

# Surveying Newsletter

測 量 師 導 報

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 11, DECEMBER 1999



## *Our new President's Address A New Millennium - The Challenge Ahead*

(delivered at the HKIS AGM on 13th December 1999)

*Francis Ng, President*

Dear members,

Thank you for attending the Annual General Meeting. It is most encouraging to note that members are keen in the affairs of the Institute as witnessed by the number of members turning up this evening.

During the past two years we were in the midst of the financial turmoil. However, it is my observation that despite of the difficulties encountered, our members are, in general, performing well and maintaining a very high professional standards and ethics in their work. With the gradual recovery of the economy, I am sure that there will be more job opportunities and our role as professional surveyors is becoming more and more important in providing services to the community.

Now turning to the work of the Institute, no doubt you are aware of the 5-year plan as launched by our out-going President, Mr. Samson Wong, the working group to promote surveyors' image, various committees on current affairs, enhancing communication with members etc. All these assignments had a good start, some are almost finished. In my current term as the President, I together with the General Council and Divisional Chairmen, will continue monitoring progress on these key issues. Furthermore, the Institute will

take on a more proactive role in advising Government on formulation of policies, through active participation in various committees/panels. Our attention will focus on operation of the property market and major issues like urban renewal, sustainable development, reclamation, construction standards and safety etc. More CPD events and forums will be held on a strategic basis with a view to enabling members to exchange ideas and inform them of the latest knowledge about the professional and technological development. Also, a recruitment exercise for an IT officer is being held so that we will be able to provide better services through electronic means to members and the general public. On the PR aspect, the spokesman system will remain. We will explore whatsoever ways possible to enhance our professional status. At the same time, the Institute is keen to find more accommodation in order to give better services to members.

On the international front, we have appointed Mr. Graham Heath to be our contact person with the RICS. This is most important in view of Mr. Heath's background and personal contact with key personnels in the RICS, particularly at the time in which HKIS is exploring possible incorporation with the SST in Hong Kong.

With regard to our contact with the mainland, and nearby regions, I note that some members had, in the past few years,

MILLENNIUM



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#### HKIS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1999/2000

President	Francis Ng - 吳恆廣 FHKIS, FRICS, ACIArb, RPS (GP)
Senior Vice-President	Stephen Liu - 廖凌康 FHKIS, FRICS, ACIArb, RPS (QS)
Junior Vice-President	Hak Chan - 陳克 FHKIS, FRICS
Honorary Secretary	Albert So - 蘇振顯 BSc, FHKIS, FRICS, FCIH, FHKIH, RPS (GP)
Honorary Treasurer	Edwin Tang - 鄧海坤 FHKIS, ARICS
Immediate Past President	Samson Wong - 黃山 FHKIS, FRICS, ACIArb, AP, RPS (BS)
Chairman, Building Surveying Division	Richard K. H. Cheung - 張國豪 FHKIS, FRICS, ACIArb RPS (BS)
Chairman, General Practice Division	Tony Tse - 謝偉銓 FHKIS, FRICS, RPS (GP)
Chairman, Land Surveying Division	C. H. Wong - 黃仲衡 FHKIS, FRICS, ACIArb, AMBCS
Chairman, Quantity Surveying Division	T.T. Cheung - 張達業 BSc (Hons), MSc(Arch), FHKIS, FRICS, RPS (QS)
Chairman, Junior Organisation	Y. C. Chan - 陳宇俊 PgDip(IHO Cat. A), AHKIS, ARICS, RPS (LS), MRIN
SECRETARIAT Secretary-General	Gordon M. Y. Ng - 吳文仁 AHKIS, ARICS, RPS (GP)

#### EDITORIAL BOARD 1999/2000

Hon. Editor Kenneth Chan

#### Editorial Contributions

Surveying encourages article queries and submissions. Article submissions should include both hard (printed) copy and a diskette in Word format. Contributions should reach the editor at the office of the Institute before the 10th of each month.

#### Information & Contents

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#### Advertising

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#### The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors

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Office Hours:  
Monday to Thursday 9:00am - 5:30pm  
Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Saturday 9:30am - 12:30pm

set up their surveying firms in some major cities. They appear to be quite successful and are authoritative in certain aspects, e.g. feasibility studies, valuation services, agency work, building management and cost consultants etc. Certainly, as China is going to joining the WTO, there will be much more opportunities for our members to promote our services/profession in the mainland. With this in mind, HKIS will continue to send delegations to China on appropriate occasions, e.g. the ExPo in Shanghai in mid January, the seminar with the Ministry of Construction in Chongqing in April. A joint seminar with the GuangDong Appraisal Society in June

etc. It is anticipated that there will be much more closer contact, thus business connections with GuangDong and Shenzhen, in the months to come.

Over the past few decades, our predecessors had done a lot to lay a solid foundation for the Institute. With the approach of a new millennium, it is an opportune time for the Institute to consolidate on what we have achieved and explore advancement in various aspects, in particular promoting surveyors' image and providing quality services to the public. I am sure fellow members are determined to make this mission a success.

#### HKIS General Council 1999/2000

The following office bearers were elected to the HKIS General Council for the term 1999/2000, at the Annual General Meeting held on 13th December 1999.

