

Young Quantity Surveyors Group

A group initiated by the Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyor



YQSG Newsletter

2011 April Issue

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of Quantity Surveyors**
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About YQSG



On 15 August 2009, young members from PAQS country members attended the Sustainability Committee Meeting and formed the first Young Quantity Surveyors Group committee. This committee was subsequently appointed by the PAQS Board under PAQS Constitution article 3.2.

Quantity surveying students and young members under 40 year of age and who

are from the country members are encouraged to join YQSG.

The first YQSG programme was held from 23rd to 24th July 2010 before the main PAQS Congress. 17 young members include representatives from China, HongKong, Japan, Singapore and students from National University of Singapore attended the programme. The programme included Singapore delicacy dining, sharing session by different members of participating countries, and visit to Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA).

Singapore is the hosting country for the first YQSG meeting and sharing session this year. The sharing session serves as an excellent platform for each participating country to present their latest developments in their country. This year, the participating countries include China, Hongkong, Japan as well as Singapore. It is hoped that with the formation of YQSG, more awareness on the developments and improvements in the construction industry

of different countries can be created among different young professionals and even university students in the participating countries.

Knowledge comes after awareness and with knowledge, effective action could be taken conscientiously and continuously by the younger generation of quantity surveyors to sustain and improve the construction industry. At the same time, it is also believed that YQSG will be able to bring the idea of "international cooperation within the construction industry" to a greater height.

With the sharing of knowledge and network, the construction industry would be able to improve on it's construction techniques, softwares, operations and Information Technology.

It was noted that the YQSG should be a good vehicle to promote QS as a career choice for school leavers and university students.

About PAQS



The Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors (PAQS) is an international association of national organizations representing Quantity Surveyors in the Asia and Western Pacific region.

The Mission of the PAQS is:

- The promotion of the practice of quantity Surveying (QS) in the region.
- The promotion of “best practice” for QS in the region.
- The promotion of dialogue between member organizations.
- Encouragement of regional cooperation in the practice of QS.
- Fostering of research appropriate to the better understanding of building practice in the region.
- Rendering of assistance to members of member organizations working in each other’s countries.

The current members of PAQS are:

FULL MEMBER

- Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering International (AACEI)
- Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (AIQS)
- Building Surveyors Institute of Japan (BSIJ)
- Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (CIQS)
- China Engineering Cost Association (CECA)
- Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS)
- New Zealand Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NZIQS)
- Singapore Institute of Surveyors & Valuers (SISV)
- The Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (ISM)

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

- Fiji Institute of Quantity Surveyors (FIQS)
- Institute of Quantity Surveyors Sri Lanka (IQSSL)
- Institution of Surveyors, Engineers and Architects, Brunei (PUJA)

OBSERVER MEMBER

- Association of South African Quantity Surveyors (ASAQS)



MR JOSEPH CHONG

Chairman

Young Quantity Surveyors Group
2009 - 2011, PAQS

BSc(Surv)(HKU), MSc(IDM)(HKU),
MHKIS, MRICS, RPS(QS), MHKICM,
MHKIVM, BEAM PRO

It is my honour to be the first Chairman of the Young Quantity Surveyors Group of PAQS.

Four years ago, I joined the first PAQS Congress 2007 in Auckland, New Zealand. It was the first time I could feel the synergy of QSs from different countries and their passion in promoting our own profession by joining hand in hand. Through PAQS, we shared knowledge of each country to improve our way of working, established good common practice and encouraged talented practitioners from different countries to explore our way forward.

The discussion of setting up a young group was actually started then and I had been involved in the discussion since then. We had explored different activities to be organized in the young group. Finally last year we formed the first committee and confirmed that we have to organize a mini-PAQS Congress for the young QSs.

Although we have internet nowadays, it is still not easy to gather people from different countries to work on a task. This year we are lucky to have a hard working teammate Daniel Wong in Singapore. While he was also the Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the PAQS 2010 Congress, he still managed to recruit a team of student helpers from National University of Singapore and worked out our first young programme last year.

It has been such an enjoyable and rewarding experience for me to join the first PAQS young programme in July last year in Singapore. We made new friends, share our knowledge and discussed our way forward.

