



Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors Newsletter

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<http://www.paqs.net>

Welcome

Welcome to the 8th issue of the annual Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors' (PAQS) Newsletter.

This year's PAQS Congress was held in Tokyo, Japan from 31 October – 3 November 2003 after being deferred from June due to the SARS problem. The Congress was a tremendous success and congratulations are in order to the BSIJ Organising Committee chaired by Prof. Teruyuki Fujigami and vice-chairman Mr. Takayoshi Sato.

Chairman's Address

I am very thankful to the Almighty God that I have been bestowed with the honour of one of the highest offices in the Surveying Profession - Chairman of the Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors. I am accepting this honour not for myself but for the ISM and for Malaysia. Just last June, I was elected as the President of the Institution of Surveyors Malaysia. As such, I considered myself as one who has been truly blessed. And I am giving all the glory to God for bestowing such honour and blessings upon me.



Mr. Ong See Lian
PAQS Chairman
President ISM

I would like to thank the Board Members of PAQS for electing me to this high office. I would also like to thank everyone for their strong support and encouragement since my involvement with PAQS.

I wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and thanks to the outgoing PAQS Chairman Mr. TT Cheung (HKIS) for his untiring efforts over the past two-and-half years in promoting PAQS in the region. Through his influence and encouragement, the China Cost Engineering Association (CECA) has recently become a full member of PAQS. With such a large membership base and China's remarkable economic growth, CECA will certainly be an important member of PAQS. Also, under his chairmanship, PAQS has started the process of putting together a common accreditation policy for the certification of approved quantity surveying/construction cost management courses being conducted by universities in the Region. (cont'd next page)

PAQS MEMBERSHIP

FULL MEMBERS

AUSTRALIA — AIQS

Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors

CANADA — CIQS

Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors

CHINA — CECA

China Engineering Cost Association

HONG KONG — HKIS

Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors

JAPAN — BSIJ

Building Surveyors' Institute of Japan

MALAYSIA — ISM

Institution of Surveyors Malaysia

NEW ZEALAND — NZIQS

New Zealand Institute of Quantity Surveyors

SINGAPORE — SISV

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Chairman's Address (cont'd)

It will be a monumental task for me to fit into his shoes and to perform with the same degree of commitment and effectiveness.

I would like to remind ourselves of the objects of PAQS:

1. The promotion of the practice of Quantity Surveying in the Region;
2. The promotion of "best practice" for Quantity Surveying in the Region;
3. The promotion of dialogue between member organisations;
4. The encouragement of regional co-operation in the practice of Quantity Surveying;
5. The fostering of research appropriate to the better understanding of building practice in the Region;
6. The rendering of assistance to members of member organisations working in each other's countries.

Looking back over the last seven years since the inception of PAQS, we have done remarkably well in achieving the objectives of our Association, particularly in respect of objects 1,3 and 4 above. The key pillar of strength of PAQS has been the mutual respect for each member organisation even though we may have different scope and standards of practice in Quantity Surveying or Cost Engineering.

This is rightly so as PAQS represents countries with not only diverse political, legal, cultural and religious backgrounds but also nations which are at different stages of development. Although we would like to converge to a level where we all share the same standards and scope of services, we must always remind ourselves to allow that process of convergence to take its own course over time. Members who are quite advanced in the field of quantity surveying and cost engineering should be patient with those countries which are still developing the profession. We must help one another to achieve better understanding of the practice of Quantity Surveying and Cost Engineering.

Education is one of the key areas that PAQS is focusing on with respect to this. I propose that PAQS continues to initiate educational programs that promote the practice of Quantity Surveying and Cost Engineering in the region. Such programs should not be limited to educating new entrants to the profession at university and college levels but also offering continuing professional development programs that will take the profession to a higher level.

I hope that PAQS will also facilitate research programs that will benefit the profession across the region. In this respect PAQS could facilitate through the member organisations various research work that could be undertaken by institutions of higher learning in various countries. Obviously the problem in undertaking research work has always been the lack of funding. As such we must look at innovative ways of getting funds for research work that would benefit the profession in the long run.

Although the Quantity Surveying and Cost Engineering profession is an important profession in nation building, it is still a relatively unknown profession around the world compared with other professions such as doctors, architects, engineers and accountants. Quantity Surveying or Cost Engineering is not even included in one of the categories in the World Trade Organisation's (WTO) Central Product Classification (CPC). If we are to make our profession known to the world at large there is a need for us to work with concerted effort and unity to at least gain recognition of the profession in the CPC code. I propose that PAQS should work together with other international organisations such as ICEC and FIG to leverage and lobby for such recognition at the WTO.

Under the WTO, there is a continuous demand for gradual liberalisation of trade and services. Countries with protective laws will have to gradually dismantle such laws to allow foreign competition. This is the reality that we are living in – an increasingly smaller global village. I believe PAQS has already begun the process of mutual cooperation in the light of globalisation and trade liberalisation. We should not view this as a threat but as an opportunity for us to expand our services and our profession, not necessarily on our own but through smart partnership and co-operation that we have established and built-up within PAQS.

In our endeavour to expand our services, we must not forget our social responsibility and moral obligations. In this regard, I would urge all member organisations to promote best practice standards and procedures in their respective countries. For our profession to survive, we must increasingly be customer-focused and maintain the highest level of professional ethics. We must understand client needs and be able to deliver our services to the satisfaction of our clients. Our services must be able to adapt to the changing needs and preferences of clients. We must strive for service improvements. In this way we can then be assured of a long term relationship with our clients. In this regard, member institutions must promote quality management systems to ISO 9001 standards to all their members. I am happy to inform you that the ISM has over the past year facilitated 14 QS firms in achieving certification to ISO 9001 standards. Currently we are facilitating another 8 to 10 QS firms to achieve similar certification.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Building Surveyors Institute of Japan (BSIJ) for organising this year's Congress. I would also like to welcome the two new full members of PAQS – the China Engineering Cost Association (CECA) and the Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (CIQS). I look forward to our next meeting and Congress in April 2004 in Cape Town, South Africa.

Finally, I would like to wish you all the best of health and every success in your future undertakings.

Mr. Ong See Lian



PAQS Website

The PAQS organization now has its own website at the following address:

<http://www.paqs.net>

A range of information pertaining to the PAQS organization, its history, membership, awards, research projects, congresses and latest news can be found on this site. It has a photo album of various PAQS events including photographs from all the PAQS Congresses and Board meetings since 1997. The site also has useful links to PAQS member organizations and other international bodies.

Two New Members

PAQS welcomes two new members who have been accepted into the organisation at the Annual Board Meeting in Tokyo:

The China Engineering Cost Association (CECA)
The Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (CIQS)

Newsletter Circulation

Direct distribution to 10,000 + cost management professionals worldwide. Distribution to Australia, New Zealand, Pacific Islands, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, China, Hong Kong, South Africa, United Kingdom, Europe, Africa, Canada and the USA. Newsletter also included in International Cost Engineering Council (ICEC) web site.