President	Mr NG Hang Kwong, Francis
Senior Vice President	Mr LIU Ling Hong, Stephen
Junior Vice President	Mr CHAN Hak
Hon. Secretary	Mr SO Chun Hin, Albert
Hon. Treasurer	Mr TANG Hoi Kwan, Edwin

Representatives from the Divisions are:

#### Building Surveying Division

Mr CHEUNG Kwok Ho, Richard (Chairman)

Dr CHAN Man-wai

Mr YUN Ying Kit, Kenneth

#### General Practice Division

Mr TSE Wai Chuen, Tony (Chairman)

Mr CHIU Kam Kuen

Mr POON Wing Cheung, Lawrence

#### Land Surveying Division

Mr WONG Chung Hang (Chairman)

Mr LAM Li Wah

Mr CHEUNG Wai Man

#### Quantity Surveying Division

Mr CHEUNG Tat Tong (Chairman)

Mr KAM Siu Chee, Kent

Mr CHENG Wai Hung, Nelson

#### Junior Organisation

Mr CHAN Yue-chun (Chairman)

Mr WAN Chi-wai, David

# News from the Secretariat

## HKIS 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dinner

The major highlight of the 15th Anniversary of the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors was the Celebration Dinner held on 19th November 1999. It was held at the Grand Hall of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, and as with previous annual dinners, the event was well attended by over 900 members and their guests. The guest of honour was Mr Gordon

K C SIU, Secretary for Planning, Environment and Lands, who gave an enlightening speech to the audience. As part of the 15th anniversary celebrations, a presentation of medals to the past presidents of the Institute was made. The evening ended with choral singing from the Boheme Childrens Choir and a violin solo performance by Jun Yi MA, both performances which captivated the members and guests.



▲ The office bearers, President, Mr Samson Wong, Senior Vice President, Mr Francis Ng, Junior Vice President, Mr Stephen Liu, Hon. Secretary, Miss Winnie Shiu and Hon. Treasurer, Mr Albert So, raise a toast to the guests and members.



◀ The guest of honour, Mr Gordon Siu (third from left) with the President, Mr Samson Wong (far right) with the Junior Vice President, Mr Stephen Liu (first left) and Senior Vice President, Mr Francis Ng (second left).

▶ The Masters of Ceremonies, Mr Peter Kok and Miss Wendy Gan, address the audience.



◀ Mr Jun Yi MA.



◀ Mr Kan Fook Yee, the first HKIS President, receives the past presidents medal from Mr Denis Levett, Chairman of the RICS (Hong Kong Branch) in 1984.



▲ Boheme Children's Choir.



▲ The President, Mr Samson Wong, with past Presidents of HKIS.

# News from the Secretariat

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

**Deadline for submission of Corporate membership applications 2000:-**

1. Thursday, 20 January 2000 for Board of Membership Meeting on 24 February 2000 and General Council Meeting on 9 March 2000.
2. Thursday, 20 April 2000 for Board of Membership Meeting on 25 May 2000 and General Council Meeting on 8 June 2000.
3. Thursday, 27 July 2000 for Board of Membership Meeting on 31 August 2000 and General Council Meeting on 14 September 2000.
4. Thursday, 21 September 2000 for Board of Membership Meeting on 26 October 2000 and General Council Meeting on 9 November 2000.

All applications (including those which do not meet the full requirements) received later than the submission deadline will be processed at the following next meeting.

### Application Fees

*With effect from 28 September 1999:-*

1. Any person applying for admission into membership shall pay an application fee which shall be non-refundable whether or not such person is admitted into membership.

Student Class A	:	\$ 250.00
Student Class B	:	\$ 615.00
Associate	:	\$1,230.00
Fellow	:	\$1,700.00

2. Any corporate member or student shall be liable to pay the annual subscription for the ensuing year upon admission into membership and upon expiry of the annual subscription for the current year. (Financial year runs from 1st April to 31st March).



# News from the Building Surveying Division

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1999

The Building Surveying Division held its 15th Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, 30th November 1999 at the Hong Kong Football Club, Happy Valley, Hong Kong. The following members were elected to the BSD council 1999-2000:-

Chairman	Richard CHEUNG
Vice Chairman	CHAN Man Wai
Hon. Secretary	Nelson S L HO
Hon. Treasurer	YIU Miu Shan
Members	T C CHEUNG
	Ben W H CHONG
	Bishop CHUNG
	Andrew IP
	Robin LEUNG
	Edgar LI
	Edwin TANG
	Alex WONG
	Gordon WONG
	Kenneth YUN
Ex Officio Member	Kenneth CHAN

The 3 BSD representatives in the General Council 1999-2000 are Mr Richard Cheung, Dr Chan Man Wai and Mr Kenneth Yun.



# News from the General Practice Division

By Tony Tse, Chairman

## 1. The New Council, General Practice Division

At the General Practice Division Annual General Meeting held on 2 December 1999, which was attended by 227 members, 20 members were elected as Council members for the year 1999/2001. The first Council meeting was held on 8 December 1999 at which the following office bearers have been elected.

Chairman	: Mr. Tse Wai Chuen, Tony
Senior Vice-Chairman	: Ms. Mona Woo
Vice-Chairman	: Mr. Chiu Kam Kuen, Mr. Leung Kam Leung
Honorary Secretary	: Mr. Poon Wing Cheung, Lawrence
Honorary Treasurer	: Mr. Lam Ka Fai, Francis

To enable the Council to tackle Division matters more effectively, Council members agreed to increase the number of the Vice-Chairman post to 3. Each of them will be responsible for different aspects of the divisional matters which could be categorized into 4 main areas, namely :-

- i) Professional Practice and Standards Affairs;
- ii) Government Practice and Local Affairs;
- iii) Education, Membership, APC and CPD Affairs; and
- iv) Public Relation, PRC and International Affairs.