This year, the PAQS Congress will be held in Sri Lanka in July. We are going to have another young programme with the assistance of our young committee members there. We would expect to have more QS students' participation.

Besides, we are going to hold the first Young Quantity Surveyors Award to award young QSs who have outstanding performance in the profession. We would also like to act as a bridge for QS students in different countries to communicate.

I hope I could report to you more in the next issue of newsletter when we have progress in the above tasks and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you the best of luck in your pursuit of career and study. If you have any suggestion for our Group, you are welcome to contact us at josephhku@gmail.com or chairman@yqsg.net.

On 23 July, the youth delegates from countries such as Japan, China and Hongkong were warmly welcomed by Mr Daniel Wong, Honorary Treasurer of YQSG as well as a group of students from National University of Singapore (NUS). The first activity planned for these delegates was a visit to the Urban Redevelopment of Singapore's City Gallery. The Gallery featured the past, present and future developments of Singapore. The picture below shows Mr Daniel explaining to the delegates regarding the development of Marina Bay area, which aims to promote the integration of recreation and commercial activities in a sustainable manner.



The delegates were able to learn and bring away with them techniques and methods adopted by Singapore to inculcate in Singaporeans the concept of environmental sustainability.

A group photo was taken before moving on to the Singapore Institute of Surveyors and Valuers (SISV) Headquarters for a meeting and sharing session. On the way back to the SISV headquarters, the delegates were accompanied and guided



by the student volunteers. These student volunteers major in either Real Estate or Project and Facilities Management in NUS and what they learn is closely related to the construction industry. Thus they benefitted by interacting with these delegates regarding the construction industry and other related topics. Such interactions were the very objective of YQSG - to create awareness of the developments in the construction industry among the youths. Therefore it is hoped that more working professionals and university students could join in the YQSG to sustain and improve on the operations in the construction industry.

During the meeting and sharing session, a representative from each country spoke about the recent or future developments in the construction industry in their country. It was a truly engaging and informative session for the group as they were able to learn more about the developments in each participating country. For example, through the sharing

session, YQSG members and the students were more informed about Japan's focus on integrating greenery, be it vertical or horizontal, into buildings to reduce heat surrounding the buildings. Through the sharing session, they had also learnt that an express railway linking HongKong, Shenzhen and Guangzhou will be built. This development would have a significant impact on both Hongkong and China financially and socially.



The day ended off with a sumptuous meal of local specialties at the Lau Pa Sat Festive Market. It used to be a wet market that dates back over 150 years ago, but had subsequently been converted into a famous gourmet paradise.



On 24 July, the second day of the YQSG meeting and sharing session, Mr Daniel brought the delegates to Esplanade. The Esplanade, as shown above is an arts centre, officially opened on 12 October 2002. This architectural icon with its distinctive twin shells, is sited within Singapore's civic district, just by Marina Bay at the mouth of Singapore River. The picture below shows Mr Daniel explaining to the delegates the structure of

fins" seen on the roof. These fins serve as sun shades to help reduce radiation through the glass roof into the building. This way the temperature in the building is kept low at all times. The group then toured from the Esplanade along Marina Bay to view the Marina Bay Sands Integrated Resort (IR), as shown in the



picture below. The Integrating Resort was officially opened on 23 June 2010. The structure of the IR was also unique and worth taking a look. The IR would have given the delegates a good idea on the development directions of Singapore. After viewing the IR, the group was brought to the River Merlion, where Mr

Daniel gave them a brief history background of Singapore as well as the origin of Merlion, an icon of Singapore. A group photo seen below was taken with the Merlion. Along the way to the last destination, the delegates had seen many historic buildings as well as newly developed buildings. All of these buildings had their story told to these delegates.