Advertising

Advertising costs: A\$250 per quarter page advertisement. Newsletter published annually.

Contributions

Contributions to the Newsletter are welcome. Contributions may be in the form of general news or announcements, information about forthcoming conferences/events or short articles. Contributions can be sent directly to the Editor or via the relevant professional association.

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PAQS Awards 2003

PAQS award categories comprise the PAQS Medal and Service, Academic and Technical Innovation Awards.

PAQS Medal

The PAQS Medal is awarded for Excellence in International Quantity Surveying and represents the highest honour that can be bestowed by the organization. The winner of this year's medal was **Mr. Peter Beddek** from the New Zealand Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NZIQS).



Mr. Peter Beddek

Unfortunately, due to ill health, Mr. Beddek was unable to attend the PAQS Congress in Tokyo to receive the award. His award was received by Mr. Peter Eggleton, President of the NZIQS, on his behalf.



Mr. Peter Eggleton receives the 2003 PAQS Medal on behalf of Mr. Peter Beddek from the outgoing PAQS Chairman Mr. T.T. Cheung

Mr. Beddek was the President of PAQS from 1999 to 2001, the Region IV Chairman of ICEC during the same period and has also been President of the NZIQS. He has served on the PAQS Board for many years and has been particularly prominent in promoting quantity surveying internationally in the PAQS region. He has had a distinguished career as a Quantity Surveying practitioner. He began his Quantity Surveying career in Auckland, worked in Australia (Melbourne, Victoria and Queensland) and in the UK (London) before returning to New Zealand in 1981. As well as his Quantity Surveying qualifications, Peter is a Fellow of the NZIQS, Fellow of the NZIOB and holds a Master of Business Administration from Massey University and a Certificate in Systems Analysis and Quality Auditing. He describes himself as an innovator in the area of Building Economics and computer applications. Before retiring for health reasons Peter had become Managing Director of Maltby and Partners Ltd in New Zealand.

Service Award

The Service Award recognizes outstanding service to international quantity surveying and cost engineering. Recipients must be able to demonstrate a degree of service that exceeds the expectations of their local PAQS member institutions.

The winner of this year's service award was **Ms. Ellen Lau** from the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS). Ms. Lau has been the Secretary of PAQS for the past two years and has had significant involvement in the organisation since its inception.



Ms. Ellen Lau receives the 2003 PAQS Service from Mr. T.T. Cheung

Academic/ Innovation Awards

PAQS also has categories for Academic and Technical Innovation Awards. The Academic Award recognizes excellence in academic performance that has application or benefit that transcends national boundaries. The Technical Innovation Award recognizes excellence in innovation in areas of technique, products, services, teaching, management or the implementation of innovation. Such technical innovations must have an application or benefit that transcends national boundaries. No nominations were received for either of these two award in 2003.

Future Award Nominations

Potential award recipients must be nominated by peers. Nominations for the 2004 Awards should be sent to your local PAQS member association by March 2004. Nominations should include a one page summary of the nominee's achievements.



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The studies focus on four main themes related to construction technology and science, management, economics and legal studies. There are elective elements to the course and a research project must be completed in the final stages.

Graduate Diploma of Quantity Surveying

The Graduate Diploma of Quantity Surveying is an off-campus program which is designed for graduates from undergraduate degree courses in related disciplines and mature-age applicants with suitable experience.

Students are required to complete six quantity surveying units and a research project.

The off-campus mode allows students to progress at their own pace and depending on individual circumstances, the average completion period should be between two and four years.

Both courses are accredited by the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors.



Further information can be obtained by contacting Alan Young, School of Architecture and Building, Deakin University, Geelong, Victoria 3217.
Telephone (03) 5227 8330
Facsimile (03) 5227 8341
E-mail alan.young@deakin.edu.au

PAQS Mission/Achievements

The mission of the PAQS organization is:

- the promotion of the practice of quantity surveying in the region.
- the promotion of "best practice" for quantity surveying in the region.
- the promotion of dialogue between member organizations.
- encouragement of regional co-operation in the practice of quantity surveying.
- fostering of research to facilitate better understanding of work practices/services provided in member countries
- rendering of assistance to members of member organizations working in each other's countries.

Achievements this far include:

- Annual PAQS Congresses held since 1996 on a rotating basis amongst member associations
- Development of the PAQS Competency Standards
- Development of the PAQS Cost Management Manuals (being developed)
- Development of the Regional Directory of QS Firms (being developed)
- Establishment of the annual PAQS Awards
- Ongoing development of Accreditation Standards for Quantity Surveying courses in the region
- Support for research projects in the PAQS region.

7th PAQS Congress Tokyo Japan

The **7th PAQS Congress** was held in Tokyo Japan from 31 October – 3 November 2003. The event was hosted and organised by the Building Surveyors Institute of Japan. The Congress was a great success and well attended.

Congratulations are in order to the President of the BSIJ, Mr. Yoshikazu Nakano, and the following Organising Committee members:

Congress Chairman

Professor Teruyuki Fujigami

Congress Vice Chairman

Mr. Takayoshi Sato

Committee Members

Mr. Shinichi Shoda

Mr. Munehiko Maruko

Mr. Asao Kunitomi

Mr. Akio Tsuchibuchi

Mr. Katsuhiko Shioda

Mr. Masayoshi Morita

Mr. Koichi Noro

Mr. Shuji Shinohara

Professor Fujigami and **Mr. Sato** and their team did a tremendous job ensuring the smooth running of the congress and a rewarding time for all. It was an extremely professional event with a very high quality of speakers, papers and presentations. Professional interpreters were used to ensure that all attendees could follow the presentations. The venue for the Congress was the world famous **Tokyo International Forum**.



Tokyo International Forum

The theme for the Congress was **"The Relationship Between the QS, PM & IT Environments"**. Presentations were categorised under the topics of Information Technology, Cost Data and Price Analysis, Life Cycle Costs and the Environment, QS Development/Education, Project Management, Contracts, Procurement Systems and Management Techniques.

**PAQS Opening Address
Mr. Yasuhiko Nagakura**



Mr. John Lowry, President of the AIQS, gave the opening keynote address for the Congress. His talk was titled "The Future of Quantity Surveying in the Asia Pacific Region – An Australian Perspective". It provided a very thought provoking and insightful analysis of likely directions for the profession in the PAQS region. The transcript of this paper is provided later in the newsletter.



PAQS Keynote Address – Mr. John Lowry



PAQS Congress Auditorium

The formal Congress Gala Dinner concluded the program on the last evening. This was a first class evening with an authentic Japanese band, magnificent Japanese banquet and inspiring speeches.