The allocation of responsibility of these areas amongst the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen is to be confirmed at the coming Division Council meeting, and thereafter shall be reported to members.

## 2. New List of Independent Valuation Expert

At present, the HKIS maintain a List of Independent Valuation Expert. The President of HKIS carries out the appointment and nomination service of members on the List to act as Independent Valuers on request of the

public. There are about 20 names on the current List. However, there are no formal procedures and criteria by which members could be included in the List. In 1998, the General Council of HKIS agreed to set up a Working Group headed by Mr. S. C. Liu together with members Mr. Thomas N. T. Poon, Mr. H. F. Leung and Mr. K. K. Chiu to study the issue. Based on the Working Group recommendation both the General Practice Division Council and General Council of HKIS endorsed the following criteria and procedures of appointing members to the List. It is also the decision of the General Practice Division Council that a new List be drawn up to replace the existing one as soon as possible. Members who would like to be included in the new List of Independent Valuation Expert are therefore required to submit their application together with details and particulars which should meet the following criteria :-

- i) a Fellow membership of General Practice Division;
- ii) 10 years post-qualification experience in Hong Kong;
- iii) the immediate past 5 years experience should mainly involve property valuation; and
- iv) not having been used successfully for professional negligence in the past.

All applications will be considered by a Panel formed by the General Practice Division to endorse, if the qualifications and experience of the applicants meet the criteria, before recommendations are made to the President of HKIS for inclusion in the new List. Moreover, the List will be updated every 2 years and the Chairman of General Practice Division will be consulted prior to the President of HKIS appointing an Independent Valuation Expert under the List on request from the public. Cases will be allocated on a rotation basis.

As it is intended that the new List will take effect as soon as possible members are requested to submit their application on or before 19 February 2000.



## News from the Land Surveying Division

### The Annual General Meeting of Land Surveying Division

By W F Yik

The Annual General Meeting of LSD was held on Friday, 25th November 1999 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. 42 members attended the meeting.

The Chairman's Report and the Hon. Treasurer's Report for the year 1998/1999 were presented and endorsed in the meeting. One nomination for the year 1999/2000 LSD Council was received. The following members were elected to be the 1999/2000 LSD Office Bearers and the Council Members :-

Chairman	: Mr. WONG Chung Hang
Vice-Chairman	: Mr. LAM Li Wah
Hon. Secretary	: Mr. CHEUNG Wai Man
Hon. Treasurer	: Mr. AU Chi Ho
Council Members	: Mr. CHAN Hon Kwan, Henry Mr. CHAN Tak Hing Mr. CHAN Tat Wing, Ted Mr. CHAU Ming, Marvin Mr. KWAN Lam Fat Mr. LAW Kai Chung Mr. NG Kwok Wai Mr. TANG Hong Wai, Conrad Mr. TANG Sze Kin Mr. TSOI Cheong Wai Mr. Ian WOOTTEN
J.O. Representative	: Mr. LAM Lik-shan
Student Representative	: Ms. LO Hoi-yin

### Message from the LSD Chairman

By WONG Chung Hang

I am glad that I have been elected Chairman of the Land Surveying Division for the council year of 1999/2000. I feel very honoured to have this opportunity to serve you all at the beginning of the New Millennium.

I must thank the past LSD Council for their hard work that has provided a very good foundation for the new LSD Council to build on more new success. The past LSD Council has maintained good relations with our counterparts in China, Taiwan and the South-East Asia. The past LSD Council has worked very hard for the Code of Land Boundary Survey Practice (COP) which primarily aims at providing some guidelines for land boundary survey quality assurance.

I think the COP or the Guideline, whatever you called it, is a very important reference document for members of the Land Surveying Division to provide better professional services to the general public. Under the Land Survey Ordinance, the Land Survey Authority (LSA) has to maintain a comprehensive system of land boundary survey records. As for subdivision surveys, all other land boundary plans and survey record plans forwarded to the LSA by our private practitioners should be of the standards comparable to those of the Land Survey Ordinance. The land owners as our clients for land boundary surveys will also benefit from the good survey standards advocated by the HKIS. To this end, the new LSD Council will continue to push for a good COP/Guideline acceptable to the public, the LSA and most importantly our land surveying practitioners in the private sector. I hope the COP/Guideline will be finalised for the benefits of the Institute and the community at large within my term of office.

I am sure it will be very difficult for me and the new LSD Council to complete every task to the satisfaction of all LSD members. However, with your assistance and support, I am confident that we can make some break-throughs. We may encounter more difficulties in the coming years. Your divisional council members will need to have more energy and imagination to work out the solutions to the problems facing us. We may have to work more closely together than ever before. I am looking forward to your participation in all the





## News from the Land Surveying Division

discussions, working groups, and particularly those technical and social functions to be organised by your divisional council. In the meantime, if you have any topic that need to be handled by the Institute, please do not hesitate to let me know.

As everyone is looking for more success in the New Millennium, I wish you all good health, good luck and lots of happiness in the coming years.