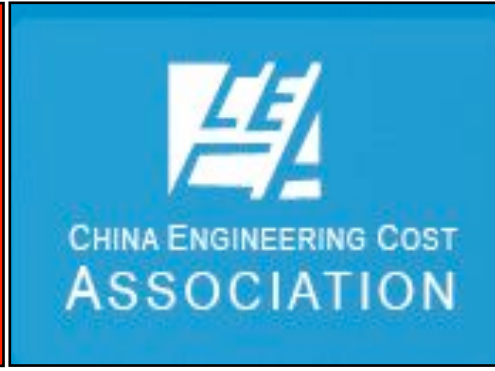
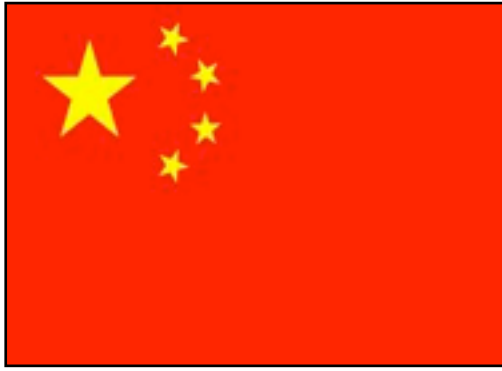
The last destination was the Marina Bay Promenade, a large spacious park developed recently for the public to enjoy the scenery and carry out recreational activities. This park contains various energy saving features such as



automated cooling fan shelter. Whenever people stand under the shelter, the sensor will cause the fan to start operating. The fan will stop spinning when no one is under the shelter. In addition, all the lights in the park used LED lights instead of spotlights to reduce energy consumption. It is hoped that the short tour around along Marina Bay would help the delegates gain a deeper understanding regarding Singapore's developments.



Esplanade. The Esplanade has a very unique architectural structure and it also incorporated energy saving features in the building. One example is the "sharp



The proposal of establishment of YQSG information from the organization over the country. The preliminary within the China Engineering Cost members of PAQS as well as to gain the contest will be held at each province, Association (CECA) will be delivered to support of individual members. the finals will be held in the capital of the Annual Board Meeting of CECA this year. China, Beijing. The details of the match are still under discussion.

We are now attempting to obtain more more than 53% of the CCE (certificated information regarding the history and Cost Engineer) are under 40 years old. experiences of young professional In total there are about 45000 individual organizations among other PAQS members. members.

This year, a badminton sport activity will The investigation and study are be organized and support by CECA and undergoing and we hoped to garner local consultancy companies. Most more opinions, suggestions and participants are young professionals all

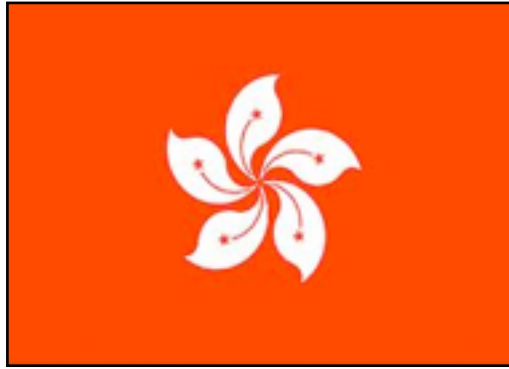


Report by James Y. Sue

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The Hong Kong construction market is booming again as many infrastructure projects are launched at the same time, including the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, Guangzhou-Hong Kong-Shenzhen High-speed Railway, MTR Shatin Central Line etc. It is foreseen that there will be a shortage of construction labour and professionals very soon and salaries of quantity surveyors would therefore continue to rise. Also the tender price index is still moving up slowly.

For the Quantity Surveying Divisional (QSD) Council of the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors, there are also a lot of tasks on the newly elected Chairman's list. New Chairman of the Council is Mr. Antony Man, who had attended PAQS meetings in Singapore, Malaysia and Canada. The Council is currently reviewing the New Standard Form of Building Contract 2005 and would work out some amendments soon.

In order to promote QS to the public and the students, QSD published a new

brochure and filmed a video recently. This promotion package was used in school visits to secondary schools and universities. Also, a new scholarship scheme for surveying students in universities was established to encourage more students studying general surveying to choose the quantity surveying profession after graduation.

Since the Policy Address was announced last year in November, it has still been a hot topic in Hong Kong about the tightening up of Gross Floor Area (GFA) exemption. In the past, developers in Hong Kong can get 10-20% of exemption for plant rooms, green features etc. which resulted in the increase of building bulk. In consideration of sustainable development in Hong Kong, the Secretary of Development was determined to implement a new policy to tighten up GFA exemption by issuing a new practice note. As the new policy would start in April this year, architects suddenly submit a lot of new building

plans to the Building Authority in order to grasp the last chance for bonus GFA. Also for the purpose of encouraging developers to build more green buildings, the newly issued BEAM Plus standard for green building assessment has to be adopted from coming April if developers would like to have more bonus GFA. Quantity surveyors in Hong Kong are expected to be familiar with the new GFA exemptions and the BEAM Plus standard to meet the new market demand.