Outgoing PAQS Chairman, Mr. T.T. Cheung, about to hand over the PAQS chain to the new Chairman, Mr. Ong See Lian, at the closing ceremony



PAQS Board Members (L to R):
 Mr. Peter Smith – AIQS (Editor Newsletter), Mr. T.T. Cheung – HKIS (Outgoing Chairman), Mr. Terry Sanders – AIQS (Treasurer), Mr. Kwan Hock Hai - ISM (Secretary), Mr. Takayoshi Sato – BSLJ (1st Vice Chairman), Mr. Ong See Lian – ISM (Chairman), Mr. Trevor Main – AIQS (2nd Vice Chairman)



An authentic Japanese Band opening the Gala Dinner



Mr. TT Cheung addresses delegates and partners at the Gala Dinner



Mr. Takayoshi Sato, Mr. Terry Sanders and Mr. Ong See Lian with the PAQS Banner.



Delegates and partners at the Gala Dinner

2004 PAQS Annual Board Meeting

The PAQS Annual Board Meeting preceded the Congress and was attended by delegates from most of the PAQS member associations. The Annual ICEC Region IV meeting followed. The meeting was chaired by the outgoing PAQS Chairman, Mr. TT Cheung from the HKIS.

The main issues discussed and resolutions made are outlined below.

PAQS Office Bearers

The meeting confirmed the following PAQS office bearers for the 2004-2005 period:

Chairman	Mr. Ong See Lian (ISM)
Outgoing Chairman	Mr. TT Cheung (HKIS)
1st Vice Chairman	Mr. Takayoshi Sato (BSIJ)
2nd Vice Chairman	Mr. Trevor Main (AIQS)
Secretary	Mr. Kwan Hock Hai (ISM)
Treasurer	Mr. Terry Sanders (AIQS)



Key PAQS Board Members (L to R) – Mr. Kwan Hock Hai - ISM (Secretary), Mr. Terry Sanders – AIQS (Treasurer), Mr. T.T. Cheung – HKIS (Outgoing Chairman), Mr. Takayoshi Sato – BSIJ (1st Vice Chairman), Mr. Ong See Lian – ISM (Chairman), Mr. Trevor Main – AIQS (2nd Vice Chairman)

New Members

The PAQS Board resolved to accept two new associations to the organisation – the China Engineering Cost Association (CECA) and the Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (CIQS).

The Secretary General of CECA, Madam Ma Guizhi, accepted their membership certificate at the meeting. Unfortunately, the CIQS were unable to send a representative to the meeting.

Board Meeting Attendees

The following attended the Board Meeting:

Australia (AIQS)

Peter Cox
John Lowry
Robert Little
Trevor Phillips
Trevor Main
Peter Smith
Terry Sanders

Malaysia (ISM)

Ong See Lian
Kwan Hock Hai
Chua Siow Leng
Shukor Ibrahim
Kii Ing Ching
Noushad Naseem

New Zealand (NZIQS)

Peter Eggleton
John Granville
David Richards
Gordon Cairney

Japan (BSIJ)

Yoshikazu Nakano
Teruyuki Fujigami
Takayoshi Sato
Koichi Noro

Japan (JSCPE)

Yoshimi Saito
Hiromitsu Ohara
Shinsuke Terasawa

Japan (JABEE)

Seiji Fukuda

Hong Kong (HKIS)

TT Cheung
Francis Leung
Ellen Lau
Sam Cheng
Anita Liu

Singapore (SISV)

Edward Tang
Caroline Tan
Teoh Wooi Sin
Seah Kwee Yong

China (CECA)

Ma Guizhi
Gao Jun Pu

ICEC

Ken Humphreys
Stephen

RICS (Observer)

Bob Richardson

Apologies were received from the FIQS, IQSSL, ASAQS and the CIQS.



Board Members at the PAQS/ICEC Annual Meeting

Passing of Past BSIJ President

The PAQS Board were saddened to hear of the recent passing of Professor Isao Tokunaga on 1 October 2003 at his mountain villa near Tokyo. Prof. Tokunaga was a past president of the BSIJ and was very active in the establishment of PAQS and in the expansion of ICEC in the Asia-Pacific Region. Prof. Tokunaga was 81 years old. The Board would like to express their condolences to his family and friends.



PAQS University Accreditation

The formation of a PAQS accreditation scheme for university quantity surveying courses in the region has been an important objective of the organisation since 1998. In 1998, a proposal was put to the Board for the formation of a PAQS Accreditation Assessment Panel to conduct course accreditation of university quantity surveying courses in the PAQS member countries. It was proposed that accreditation by this panel would result in accreditation by all the member associations. Since this time, this proposal has received considerable debate and disagreement on how such an accreditation scheme might operate. All PAQS member associations have supported the proposal in principle but the main disagreement evolved around how the scheme might operate.

Prior to the Board Meeting, the PAQS Accreditation and Education Panel, chaired by Mr. Chua Siow Leng, met to discuss proposals for the operation of an accreditation system. The starting point for discussion was a research paper prepared by Khairani Ahmad and Norizan Abdullah Sani from the Department of Quantity Surveying at the Universiti Teknologi Mara (UTM). This paper described the results of research comparing the accreditation systems in Malaysia, Hong Kong and Australia.

The Panel developed a proposal for the initial implementation of the scheme which was subsequently approved at the Board Meeting. To kick-start the accreditation system, any university in the region which has obtained the individual accreditation of the AIQS (Australia), HKIS (Hong Kong), ISM (Malaysia) and the SISV (Singapore) will be entitled to immediately apply for PAQS accreditation. This accreditation will mean that all associations in the PAQS organisation accredit the university course. This is a significant development for not only the accreditation scheme but for the PAQS organisation itself. The next step will be to examine accreditation pathways for universities in countries where accreditation by all of the above associations has not traditionally been sought. One suggestion that will be explored is for the PAQS members in these countries to nominate universities that they feel are of high standing and worthy of PAQS Accreditation.

Strong Support for Local National Institutes.

The Board discussed the issue of the effect of global organisations on individual PAQS associations. The continuing development and growth of local national institutes as represented by the members of PAQS, was very strongly supported by all Board members. The Board recognised the members strong commitment to a "united nations" approach to globalisation of the Quantity Surveying profession in preference to the domination of any one global body.

World Trade Organisation (WTO)

The new PAQS Chairman, Mr. Ong See Lian, spoke about the need for the further promotion of the quantity surveying profession in the international arena highlighting the fact that it is still a relatively unknown profession internationally compared with other professions such as doctors, architects, engineers and accountants. He said indicative of this was the fact that Quantity Surveying or Cost Engineering is not included in any of the categories in the World Trade Organisation's (WTO) Central Product Classification (CPC). He proposed that PAQS should work together with other international organisations such as ICEC and FIG to lobby for such recognition at the WTO. This was fully supported by the Board and the ICEC representatives at the meeting.

PAQS QS Firms Business Register

The PAQS Board has approved the publication of a regional register/directory of Quantity Surveying firms that are owned or staffed by members of the PAQS member Institutes. This register will show the contact details of the firms, the number of professional QS staff in the office, their qualifications, the services provided by the firm and their experience. The register will be produced in hard copy and will also be placed on the PAQS website in due course. QS firms will be required to pay a fee to have their entry in the Register and the PAQS member Institutes will be required to approve each entry to ensure accuracy of information provided by firms. Details will be sent to QS firms in the region shortly.