### Membership List of the Land Surveyors Registration Committee

By CHEUNG Wai-man, Hon. Secretary, LSD

The Secretary for Planning, Environment and Lands has appointed the three nominees of HKIS as members of the Land Surveyors Registration Committee, for a period of two years commencing from 18 November 1999. With effect from the same date, the members of the Committee are as follows:-

Mr. Chan Hak, JP	Chairman (Delegate of the Director of Lands, the Land Survey Authority)
Mr. Yeung Kin-fai	Member (Nominated by the Land Survey Authority)
Mr. Frank Cheng Kin-kee	Member (Nominated by the Land Survey Authority)
Mr. Leung Shou-chun	Member (Nominated by the HKIS)
Mr. Chan Tat-wing	Member <sup>*</sup> (Nominated by the HKIS)
Mr. Wootten Ian Frederick	Member (Nominated by the HKIS)

### Sponsor the First Hong Kong Symposium on Satellite Positioning System Applications (SPSA)

By Ted CHAN

HKIS was honoured to be one of the sponsors of the SPSA which had been hosted by the Department of Land Surveying & Geoinformatics, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, on 11 December 1999.

The Land Surveying Division, representing the HKIS, had donated HK\$15,000 as financial support to the SPSA. This amount was mainly voluntarily contributed to the division account by LSD members.

On behalf of the LSD, we would like to express our gratitude to the following members for their generous support:-

Gordon ANDREASSEND	Helicon MA
CHAN Hak	MOK King-leung
Henry CHAN	Winnie SHIU
CHAN Tak-hing	Lionel TANG
Ted CHAN	Jacky TULL
HO Wing-kun	TN WONG
LEUNG Shou-chun	Ian WOOTTEN

### The 20th Asian Conference on Remote Sensing Educational Workshop

By CHAN Yue-chun

In response to the invitation from the Organizing Committee of the 20th Asian Conference on Remote Sensing, Messrs Man Wing-kan, Kwan Lam-fat, Yam Hon-fun, Chan Yue-chun and Dr Esmond Mok, representing the HKIS, jointly conducted an educational workshop on "The use of Artificial Satellites and Global Positioning System (GPS) on Geographical Information system (GIS) and Remote Sensing" on 24th November at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. Over 60 participants including Geography teachers and high school students attended the programme. They were introduced the basic concept of photogrammetry, remote sensing, GPS, GPS/Remote Sensing/GIS integration and their applications in Geographical/Engineering context. In addition, the roles of professional surveyors in various disciplines of HKIS and the route to become a professional surveyor were discussed. The workshop was well received by the audience with positive feedback.



# News from the Quantity Surveying Division

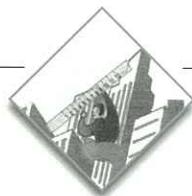
By TT Cheung, Chairman

## 1. Annual General Meeting 1999

The AGM was held on Monday, 6th December 1999 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hong Kong Jockey Club. The new QSD Council is as follows:

<u>Post</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>
Chairman	TT Cheung	China Prosperity Group
Vice Chairman	Kent Kam	Northcroft HK Ltd
Hon. Secretary	Nelson Cheng	Levett & Bailey
Hon. Treasurer	Thomas Tse	Paul Y-ITC
Members	Stephen Chung	Zeppelin Property Consultants Ltd
	Derek Drew	HK Polytechnic University
	Liwina Ho (Ms)	Binne Black & Veatch HK Ltd
	Peter Ho	Davis Langdon & Seah
	Evenlyn Kwok	Northcroft HK Ltd
	Jacob Lam	Value Mark Mangement Consultants Ltd
	Tony Lau	Housing Society
	Ellen Lau (Ms)	City University of HK
	Rowson Lee	HK Polytechnic University
	Y M Lee (Ms)	Podium Development
	Francis Leung	ArchSD
	Low Hon Wah	Estate Office, HKPU
	George Nip	KPK QS (HK) Ltd
	K C Tang	K C Tang & Co.
	Nicole Tang (Ms)	Hong Kong Jockey Club
	Keith Yim	Beria Consultants Ltd
Co-opt members	Sam Cheng	Widnell Ltd
	Eric Chung	Paul Y-ITC
	Daniel Ho	LDC
	Gilbert Kwok	Simmons & Simmons
	Edward Lai	Housing Authority
	H F Leung	University of Hong Kong
	Anita Liu (Ms)	University of Hong Kong
	Derek Mackay	Davis Langdon & Seah
	Suen Mau Hing	Hong Kong Land
	Mickey Wong	ArchSD
	Tommy Yim	ArchSD





## *News from the Quantity Surveying Division*

### 2. Sub-Committees representatives

HKIS Executive Committee :	TT Cheung
HKIS General Council :	TT Cheung, Kent Kam, Nelson Cheng
Board of Education :	Derek Mackay, TT Cheung
Board of Membership :	Evenlyn Kwok, Thomas Tse
Works Bureau Contracts Committee :	PC Lau
Works Bureau Quality Management Committee :	Stephen Liu
Surveyor's Registration Board :	TT Cheung, Peter Ho, Thomas Tse
PRC Sub-committee :	Nelson Cheng (Chairman), Jacob Lam (Vice-chairman), TT Cheung, M H Suen, Y M Lee, Tommy Yim Ellen Lau, Kent Kam, Gilbert Kwok, Derek Drew, Sam Cheng, Daniel Ho Francis Leung & George Nip Ellen Lau (Chairlady), Stephen Chung (Vice Chairman), Derek Drew, Anita Liu, H W Low, M H Suen, TT Cheung, Tony Lau & Nicole Tang Rowson Lee, Keith Yim, Nicole Tang, Tony Lau Rowson Lee, Gilbert Kwok, Stephen Chung Ken Goodbourn, Eric Au, YY Ho & KS Shum Convenor: Peter Ho Convenor: Sam Cheng Gilbert Kwok, Eric Chung H F Leung PC Lau, TT Cheung, Derek Mackay, Thomas Tse, Nelson Cheng, Evenlyn Kwok, Liwina Ho & M H Suen Derek Woo, P.C. Lau H W Low, Evenlyn Kwok KC Tang, Evenlyn Kwok, Nelson Cheng Thomas Tse, Derek Mackay, TT Cheung Derek Drew, Low Hon Wah Convenor : Peter Ho & Edward Lai Editorial Board & TT Cheung
International Sub-Committee :	
CPD Convenor :	
Editorial Board :	
SMM (Building) :	
SMM (Building Services) :	
Conditions of Contracts :	
Direct access to Bar :	
Independent role of QS in civil works Sub-Committee :	
Contractors Registration Committee :	
IT in Qsing :	
Electronic Tendering :	
Technical Panel :	
P.R. :	