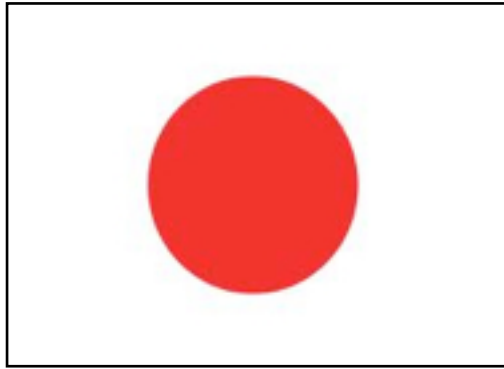
Report by Joseph Chong

Council Member

The HongKong Institute of Surveyors

Quantity Surveying Division

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2011 is a challenging year for BSIJ. Starting from this year, BSIJ establishes the membership for student which has not existed before. This student membership is established to attract more young people and also to give more opportunity to the students for QS activities.

Not only BSIJ establishes the student membership but also there is a plan to change the organization body into a public beneficial aggregate corporation in a few years.

Now in Japan, aggregate corporations are at the crossroad where is to choose whether to become public beneficial or to become general aggregate

corporations. Becoming public beneficial corporation means to become half-public organization. In this way, BSIJ as an organization can achieve more credibility than choosing to become a general aggregate cooperation. and it can get more social trust than general aggregate

corporations. For that purpose, whole member body is trying to set up new courses with public benefits such as basic training w plan.

The other new plan is to offer more basic trainings, which are not only for the working skills but also for common knowledge.

For example, in Chugoku-Shikoku branch, business English lesson is set for the students studying in university with BSIJ certification for its curriculum. Because language is a big barrier for the students in Japan to participate in YQSG, this is one of the ways to encourage the students.



Report by Kenta Fukagawa

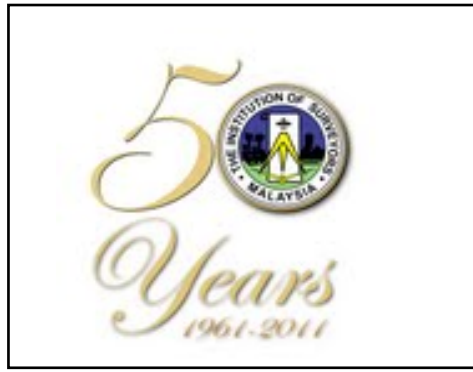
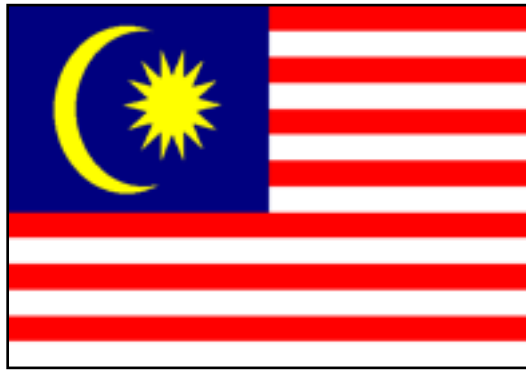
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Junior Organization (JO)

The Junior Organization Sub-committee members are as follows:

Chair: Sr Fadilah Mohamad Camaludin
Members: Sr Mohamad Shazali Sulaiman

The following activities were held during the Session:

ACADEMIC VISITS

This session ISM received a total of 4 academic visits by students from Universities & Colleges to enable them to gain an insight into the role of the QS profession and ISM as a professional surveying institution.

40 students from Politeknik Sultan Azlan Shah, Perak (1st year, Certificate in Quantity Surveying) visited ISM on Monday 23rd February 2009. They were welcomed by JO Chair and a talk on 'Introduction to the world of Quantity Surveying' was presented.

44 students from Taylor's University College visited ISM on Saturday 5th September 2009 to gain an insight into the role of the QS Professional and ISM as a professional surveying Institution in the industry.