Proposal for QS Firms' Membership of PAQS

PAQS is an association of quantity surveying institutes in the region. Proposals for individual membership have been consistently resisted by the Board. At this year's meeting, a proposal was put forward whereby QS firms could become members of the organisation. This follows on from the establishment of the PAQS Business Register.

Whilst this proposal had merit, the Board did not support this concept at this stage.

PAQS Research Projects

The PAQS Board resolved to support relevant research covering the PAQS region. A number of potential PAQS research projects have been put forward with a focus on the comparison of industries, services provided and work practices in the member countries. The Board would like to encourage individuals, firms and universities to submit research proposals for consideration. Whilst funding is limited, support and assistance will be provided by all member associations to facilitate international comparisons.

Future Congresses

The PAQS Congress will continue to be held on an annual basis and the following host countries were determined for the next five years. It should be noted, however, that the order may need to be adjusted depending on potential new members who will also be given the opportunity to host a Congress.

- 2004** Capetown, South Africa (in conjunction with ICEC 4th World Congress)
- 2005** China (China Cost Engineering Association)
- 2006** Singapore
- 2007** New Zealand
- 2008** Malaysia

ICEC Region IV Meeting

The International Cost Engineering Council (ICEC) held its annual Region IV meeting at the conclusion of the PAQS Board meeting. Mr. TT Cheung chaired the meeting as the Region IV Director. Like PAQS, ICEC is an association of professional cost management organisations. The bodies are not in competition but rather mutually supportive of each other's objectives of expanding the cost management cause around the globe. Membership of ICEC is now extensive and is indicative of the tremendous international growth of cost management associations. Further details of the ICEC organisation can be found on its excellent web site at <http://www.icoste.org>. The PAQS newsletter is included in this site.

As of 15 February 2004, the ICEC Secretariat will be relocating to Canberra, Australia and will be hosted by the AIQS. Since the founding of ICEC in 1976, the Secretariat has been located in the United States and has been administered on a voluntary basis by ICEC Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Kenneth K. Humphreys. Dr. Humphreys will be continuing as the ICEC Secretary-Treasurer but many of the administrative functions of ICEC will be transferred to the new Secretariat. Effective 15 February, the ICEC secretariat contact details will be:

International Cost Engineering Council
PO Box 301, Deakin West, ACT 2600, AUSTRALIA
Phone: +61-2-6282-2222, Fax: +61-2-6285-2427



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The Construction Management program at RMIT provides undergraduate education in a combined Construction Management and Construction Economics field. Our graduates have found employment in the fields of quality surveying, estimating, project and site management, contract administration and project development, in Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong and China. The course is fully accredited by the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors, the Australian Institute of Building, the Singapore Institute of Surveyors and Valuers, the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors and the Malaysian Board of Chartered Surveyors. Students undertake the course studying a series of core subjects. The first two years of the course offer a technology focus, with the final two years concentrating upon management of the construction process. The course has a strong vocational flavor developed within a theoretical framework. In this way both the academic and practical components of "real world" construction are addressed within the course.

Study Mode:

The course is normally studied in full-time mode, which involves four years of study, however part-time options are available after completion of the first three semesters. Students may also undertake a year of their studies at a recognized Overseas University, such as Southbank University in the UK or Calpoly and University of Florida in the USA.

Articulation:

RMIT has a strong commitment to Articulation from the TAFE to Higher Education sector, and students who have completed the TAFE Associate Diploma of Applied Science (Building Construction) (1.5 years full-time 1.5 years part-time study/work experience) are eligible for admission to this course with credit of 50% of the program 2 years equivalent.

International Students:

Students with recognized diploma qualifications (from Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Hong Kong), and relevant industrial experience can study this program in Australia. The levels of advanced standing vary, however it will not normally exceed 2 years. The Bachelor of Applied Science Construction Management program is also offered in Singapore.

Applications:

Applications for the Program must be made via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC).

Enquiries:

Mark Vines - Program Director
Department of Building and Construction Economics
Faculty of Constructed Environment, RMIT University
GPO Box 2476V, Melbourne VIC 3001
Ph: (03) 9925 2230 fax: (03) 9925 1939
www.rmit.edu.au/tce/bce



Discussion Paper

The Future of Quantity Surveying in the Asia Pacific Region

The following paper was written and presented by **Mr. John Lowry, President of the AIQS**, as the keynote address at the PAQS Congress. It provides an Australian perspective on the future directions of the profession in the PAQS region. It is an insightful and thought-provoking presentation that provides considerable scope for discussion and comparison amongst PAQS members.

Introduction

During my 38 years in the profession quantity surveyors have often suffered an identity crisis. We worry that our profession may not be as high profile as it might be, or whether it will survive as a profession as technology takes over some of our traditional functions. We are concerned that our work will be fragmented by contractors and other employers who, by and large, only require part of the total capability of their own quantity surveying staff, or indeed new and different skills from the traditional “measure and value” skills that have been regarded as fundamental to the practice of quantity surveying.

I think we worry that no one loves us. After all, architects and engineers hate to be constrained with their designs. We debate whether we should change our name to some bland but more publicly understood term. But we can't agree on what it might be. Personally I love the term “quantity surveyor”, because it is unique and because we can attach any meaning to it, as we grow.

Nonetheless, I have always been surprised by how well quantity surveying is understood and how much it is respected in our region, not only in its traditional strongholds of Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand, but in Japan, Canada and more recently China and the United States.

I remember that I was surprised at the high regard Taisei executives held for company quantity surveyors when I came to Tokyo in 1983. My company worked for Kumagai Gumi in Australia in the 80's, and for a time its Australian manager was an Australian quantity surveyor. Recently I was again surprised when I saw an advertisement on the Internet for quantity surveyors from a Washington based Cost Engineering company. In fact one of my former young employees has been working for Westinghouse in the United States on a salary at least four times more than he would get in Australia. We will continue to be challenged, at an accelerating rate, by technology and the globalisation of business and employment patterns.

The Impact of Technology

Technology has been slow to drive structural change in the construction industry. Whilst we have automated manual processes to a degree, our fundamental skills of

measuring and valuing work have remained the cornerstone of what we do. We have been on the fringe of developments in collaboration, interoperability and 2 and 3D CAD modelling.

A great deal of research has been directed to construction industry integration in universities in Britain, Australia and elsewhere. The Australian Government is sponsoring a \$64 million research project out of the Queensland University of Technology that has attracted some of the best construction industry researchers in the world. Research areas include Business Relationships, Sustainable Development, Construction Delivery Systems and Information & Communications Technologies. We should all be sharing an expanding on our knowledge for the benefit of mankind.

Collaborative technologies are now mature with the development of corporate and public (ASP) database driven, and peer-to-peer information management systems. All these technologies will find a place in the Information Management world. Internet based information flows will soon be the norm for jobs of all sizes.