## *News from the Quantity Surveying Division*

### **Task Force on Electronic Tendering**

*by Mrs Raymond WF Ho and KH Tao<sup>1</sup>*

Electronic tendering is the distribution of tender documents and the subsequent submission and receipt of the tender returns in electronic format. It is one of the initiatives pursued by the local construction industry to bolster its competitiveness. To collaborate with the construction industry on this important initiative, Works Bureau (WB) of the HKSAR Government has recently formed a Task Force on Electronic Tendering in July 1999. This Task Force is tasked to consider the business case for electronic tendering, to assess its feasibility and to formulate a strategy for implementing the initiative.

With full awareness that e-tendering is a multi-disciplinary task, the Task Force is composed of all sectors of the construction industry. Trade organisations, professional institutions and government agencies, who are involved in the local construction industry, are represented. The trade organizations include the Hong Kong Contractor's Association (HKCA), the Electrical, Mechanical Contractors' Association (HKEMCA) and the Hong Kong Association of Consulting Engineers (HKACE). The professional institutions include the Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA), the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) and the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE). The eclectic membership assures that the requirements, options and deliverables from the various sectors of the industry will be duly considered

in the deliberation of the Task Force.

The assignment of the task force is divided into three stages. In the first stage, the task force will consider the business case for electronic tendering through the conduct of a survey on electronic tendering. This survey serves to gather information on the existing IT infrastructure of the industry, the industry's perception of the scope, benefits and drawbacks of electronic tendering, and to gauge the willingness of the industry to make investments and volunteer participation in the tendering process. The results will enable the Task Force to make an informed judgment on whether there is a sufficient business case for electronic tendering.

The Task Force will tackle the electronic distribution of tender documents in the second stage and the submission of electronic tender returns in the third stage. In these stages, the Task Force will sail through the largely uncharted waters of conducting the tendering exercise through electronic transactions. The Task Force will undertake the arduous task of identifying legal, technical and administrative issues that need to be addressed in implementing electronic tendering. On legal issues, the Task Force will tackle the enforceability of contracts concluded using electronic transactions, the authenticity of electronic records and the authentication of parties in electronic transactions. On technical issues, the Task Force will devise data format for exchanging information between widely different computing platforms and measures for

protecting unauthorized access and alteration to tender information. On administration issues, the Task Force will formulate a transitional plan to enable the existing hard copy based procedures to metamorphose into a system that supports both hard copies and electronic records.

The Task Force needs to look at the various forms of contracts now in use in different construction sectors and to complete its tasks under a very tight schedule. Hence, we divide the Task Force into six functional entities: Plenary Meeting, four Sub-Groups and the Task Force Secretariat. All Task Force members attend the Plenary Meeting, which exercises an overall steer on the assignment. The Task Force Secretariat, staffed by the Works Bureau, provides secretarial support for the Plenary Meeting and the Sub-Groups.

The Sub-Groups are the main forums in which the issues on electronic tendering are deliberated in details. There are four Sub-Groups: Building (BSG), Civil (CSG), Electrical and Mechanical (EMSG) and Infrastructure Facilities (IFSG). The BSG, CSG and EMSG deal with the electronic tendering of contracts in the building, civil engineering and electrical and mechanical disciplines respectively. As the contract forms and nature of business

<sup>1</sup> *Ir Raymond WF Ho is the Chair of the E-tendering Task Force and the Chief Assistant Secretary in Works Bureau.*

*Ir KH Tao is the Secretary of the Task Force and he is the Assistant in Works Bureau*



## News from the Quantity Surveying Division

for these three disciplines differ some substantially, it is more effective to deal with them separately in dedicated Sub-Groups. The IFSG will function as the adviser on legal and technical issues referred to by other Sub-Groups. The numbers of members of the Sub-Groups vary from 12 to 20 members, indicating the industry's strong support for the electronic tendering initiative.

The first series of meetings of the Sub-Groups was held in late October and early November. During these meetings, members elected the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Sub-Group, deliberated on the working programme and made valuable comments on the scope and methodology for the questionnaire survey on electronic tendering.

The Task Force will strive to complete the questionnaire survey shortly before the Chinese New Year in early February 2000. To ensure timely completion, WB has engaged consultants to formulate the

survey methodology, to design the questionnaire and to analyze survey results. The targets of the survey will include architectural firms, quantity surveying firms, engineering consultants and contractors.

The deliberation of the Task Force is scheduled for completion in late 2000. By that time, the Task Force will present its recommendation on electronic tendering strategy to the Contracts Committee of the Construction Advisory Board.