50 Young Surveyors from the Hong Kong Institution of Surveyors visited ISM on 1st October 2009. The Vice-President welcomed them and they were briefed by Chair of Junior Organization (JO) from each respective division (QS, PCVS, GLS & BS) on the activities held under the JO of ISM.

40 students from Politeknik Sultan Azlan Shah, Perak (1st year, Certificate in Quantity Surveying) visited ISM on Wednesday 7th April 2010. They were welcomed by committee members of Quantity Surveying Division.

PROFESSIONAL TALK

A career talk on Quantity Surveying was given by the Chair of JO to about 80 students of UTAR on 28 May 2009 (1st year diploma students) as part of promoting ISM, LJUBM together with RICS to the universities.

This session, the Board of Quantity Surveyors Malaysia in their effort of promoting the profession, has extended their invitation to the QS Division on their road tour to all the Universities. The Board will emphasize on the registration process and setting up of QS firms, while ISM will brief on the Test of Professional Competence. The following were the list of Universities that were visited by the Chair together with representatives from the Board:

- (i) University Malaya on 28 July 2009 to about 150 students (1st, 2nd and 3rd year).
- (ii) University Teknologi Malaysia on 29 September 2009 to about 200 students (1st, 2nd and 3rd year)
- (iii) University Sains Malaysia on 23 October 2009 to about 120 students (2nd and 3rd year)

The talks were aimed to educate and encourage the students to be professional QS once they obtain their degree.

A talk on 'Professional Ethics' was delivered by the Chair of JO to about 300 engineering students in UTM Jalan Semarak on 12 August 2009. Professional Ethics is part of the students' syllabus and UTM invites representatives from professional bodies to share first hand experience with the students.

QS JAMBOREE 2010

QS Jamboree was hosted on the 5-7 March 2010. Ten (10) Universities and Colleges participated in this 3 days 2 nights event. They were UM, UiTM (Shah Alam), UiTM (Perak), UTM (Semarak), UTM (Skudai), USM, UIA, Inti College, UTAR & Taylors College. There were about 170 participants including lecturers and secretariat during this event.

This year, the participants were divided into respective groups to do all the activities which consisted of a mixture of all the participating Universities and Colleges. Among the activities done were:

- (i) "An Evening With Surveyors"
- (ii) "Quiz - Towards National Unity"
- (iii) "Indoor Talk"
- (iv) Stage Performance - "Beyond Say, A Night To Remember"
- (v) Board Game - "Are You Cut To Be A QS"

Report by Amnah Salleh



ICEC, PAQS and SISV have been continually updated on the latest adaptable and knowledge driven to championing the quantity surveying and practices, products and developments. provide better advise on cost cost engineering profession. This We too need to continually evolve and management issues. ensures cooperation between national stay relevant to the needs of industry. and multinational organizations The practice is no longer limited to the worldwide in more than 120 different construction industry. It has spread into nations and 40 countries. More “borderless” areas like contracts, project importantly, we educate the profession & facilities management, environmental, and provide them with the tools to green sustainability, IT, oil and gas, practice wisely. We continue to push our energy, banking and so on. We cannot practices towards higher standards while maintain our traditional practices alone contributing back to society like as an and must innovate with the new NGO in poster consultative status with emerging industries to sustain our cost the Economic and Social Council of the management principles. United Nations. This has been no small task for the organizations.

Our theme - SUSTAINABLE COST expecting delegates from 20 different MANAGEMENT: BORDERLESS countries. Our theme is timely. The INNOVATION is to stay relevant in recent global events have made it today’s business climate. Quantity difficult for us to focus on any particular surveyors and cost engineers need to be segment or country; we must be

And finally a special thanks to all our international delegates from Australia, Brunei, Canada, China, France, Ghana, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Indonesia, Ireland, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Netherlands, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America and Malaysia, whom have taken time to travel across the globe to Singapore and made this truly a successful world congress.