We are at last on the verge of supply chain integration. In Australia, over the past five to ten years, major contractors have invested large sums of money researching information management systems and supply chain management. They are now turning to implementation. At present we are using the new tools to improve and speed-up communication. We are still using existing business models within this communication environment, but this will change.

Business model change is driven by efficiency and competing interests. For example, in Australia, concrete is purchased on a day-to-day negotiated basis. I suspect there is little science and a lot of emotion as suppliers compete to meet their quotas. The system relies on human interaction. In the future, Internet bidding will be used to determine prices, based on automatically filling daily quotas. Customers are likely to place bids as we do with share trading, triggering a purchase order at a particular price, or buying at a spot price. There will be little room for emotional negotiations.

Trade contract pricing that relies on pricing individual jobs is much more complex. It is clear that trade contractors will soon price and submit bills of quantities directly over the internet. The effort and cost of bidding will be reduced with the use of sophisticated interactive price databases. This will allow suppliers and contractors to competitively bid on projects at great distances. Perhaps close relationships with suppliers and contractors will go much further where cost and price data is continually shared in real-time. This will involve significant cultural and business model change.

The maintenance, management and transfer of meaningful cost and other project data will require much more disciplined data architectures and data processes than ever before. It has been a quantity surveying tradition to



develop industry-wide definitions for the measurement of work and the maintenance of meaningful cost data and we are perfectly positioned to move our traditional skills and knowledge into these areas.

Soon, we will extend this skill to adding cost definitions to objects in consistently understandable ways and to creating cost breakdown structures and architectures that will become international standards, such as the IAI Industry Foundation Classes (IFC's). At last we will tie meaningful cost parameters directly to CAD objects. There are already people developing cost data structures in this way, but it will require a huge international effort and a lot of goodwill to turn these efforts into international standards.

Interoperability will be a reality and a critical part of supply chain collaboration. At present it centres on CAD system integration, but we all know that it will grow to encompass all supply chain interactions. There have been tentative efforts made over the past 20 years by organisations like CITE, and integration will improve.

PAQS, ICEC and its member organisations should take the role of creating international standards for cost data architectures so that cost information at all levels may be understood and transferred world wide.

We will become information brokers, maintaining cost data and adding value in meaningful ways at project and higher levels. We will continue to develop sophisticated cost models that will deliver increasing accuracy in cost planning. As a result, quantity surveyors cost planning services will be more and more in demand.

We will use our collective knowledge for new data-intensive services.

The Environment

Environmentally sustainable development is a global responsibility. All nations will continue to come under pressure to develop responsible sustainability policies. Quantity Surveyors will develop and deploy methodologies and standards for measuring energy efficiency and sustainability.

Operational efficiency will continue to drive commercial property development in low inflation environments. Quantity surveyors will continue to develop cost planning methodologies to optimise operational efficiency and systems and processes to effectively manage operational efficiency of property portfolios from acquisition to disposal.

The Effect of Globalisation

It is not so much change we fear, but the fear of the unknown. There is no certainty where we are going to end up. It is more comfortable to stay where we are and cling to what we have. But when change is rushing at us like a train it might be better to get on and go for the ride than wait to be run over.

It seems to me that we are somewhere on the continuum of a Post-Industrial Revolution that has been accelerated by Global communications, including travel and electronic communications. We will all have to deal with the social and political change that results, just as our forbears did in the 18th and 19th century.

Rapid globalisation and changing employment patterns are challenges that PAQS and its member institutes must understand and face in the coming years. We must not be frightened of the future, but together seize the opportunities that arise.

Investment opportunities and capital flows are not bound by geography. They have not been for centuries but the speed of information flows and funds transfer has enabled much more flexible business and investment practices than in the past.

In the past twenty years many of us have experienced major foreign investment surges from wealthy neighbours. Japanese property investment led the way in the region with major investment right through the 1980's. Since then there has been a great deal of cross-investment throughout the region with waves of Singaporean, Hong Kong, Chinese, Malaysian, Indonesian and Korean investment in property.

Contractors and consultants have followed their clients and established new markets for their services. Japanese contractors built major projects in Australia and Australian consultants and contractors have established successful operations throughout Asia.

Australia recently signed a free trade agreement with Thailand, the second largest economy in South-East Asia and we have free trade agreements with Singapore and New Zealand. Economic ties with China have improved dramatically since president Hu's visit this month and we are likely to sign a free trade agreement with the USA.

ASEAN has not been idle and I understand that there are those who would like to turn economic cooperation into an EC type economic community in the region. Thailand is promoting an Asian power grid.

Free trade is accelerating and it will include trade in all kinds of goods and services. Growth in the trade of professional services will continue with all these initiatives.

Another driver for globalised business is the trade in education that we have experienced over the past 20 years and the consequent portability of employment. Australia has experienced strong growth in education of tertiary students from all over Asia, particularly Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore and Malaysia. I have even seen a trend towards attracting students from as far away as Brazil. Many young Australians spend time teaching in Japan, Korea and other countries. Australian Universities have established campuses in Singapore and elsewhere. This trend will continue. Young people are mobile in a way that my generation was not.



There are many benefits from this sharing of education. Language and cultural barriers are broken down. It leads to common education standards, so that employers know what to expect from prospective employees no matter where they come from. Young people are more inclined to travel for employment.

Australia particularly benefited from a large influx of qualified quantity surveyors from Hong Kong during the 1980's when we experienced staff shortages. Some have returned home, others have stayed on to make their life with us.

Employment in the construction industry and other project-based industries is driven by demand. Now that capital is readily portable, so is property development and construction. Investment funds have vast amounts of money to invest and they will look at any development in a stable political environment that will show satisfactory returns.

Development will boom wherever the conditions are right. Conditions include stability, demand, growth, government policy and incentives, costs and prices. Construction and resource Industry employees have traditionally travelled to their work, following boom conditions. There is no reason why the trend will not expand.

[Last year, on a flight from London, I met a Scottish electrician who lives an hours drive north of Edinburgh and works on the oil and gas fields off the North-west shelf of Western Australia. Every month for 17 years he drives to Edinburgh, catches flights to London, Perth, Karratha and helicopter to the rig, a total of 30 hours. At the end of the month he does it all in reverse. He has more frequent flyer points than five people could use in a lifetime.]

How Do We Respond?

How should we, the guardians of our profession, deal with these changes in employment patterns in our region? Should we throw up barriers in the hope of protecting our way of life by preventing the flow of qualified personnel or should we facilitate the change by creating common standards throughout the region and perhaps deliver a better standard of living for all people?

I think it is obvious that our job is to facilitate employment for our members, not prevent it. We must work together to create common education standards through common accreditation of universities and courses. We must establish standard professional and ethical standards. This will include common competencies, standard membership entry criteria, common practice and ethical standards.

Any member of a PAQS Institute should be seamlessly acceptable to any other PAQS Institute. We should be able to work in each other's countries on a project or any other basis with a minimum of local practice and supervision.