The Task Force is the first ever collaboration between the public and private sectors of the local construction industry on the use of IT for making improvement in our service delivery. The two sectors have maintained a strategic partnership in other areas. In the light of these remarkable track records, we are confident that the Task Force will be another success story.

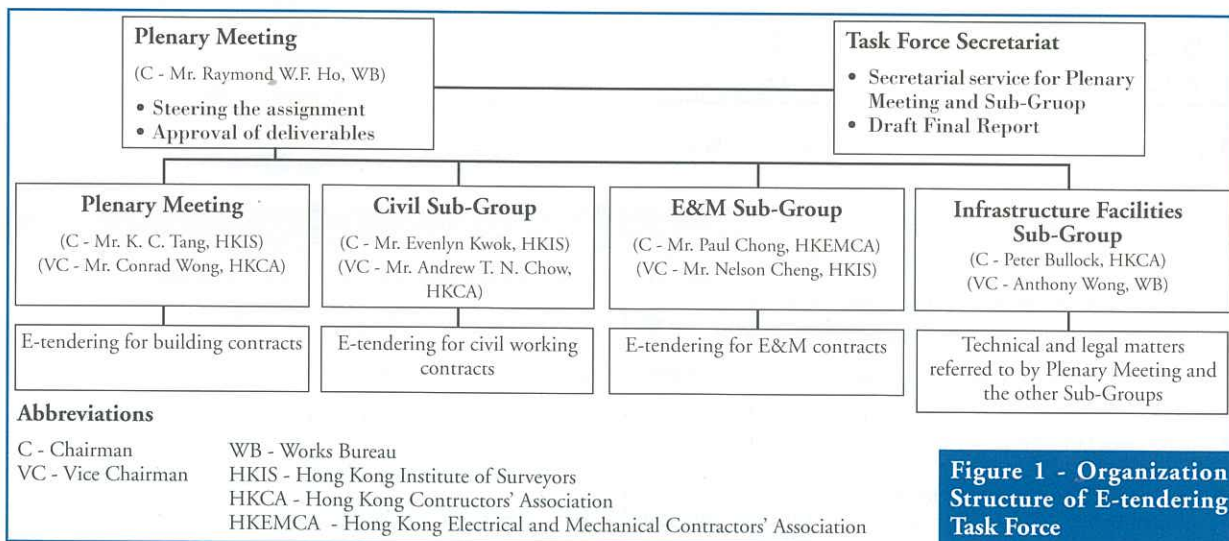
Electronic tendering is only the first step

in promoting electronic services delivery (ESD). ESD is the exchange of information and the conducting of business transactions through electronic communications. As ESD is one of the Administration's major initiatives in revitalizing our business process, Works Bureau will actively explore with the construction industry the opportunities of extending ESD from tendering into the other parts of the project life cycle.

Work Bureau welcomes all comments and enquiries on the works of the Task Force. Our contact information is as follows-

Fax: 2905 1181  
Email: wbgr@wb.gov.hk  
Post: Computer Services Unit, Works Bureau, 13/E, Murray Building, Garden Road, Hong Kong

We will publish on our web site information about the task force. The address is <http://www.wb.gov.hk/etender>



**Figure 1 - Organization Structure of E-tendering Task Force**

# Membership

## Technical Membership Q&A Section

By Alexander Ho, Chairman, SST Working Group

I am delighted to know that, after the inclusion of the Q&A Section in the last Newsletter, discussions have been held between members as well as non-members on the topic as to whether the Institute needs to form a new technical grade and the benefits attached to it.

I would like to take this chance to answer one of the questions raised by a non-member from another Institute during a Working Group Section:-

"Does the Working Group agree that all other related Institutions, Professional Bodies, Private Practices, Educational Centers and Government Corporations

be consulted to solicit their opinions on the formation of the 'Technical Members' in the Institute?"

Strictly speaking, whether the Institute is going to form a new technical grade is wholly her own matter and will depend on the decision of the members. However, having said that, the Working Group would, of course, welcome opinions from any sources including, inter alia, all other related Institutions, Professional Bodies, Private Practices, Educational Centers and Government Corporations. In addition, if it appears necessary, the Working Group would also not hesitate to contact proactively other bodies for their opinions because these would definitely help us to draw up the plans, e.g. entry requirements, obligations and rights, routes to become

a corporate member, etc. Also, if a motion is eventually put forward to the General Council or in an EGM, such information would make it of a more comprehensive and convincing form. I hope that this would answer the question.

As I said in the first Q&A Section, the idea of setting it up is not to convey to the members one-sided answers but to allow members to freely exchange their views and hence come up with the best solution. I hope again that this Q&A Section would set a momentum for discussing the formation of the technical grade membership within the Institute and members' views, comments, suggestions or questions on the subject are most welcome. Therefore, please either write to the HKIS or to my e-mail address at alexho@kpkqs.com.hk



## MSc / PgD in Project Management Department of Building and Real Estate The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

### Programme Aim

This is a self-financed postgraduate programme by 'guided' distance learning, which targeted for construction professionals in Hong Kong and the Mainland China. The primary aim of this programme is to provide an opportunity for practicing surveyors, engineers, construction managers, technologists, and other related professionals to broaden and deepen their knowledge in project management, in the construction context.

### Entrance Requirements

Bachelor degree in construction related disciplines or equivalent, preferably with relevant working experience in project management.

