarded during MBAM Annual Safety & Health Conference 2016 on this coming 10th May 2016 at Sunway Hotel Resort & Spa, Kuala Lumpur.

Organised by:



Co-organized:



Sponsored by:



Supported by:



Enquiries:

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Contact Person: Mr. Mohd Farhan, Assistant Manager

CLOSING DATE
15th April 2016
(Friday)