Out of interest, the AIQS facilitates the immigration of quantity surveyors to Australia by undertaking migration assessments for the Australian Government. It is an effective way to assist quantity surveyors who want to work and reside in Australia.

We should consider what other areas of cooperation that we should foster. These should include communications and industry research and international cost and price databases. We should act now to ensure that our standards are accepted by regional governments and industry as the benchmark for all others.

These standards, education and capability are the basis of our collective intellectual capital, but we can not put it in a cupboard for another day. Much of what we do is distributed and publicly available information. If we do not accept the challenge and the opportunities presented by expanding our individual horizons, the vacuum that we leave will be filled by private profit and non-profit organisations who have their own interests. They have the capability and the capital to internationalise their own products and proprietary standards if they want to, just as Microsoft did with PC operating systems in the 1980's. Unless we continually promote, expand and use our knowledge base it will be taken, adapted and adopted by competing interests.

The Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors has adopted the motto "Think globally, act locally".

We strongly support the PAQS and ICEC models for international cooperation and collaboration. I believe that the model of national and regional representation on peak bodies provides the best opportunity for meaningful collaboration whilst retaining the independence of and respect for the local interests of member nations.

The major risk for this type of organisation is that members can easily get caught up in our own local issues and disregard the development of regional and global initiatives. We can also be tempted to put narrow short-term objectives before bigger but longer-term objectives. Centrally governed organisations can retain much better focus and apply appropriately planned resources to ensure that its objectives are met.

I recommend that PAQS agrees on clear goals for regional collaboration, establishes an achievable business plan and monitors its performance regularly. We must share our knowledge freely. We must not fear the future but face it with enthusiasm and optimism.

These are the things that will secure a fair, responsible and prosperous future for us all.

**John Lowry FAIQS ICECA, AIAMA
National President, AIQS**



PAQS ROUNDUP

News & Events From PAQS Member Countries

Australia

Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (AIQS)

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Shortage of Quantity Surveyors

There is a continuing shortage of good Quantity Surveyors in Australia with both Quantity Surveying consultant firms and contractors finding it difficult to employ suitable professionally qualified Quantity Surveyors. This is mainly due to the sustained boom in construction activity in Australia in recent years but is also partly due to the decline in interest from school leavers in the profession. The AIQS is addressing this problem by participating in an increasing number of school careers shows, providing up to 10 scholarships for Year 12 students and attempting to sway existing university students to take up QS courses. Additionally, the AIQS continues to conduct up to 200 skilled migration assessments for the Australian Government each year and assists AIQS overseas members who wish to migrate to Australia.

Membership Growth

In 2002 the AIQS had an increase in financial membership of over 7%. A good part of this increase has come from overseas members who are either educated in Australia or migrate to Australia. There are also a good number of Australians and other nationality members working overseas in some 43 countries who see the benefit in AIQS membership. Therefore, the AIQS offers its overseas members a range of useful services and keeps them well informed via their own quarterly newsletter called OMNI (Overseas Members News and Information). They also provide (depending on location) CPD seminars and social events and have useful resources such as professional videos and downloadable publications from the AIQS website.

Professional Indemnity Insurance

One of the biggest issues facing AIQS members is obtaining affordable Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII). It is obligatory for AIQS members in private practice or working for a consultant firm or contractor to be covered by appropriate levels of PII. The cost of PII has risen by as much as 800% for members who have never had a PI claim against them. The lack of profitability in the PI underwriting market and the consequent withdrawal of underwriters from this type of insurance, has resulted in these huge rises in premium costs. The AIQS is now engaged in negotiating with a broker and underwriter to provide AIQS members with a specific QS PI scheme which will see members receive more reasonable premiums. Additionally, through our industry peak bodies we are lobbying government to introduce legislation which will limit the liability of members and proportion liability, thus making the QS far less of an insurance risk for underwriters.

New Publications

The AIQS has recently published 2 new books which may be of interest to professionals in other countries.

Risk Management in the Construction Industry

Written by T. Lyons this is a comprehensive review of all the literature on risk management. It provides the reader with an excellent reference list and should greatly assist those seeking to develop their own risk management strategies.

Mechanical and Electrical Measuring

This is another of a series of measurement workbooks prepared by Joseph Sierra which gives a practical guide for the measurement of mechanical and electrical construction work. The book includes extensive diagrams.

Canada

Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (CIQS)

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The CIQS were formally accepted as full members of the PAQS organisation at the PAQS Board Meeting in Tokyo. Along with CECA, they are the newest members of the organisation.



The following history of the CIQS was taken from their website. It provides a good background for other PAQS members to become more familiar with the organisation and the development of quantity surveying in Canada.

The History of the CIQS (<http://www.ciqs.org>)

The pattern of construction estimating in Canada, at least until recent years, has been indistinguishable from that generally practised throughout the Americas. One of its significant characteristics has been, and still is, that construction companies must bid not only on their knowledge of pricing, planning and administration of their construction companies, but in the short time allowed for bidding, on their ability to measure the material and labour components of the work as well. The concept of bidding on a common, guaranteed bill of quantities prepared by the owner's quantity surveyor, which is the traditional accepted practice in some other parts of the world, has never gained acceptance in North America. However, the provision of preparing preliminary bid quantities is now common, although the risk of determining the correct amount of work still remains with the bidder.

During the 1950's the large flow of immigrants to Canada brought with it its complement of U. K. Quantity Surveyors who saw a need for an organization to further the aims of their profession. In February 1959, a number of these Quantity Surveyors were invited to a Founder Members' meeting in Toronto. From this meeting the objectives, rules and regulations of the Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors were developed.

Many construction estimators are quantity surveyors, and there are records of quantity surveyors immigrating to Canada as early as the turn of this century. The indications are they either turned to other work or adapted to industry practice as it stood at the time. It was only following the Second World War that Estimators / Quantity Surveyors began to enter Canada in significant numbers. At first, it was a case of working with the system as it stood. The opportunity to exert any notable influence on the process has come only in the last twenty-five years, along with increasing recognition by government and industry of the Quantity Surveyors and Estimators as an informed voice on design, methods of construction and materials. Today, with widening acceptance of techniques such as value management, statistical analysis, and so on, the opportunities for Quantity Surveyors and Estimators to influence design and construction are broadening.

On January 13, 1988 the Institute obtained the official mark Professional Quantity Surveyor and subsequently has also registered the initials PQS and the French equivalents of Économiste en Construction Agréé and the initials ECA. As of May 1988 the Council of the Institute conferred upon its Professional Quantity Surveyor Members the right to a professional seal.

Construction Estimator, Estimateur en Construction, and Construction Estimator Certified (CEC), Estimateur en Construction Certifié (ECC), are two new categories developed by the Institute to continue to promote the

profession of construction estimating. CIQS created and adopted the categories in August of 1995 and implemented them in June of 1996. Construction Estimator Certified (CEC), Estimateur en Construction Certifié (ECC) are registered official marks of the institute.