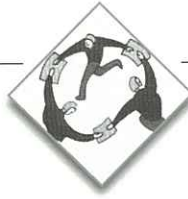
### Credits and Fees

Credits required for graduation: 30 for MSc award and 21 for PgD award.

The fee for each credit is at HK\$2,700 (subject to approval). (MSc: norm 3 years / PgD: norm 2 years)

### Application Period (29 January – 28 February 2000)

Please collect the application form at Room AG 205, Academic Secretariat, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hung Hom, Kowloon; and return the completed form on or before 28 February 2000. For inquiry, please call Miss Maria Chui at 2766 5808 (Department of Building and Real Estate) or at 2333 0600 (Academic Secretariat). Web Site <<http://www.polyu.edu.hk/admission>>



## News from the Junior Organisation

We are pleased to announce that the Annual General Meeting for the Year 1998/1999 of The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors, Junior Organisation (JO) had been successfully held on 10 December 1999 in the Hong Kong Football Club, and was followed up by the annual dinner. The following members were elected as the committee members of the Junior Organisation for the Year 1999/2000:

<u>Office Bearers:</u>		<u>Division:</u>
Chan Yue Chun	Chairman	LS
Wan Chi Wai, David	Vice-chairman	GP
Tang Li Yee, Sandy	Hon. Treasurer	QS
Ng Shui Kwong, Ivan	Hon. Secretary	GP
 <u>Committee Members</u>		
Au Yue Kei, Kenneth		GP
Chu Ka Wai, Karen		GP
Lam Lik Shan, Lesley		LS
Lau Ho Wai, Lucas		GP
Lee Hoi Tat, Nathan		BS
Leung Chi, Wing, Henry		LS
Leung Man Fai, Mark		GP
Leung Wing Yu, Rene		QS
Pang Chi Wing, Cody		LS
Tsui Ka Kei, Ernest		LS
Wai Wing Kee, Winky		LS
Wong Kam Wah		BS
Wong Pui Yu, Amy		LS

The first meeting for the JO will be held at 6:30 pm in the office of HKIS on 3 January 2000. As a kick-off for the millennium, your support in attending the meeting is highly appreciated. Your contribution to be a co-opted member of JO will definitely help in giving support to the Institute. Please mark your diary and come and join in with us.

This year, JO will put more effort in communicating and looking after the benefit of our young members, and as with the usual

practice, a series of CPD and social events will be organised. However, we are focusing on the quality of the events and not the quantities. In order to let the events be held fruitfully, your suggestion on the topic, format and the speakers of both the CPD and social event are highly welcome. You may contact any one of the office bearers mentioned above or the CPD and social events convenor as follows:

Name	Post	Tel	Fax:
Chan Yue Chun	Chairman	23095009	23915714
Wan Chi Wai, David	Vice-chairman	28465541	29681688
Tang Li Yee, Sandy	Hon. Treasurer	28301348	28908091
Ng Shui Kwong, Ivan	Hon. Secretary	28354615	28344324
Or you can e-mail to Ivan Ng : <a href="mailto:ngivan@i-cable.com">ngivan@i-cable.com</a>			

### **Auctioneer required!! Volunteer required!!**

HKIS members have been highly regarded by the Transport Department in conducting the auctions for Vehicle Registration Numbers as auctioneers. Usually the auctions are conducted on Saturday. This is a valuable opportunity for corporate members who wish to have a trial in such a charitable event (CPD hours counted). Please contact Mr. Y.C Chan (Tel: 23095009/91020395, email: [chanyuechun@yahoo.com](mailto:chanyuechun@yahoo.com)) for detailed information.

As places for auctioneers are limited, your early registration can give you priority in participating in the event.

Schedule of the auctions for year 2000 is listed as follows:

Date	Time	Venue
29 Jan 2000	9:30 am	Meeting Room 408, HK Convention & Exhibition Centre, Wanchai
12 Feb 2000	2:30 pm	Meeting Room 408, HK Convention & Exhibition Centre, Wanchai
26 Feb 2000	2:30 pm	Meeting Room 606-607, HK Convention & Exhibition Centre, Wanchai
11 Mar 2000	2:30 pm	Meeting Room 603-604, HK Convention & Exhibition Centre, Wanchai
18 Mar 2000	2:30pm	Meeting Room 608, HK Convention & Exhibition Centre, Wanchai
25 Mar 2000	2:30pm	Meeting Room 608, HK Convention & Exhibition Centre, Wanchai

# Feature

## The New - 1999 General Conditions for Civil Engineering Works

By John B Molloy, LLB(Hons), BSc(Hons), FHKIS, FRICS, MCI Arb, RPS(QS).  
Managing Director, James R Knowles (Hong Kong) Limited

On 1<sup>st</sup> December 1999 the new 1999 Edition of the Government of Hong Kong General Conditions of Contract for Civil Engineering Works was promulgated by Works Bureau Technical Circular No 28/99, and will be used in all appropriate tenders called after that date. Revised versions of the Building and Electrical and Mechanical Conditions will follow in due course.

This 1999 Edition is the latest in a number of revisions made to the totally revised 1985 Edition. The amendments, like those made in the previous 1990 and 1993 Editions are largely minor in nature, and many simply serve to either reflect the current political and social situation in Hong Kong, to update phrases and expressions no longer in use or to improve upon poor wording in previous editions.

Examples of such amendments can be seen in:

Clause 1(1) - definitions, where the Employer is now defined as the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Clause 4 - sub-contracting, where reference is now made to sub-contracting rather than sub-letting, and to workers rather than workmen.