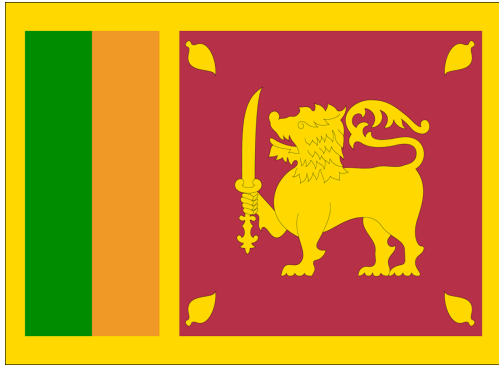


Report by Daniel Wong Hwee Boon

Vice President, Operations

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The quantity surveying profession in Sri Lanka has widely spreaded in main areas of the construction sectors such as building & infrastructure and the industry clients have shown increasing demand for the service of professional quantity surveyors. Also, in Sri Lanka the quantity surveyors are working in financial institutions such as banks, insurance companies as well.

It is noted that in addition to traditional quantity surveying practice, the Sri Lankan quantity surveyor has extensively approached in various other career paths such as, contract management, dispute resolution, project management, supply chain

management etc, delivering a highest output to their respective clients.

Apart from the practitioners some of the quantity surveyors are supporting the academic sector as lecturers.

As the demand goes up for the quantity surveyors in the construction industry, the need of professional QSs has become a great necessity. In order for development of such QSs Sri Lanka has approached in many ways. The main professional QS production institute is the University of Moratuwa. A full time course is being carried out and approximately around 100 students graduate each year at the university. In

addition to the University of Moratuwa, there are several other government and private institutions which provide QS education. Institute of Quantity Surveyors Sri Lanka is also administering QS courses in part-time and full-time basis.



Report by Prasath Sanjeewa

Institute of Quantity Surveyors Sri Lanka

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YQSG Program 2011

Day 1 : 22 July 2011



Arrival

Arrival at Palm Beach Hotel, Mount Lavinia and check in. (Participants have to make own arrangements for transport from Airport to the Hotel)

7.00 p.m - 11.00 p.m

Welcome dinner with IQSSL Council at Palm Beach Hotel (Gathering point: Palm Beach Hotel, Entrance Lobby)

Day 2 : 23 July 2011



9.00 a.m - 12.00 noon

(Assembling point: Palm Beach Hotel, Entrance Lobby) Collection from the Palm Beach Hotel at 9.00 a.m. and visit to University of Moratuwa.

Interaction session with students of Department of Building Economics. (Each country shall make 10 minutes presentation about their QS profession and latest construction developments)
Refreshment will be served at 10.30 a.m.

12.00 noon. – 1.00 p.m.

Lunch

1.00 p.m. - 3.00 p.m.

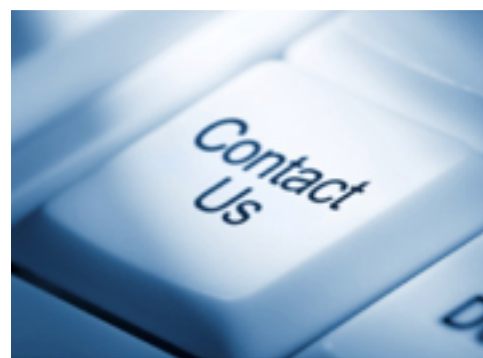
City tour

3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Shopping (Assembling point - Galle Face at 6.00 p.m)

7.00 p.m. - 10.00 p.m.

Farewell dinner and beach party with a DJ



No fee is applied for Young Quantity Surveyors Group Program

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Stay connected.

The YQSG Committee



Chairman:

Joseph HC Chong (HKIS)

Vice Chairman:

Kenta Fukagawa (BSIJ) Eugene Seah (SISV)

Hon. Secretary:

Daniel Wong (SISV)

Treasurer:

Nishantha Wickramasignhe (IQSSL)

Members:

1. James Sue (CECA)
2. Sheri Thompson (CIQS)
3. Sr Mohamad Shazeli bin Sulaiman (ISM)
4. Sr Amnah binti Mohammed Salleh (ISM)
5. Marcel Frei (NZIQS)

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China



China Engineering Cost Association (CECA)

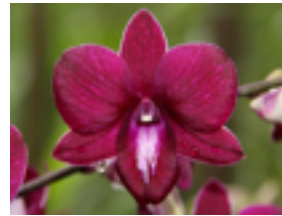
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HongKong



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Stay connected.

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