Membership

Membership of the CIQS continues to grow. It has increased by 10% in the past year. The distribution of the total membership provincially is as follows:

Ontario Institute of Quantity Surveyors (OIQS)	687
Alberta Quantity Surveyors Association (AQSA)	92
Quantity Surveyors Society of British Columbia (QSSBC)	253
Quantity Surveyors of Quebec (QSQ)	54
Nova Scotia Association of Quantity Surveyors (NSAQS)	76
Newfoundland & Labrador Association of Q.S. (NLAQS)	13
Overseas members	40
Total	1,215



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CECA were also formally accepted as full members of the PAQS organisation at the PAQS Board Meeting. They have acted as Observers in recent years and the Board is pleased to see them become full members. This required considerable bureaucratic approval processes in China.

Structure

The Representative Conference is the highest power organ of CECA. The Council of CECA, 167 members, is the executive entity of the Representative Conference that is held every four years, conducts the leadership of the Conference between the sessions, and also takes the responsibility for the Conference.

The Executive Board of CECA comprises 40 members and is elected by Council members. The Board performs the function of Council according to the Constitution of CECA and is responsible for the Council.



The Executive Board Director, Mr. Yang Sizhong, is the Juridical Representative. There are 7 vice Directors among the leading core.

Madam Ma Guizhi is the Secretary General and is in charge of the routine works for CECA. 3 deputies Secretary General are in charge of various businesses under the supervision of Madam Ma.

Certification Process

The general reform in the Chinese economy since the 1980s has also seen significant reform in the Chinese construction industry. One of the key elements of this reform has been effective cost management of projects.

In terms of cost management, the industry has adopted many of the practices implemented in the American industry. Cost managers are generally called cost engineers rather than quantity surveyors. The normal pathway is to gain qualifications as an engineer and then become a cost engineer through further training or education.

CECA have identified the need for effective education and qualifications for cost engineers and have embarked on a massive certification process. They have certified approximately 60,000 cost engineers since the certification process began. There are currently approximately 90,000 professionals undertaking the certification process.

These numbers are mind-boggling when compared to the other PAQS member associations. However, CECA are very mindful of the importance of quality control in this process and are very active in promoting dialogue and seeking assistance from international associations, firms and universities. Education and Continuing Professional Development are two major issues for CECA.

Madam Ma Guizhi spoke at the PAQS Board Meeting and spoke of CECA's keen interest in collaborating with PAQS members, firms and universities to improve the quality of construction cost management in China. She spoke of a number of opportunities for international firms in the lead up to the 2008 Beijing Olympics and the considerable scope for universities to provide cost management education, particularly in the postgraduate sector.

2006 PAQS Congress

In recognition of the need to foster greater collaboration with the PAQS organisation, it was agreed that the 2006 PAQS Congress will be hosted by CECA in Beijing.

Fiji Fiji Institute of Quantity Surveyors (FIQS)

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General

The Fiji Institute of Quantity Surveyors was established in 1993. Currently, the Institute has 75 members.

Hong Kong Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS)

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The following information was supplied by Mr. Francis Leung, immediate past Chairman of the HKIS Quantity Surveying Division.

SARS

The year 2003 was not a good year for Hong Kong. The SARS outbreak was an untimely blow to our already weak economy. For several months our vibrant city was brought to a halt. Trading and business activities slowed down. Shops and restaurants were empty. To maintain basic activities that had to go on, people in the streets, schools and offices resorted to wearing surgical masks. Many external activities and contacts had to be cancelled or postponed, including the PAQS Congress. Fortunately but perhaps not too surprisingly, Hong Kong has bounced back quickly and strongly in the aftermath.



Institute Structure and Membership

After many months of preparation and consultation, the HKIS has recently passed a resolution to create a technical grade of membership. Apart from increasing our membership size, it is hoped that the new arrangement will help us to expand the scope of our professional training. Our membership base will be widened as a result of technical members being able to progress to full membership through structured training and examinations. A Board of Professional Development will be set up to help establish and maintain the highest professional standards and competency of our members.

Our Constitution has been revised to allow the setting up of Specialist Forums so as to encourage cross-divisional activities and expertise. The following forums have been formed: Property and Facilities Management, Project Management, Town Planning/Sustainable Development and Dispute Resolution.

Standard Form of Contract and Standard Method of Measurement

In conjunction with the architects institute and contractors association, the HKIS have finished drafting a new form of contract and a new standard method of measurement which better reflect industry developments and current requirements. This is particularly with respect to project management, contract law and risk allocation. More detailed provisions are included to cover sub-contract management, variations, extensions of time and dispute resolution. The HKIS are at the final stage of consultation with stakeholders and interested parties after which the documents will be officially promulgated.

Public Private Partnerships (PPP)/Private Finance Initiatives (PFI)

PPPs and PFIs are increasingly being used as a procurement option for infrastructure and public facilities in Hong Kong. Expressions of interest for PPPs are being invited for several projects, including a multi-billion dollar cultural development complex in West Kowloon, Hong Kong. The HKIS believes that quantity surveyors should play a leading role in the development of PPPs at both government policy and project implementation levels. HKIS has been working hard to facilitate PPPs and encourage quantity surveying members to take part in this procurement form. Seminars on PPP/PFI and risk transfer have been organised. To raise public awareness the HKIS have made PPPs the theme of the HKIS Annual Conference to be held in March/April 2004.

Mainland China

The HKIS continues strong collaboration and communication with their counterparts on the Mainland although this was hindered somewhat by the SARS outbreak. The HKIS have reached in-principle agreement and a timetable for reciprocity recognition of professional qualifications with the China Engineering Cost Association (CECA). At a municipal level, the Hong

Kong Special Administrative Region has signed an agreement with Mainland China which permits concessionary arrangements for business enterprises from Hong Kong to invest in the Mainland. Quantity Surveying firms in Hong Kong will be allowed to set up their practices on the Mainland. With this new arrangement the China market will be more accessible to foreign companies through various means of cooperation with Hong Kong companies and professional firms.

Mr. Francis Leung, HKIS



HKIS and CECA Members

2002 Assessment of Professional Competency (APC)

The results of the 2002 APC were obtained from the HKIS website. 568 candidates applied for the written assessment, 64 candidates passed the written assessment and 52 of them passed the interview. The passing rate was around 9.5%. Those who failed the interview will have to be interviewed again in 2003. There were another 11 "re-interview only" candidates passing the interview. Therefore, the total number of newly qualified members through the 2002 APC was 63.

Japan Building Surveyor's Institute Of Japan (BSIJ)

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PAQS Congress

The 7th PAQS Congress was organised by the BSIJ and, despite being postponed in June due to the SARS outbreak, was a very professionally organised and successful event. The organising committee led by Professor Teruyuki Fujigami and Mr. Takayoshi Sato did a tremendous job and are to be congratulated.