Clause 21 - care of the works, where the "Excepted Risks" now rather alarmingly refer to 'contamination by radio-activity from nuclear fuel or nuclear waste'.

Clause 42 - quality of materials, workmanship and tests, which has been totally re-written to provide clearer wording, but contains no substantive change in provision.

However, in addition to these relatively minor changes there are a number of changes of more significance, and worthy of consideration.

**Clause 2 - duties and powers of the Engineer and the Engineer's Representative** has been completely re-written and now contains a sub-clause making it clear that the Engineer may, under the terms of his consultancy agreement, be required to receive the approval of the Employer before carrying out certain actions (to be defined in a Special Condition of Tender) under the Contract, and if such approval is not given to act in accordance with the Employer's directions.

Enclosed with the Works Bureau Technical Circular is a standard Special Condition of Tender to accompany this

provision that provides that the Engineer must seek the Employer's confirmation of no objection before he can commit the Employer to additional expenditure (other than for claims) of over HK\$300,000.00.

Whilst the next sub-clause makes it clear that the Contractor shall not be prejudiced by any failure of the Engineer to comply with this requirement, this new clause formally recognising that the Engineer may be prevented from acting as a professional impartial contract administrator is a significant amendment.

Cynics may say however that this has been the situation, albeit unwritten, for many years and that in reality the Engineer has always been fettered in his actions as a contract administrator.

Nonetheless the new clause is to be welcomed for formalising and confirming the situation, and in this respect follows similar provisions in FIDIC and the latest ICE Conditions of Contract which also contain provisions for detailing any restrictions placed upon the Engineer in performing his duties under the contract.

**Clause 50 - extensions of time** contains three significant amendments. Firstly notice that a delay has occurred to the progress of the Works must now be given in 28 days (i.e. the same as for Cost

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# Feature

Claims in Clause 64) rather than 42 days, and the starting time for such notice is amended from the subjective test of “within 28 days of the cause of any delay becoming apparent” to an objective test of “within 28 days of the cause of any delay having arisen”. This amendment, whilst being more restrictive for a contractor adds more certainty into the starting date, and is repeated in Clause 64 referring to Cost Claims.

Secondly Clause 50(1)(b)(v), a sub-clause detailing events giving entitlement to an extension of time, has been amended from a substantial increase in any item of work to that set out in the Bills of Quantities or the Bills of Materials, to a substantial increase in the quantity of any item of work included in the Contract. This is an interesting amendment because it is a return to the same wording as the 1985 Edition but which was amended in the 1990 Edition. The intention here appears to be to restrict the situations in which a contractor can claim an extension of time to those situations where the quantity of a BQ item which can not be ascertained from the drawings has substantially increased - such as the excavation of rock, but not to permit an extension of time being claimed where the substantial increase is due to an error in measurement, e.g. where there are 100 manholes shown on the drawings but only 50 measured in the Bills of Quantities.

The third significant amendment to Clause 50 is the inclusion of sub-clause 2(A) that makes it clear that if a contractor is in a period of culpable delay, and a further delay occurs for which the Employer is responsible (such as a variation), then the extension of time granted will be the time of the subsequent delay added to the original date for completion, i.e. a net extension not a gross extension to the end of the time when the Employer’s delay is finished. This clause, whilst a significant addition gives effect to the decision in **Chestermount Properties v Balfour Beatty**, and may therefore be simply an express statement of the correct legal position.

**Clause 78 - interim statements and Clause 79 - interim payments** contain the only other interesting amendments in the 1999 Edition. In both these clauses it is made clear that materials on site to be included in interim statements and interim payments are to be valued as a percentage of the applicable contract rate and not at invoiced prices.

This is an odd amendment and whilst it is understood that this is to avoid potential arguments concerning whether such sums should be included in the Effective Value for the calculation of Contract Price Fluctuations under Clause 89, it will nonetheless be interesting to see how Engineers assess a bag of cement as a percentage of the rate for concrete.

In conclusion, the majority of the amendments are minor in nature, tidying up existing wording to equate to current situations. However, significant amendments are made to Clause 2 concerning the duties of the Engineer, Clause 50 concerning extensions of time and Clauses 78 and 79, concerning interim statements and payments, and quantity surveyors working for both professional consultants and contractors should make themselves familiar with these amendments, and their effect.

# COMMERCIAL MANAGER

A well-established building and civil engineering group of companies is seeking a high calibre Commercial Manager to head one of its civil projects of contract sum over HK\$1 billion. The candidate will oversee all quantity surveying, cost control, contractual and commercial aspects of the entire project. The candidate must have a proven record of performing such role in a sizeable joint venture and possess the following basic qualifications:-

- AHKIS/ARICS
- over 15 years experience in construction company/private professional practice with at least 5 years experience at managerial level;
- had completed at least 2 joint venture operations;
- solid hands-on knowledge of cost control, well versed with various forms of construction contract;
- excellent command of written and spoken English.

Attractive remuneration package will be offered to the right candidate. Please apply to the Personnel Manager, Shamshuipo P.O. Box 88122 with a full C.V. stating the salary history for the past 3 years, the daytime contact telephone numbers and the names of at least 2 referees.

*ALL APPLICATIONS WILL BE TREATED WITH STRICT CONFIDENCE AND CANDIDATES NOT INVITED TO INTERVIEWS WITHIN 6 WEEKS MAY CONSIDER HIS/HER APPLICATION UNSUCCESSFUL.*