Mr. TT Cheung and Mr. Yoshikazu Nakano exchange gifts at the PAQS Board Meeting

History

The following is a chronological history of the development of the BSIJ:

- 1967 Japan Association of Building Surveying Offices (predecessor) founded.
- 1969 Dispatch of inspection and study missions to Europe, etc. and international exchanges started.
- 1970 Participation in Building Surveying Society
- 1975 Building Surveyor's Institute of Japan (BSIJ) founded
- 1977 School of Building Surveying opened
- 1977 Standards for Building Quantity Surveying established (by the Building Surveying Society)
- 1979 Building Surveyors System established
- 1985 BSIJ 10th Anniversary Commemoration
- 1990 Commencement of Examination and Certification of qualified building surveyors licensed by the Minister of Construction (Building Surveyors System abolished)
- 1991 Correspondence course in Quantity Surveying for civil engineering and construction works authorised by the Ministry of Education
- 1995 BSIJ 20th Anniversary Commemoration
- 1996 Building Surveying Optimization Centre established
- 1996 BSI Cost School (Project Manager Course) opened
- 1998 BSI Cost School (Architects Cost Course) opened
- 2000 Co-editing of "Standards for Building Quantity Surveying and Commentaries"
- 2001 Shift to the certification business of qualified building surveyors
- 2001 Co-editing of "Standard Forms of Statement of Items of Construction Work"
- 2003 Host 7th PAQS Congress

New QS/Cost Management Associations

The BSIJ are the only quantity surveying association officially authorised by the Japanese government. However, new associations have also formed in recent years. The Japan Association of Quantity Surveyors (JAQS) was recently formed and is a separate entity to the BSIJ. JAQS members attended the PAQS Board Meeting this year as observers and spoke about the development of the quantity surveying profession in Japan. Other cost related associations that have been formed include the Japanese section of the AACEI (JSCE) and the Japan Society of Cost and Project Engineers (JSCPE).

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ISM Elections

At the 2003 ISM Elections, Mr. Ong See Lian, the new PAQS Chairman, was elected as the new President of the ISM. This is a tremendous achievement by Mr. Lian. Mr. Noushad Ali Naseem Ameer Ali was elected as the Chairman of the QS Division



Mr. Ong See Lian
ISM President
PAQS Chairman



Mr. Noushad Ali Naseem Ameer Ali
Chairman – QS Division

PAQS Secretariat

The ISM have taken on the role of the PAQS Secretariat for the next two years. Mr. Kwan Hock Hai will be the Secretary and will be assisted by Ms. Katherine Thiang.



**New Zealand
New Zealand Institute Of Quantity
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(NZIQS)**

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The following information was obtained from the NZIQS section of the ICEC website (by Mr. John Granville).

Membership

The NZIQS started 2003 with a spring in its step! Member numbers increased by approximately 4% - only the third increase in 12 years.

Members' interest in the award of Registered QS status has flourished and the value of professional standards and ethical practice has been rekindled by public debates on standards of training and practice in the construction industry following project failures and publicity on 'leaky homes'.

Industry Change

The New Zealand construction industry has received more government attention than normal in the past two years. This has resulted in the development of the Construction Contracts Act 2002 and Construction Contracts Regulations 2003.

In addition, a review of the Building Act 1991 is being undertaken. This will include better building controls and a more proactive regulator, which will provide better articulation of the Building Code, coupled with better guidance and information on how to meet the requirements of the Building Code. There will be better administration of building controls, with more reliable inspection and code compliance requirements. It will also result in more competent and better informed building practitioners, who will certify their work and better informed and protected consumers

The aims of all parties associated with the industry are similar - professionalism of people and high quality buildings - but the difficulty will be in establishing the balance between prescriptive regulation and standards and the allowance for flexibility and innovation for construction process and products.

**Singapore
Singapore Institute Of Surveyors &
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(SISV)**

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2003 SISV QS Division Council

Sitting (left to right):

Ms Serena Lim, Ms Chee Huey Mien, Ms Kee Bee Kheng, Mr Seah Choo Meng, Mr Goh Ngan Hong, Mr Teoh Wooi Sin, Dr Florence Ling

Standing (left to right):

Mr Yeo Tiong Yeow, Mr Goh Seow Tian, Mr Seah Kwee Yong, Mr Terence Goh, Mr Daniel Wong, Mr Thomas Lim, Mr Khoo Sze Boon, Mr Eugene Seah, Mr Wong Kin Hoong
(Not in Picture: Mr Choo Churn Huai, Mr Lee Keng Seng, Mr Edward Ta ng)

The following information was obtained from the SISV section of the ICEC website (by Mr. Seah Kwee Yong).

Launch of CEMS

The Construction Electronic Measurement Standards (CEMS) was launched on 19 July 2003. These Standards enable seamless migration of data from architectural and engineering design, based on object oriented CAD technology and the to-be-developed National Productivity and Quality Specification (NPQS). By establishing common protocols and terms, which are critical for the development of proprietary and commercial software capable of interfacing and synthesising both upstream design information and downstream contracting & procurement activities.

SISV member firms Davis Langdon and Seah Singapore P/L & KPK Quantity Surveyors (1995) Singapore P/L were jointly appointed as consultants for the drafting of the CEMS. This is an initiative of the Construction Industry IT Standards Committee (CITC).

The CEMS is the electronic version of the SMM and is essentially the rules for scheduling work items and measuring quantities in a format to enable the development of appropriate automated quantity surveying application software. The CEMS complies with the requirements of the Industry Foundation Class (IFC) as defined by the International Alliance for Interoperability. The SISV's Standard Method of Measurement of Building Works (currently SMM2) will be nationalised through CEMS into a Singapore Standard (SS) Code of Practice (CP) to facilitate development of compliant software to automate upstream resources quantification activities to enable seamless downstream online procurement of construction products and materials. CEMS is thus a very important concern of SISV. Developing the CEMS was indeed an exploratory work.

Once CEMS is established, the next step is to nurture IT vendors to develop Automatic Quantity Take-off Systems (AQTs) able to meet the standards.

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**ICEC 4th World Congress
17-21 April, 2004
Cape Town, South Africa**

The Association of South African Quantity Surveyors and the Cost Engineering Association of South Africa will be hosting the 4th ICEC World Congress in April 2004. The 8th PAQS Congress will be held in conjunction with this congress in a similar mode to the combined congresses in Melbourne in 2002.

ICEC is a nonpolitical and nonprofit organization which was founded in 1976 with the object of promoting cooperation between national and multinational cost engineering, quantity surveying and project management organizations worldwide. ICEC member societies are located in more than 30 countries, and have chapters or sections in many additional countries. Through these chapters and sections, ICEC has access to nearly 100,000 quantity surveyors, cost engineers and project managers in over 120 different nations. The World Congress is a very prestigious event held every 2 years and usually has hundreds of delegates from around the globe in attendance. For further information contact

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The Association of South African Quantity Surveyors

Cost Engineering Association of Southern Africa

