

Civil Engineers.....

During the same event, the 2014 Board of Directors presented their annual accomplishment and Financial Reports. Induction of new members and ratification of amendments on the constitution and by-laws were also carried-out.



Out-going PICE-Qatar President Engineer Noel Jumawan reporting to the members during the 8th General Assembly.

Highlighting the 8th General Assembly was the election of the 2015 Board of Directors who will take the reign of the organization beginning January 2015. Elected to the BOD were Engr. Ronald Nilo—President, Engr. Gilbert Lorenzano—First Vice President, Engr. Aileen Abejero—2nd Vice President, Engr. Asuncion Lopez—Secretary, Engr. Allen Nacario—Treasurer, Engr. Ma, Michelle Revillosa—Auditor, Engr. Emilio Manalo—Public Relations Officer, Engr. Arman Tolentino—Business Manager and Engr. Medel Dalida—Sgt. At Arms.

Also elected to the Board of Directors were Engr. Belinda Dela Cruz, Engr. Helario Amoguis, Engr. Mark Anthony Abendan, Engr. Loraine Radan, Engr. Jennit Rufino and Engr, Sheila Medel.

Meet the 2015.....

- She is an active member of PICE since 2010 and immediately became a member of CO-HOPLE, became a BOD in 2011 and the Chairwoman of COPA. In 2012 she was appointed as Chairwoman of COPI - the position she holds to-date.
- She completed her degree in civil engineering from West Negros University.
- She is currently employed at Living In Interiors as Technical Engineer.
- She is also the Treasurer of Toastmasters Club for two years in a row since 2013. ■

PICE-Qatar aims.....

coming years. Currently, the organization is holding an average of Ten (10) seminars and trainings per year to cater for the educational demands of the members since its establishment.

In this connection, PICE—Qatar under the leadership of 2015 President, Engineer Ronaldo Nilo, has lined-up the organization’s tentative calendar of activities and events covering the period of his incumbency. Please check the calendar of activities at page 4. ■

The engineer.....

perpendicular to the cracks; the proximity of the neutral axis to the point considered and the average surface strain at the point considered³. In simple terms, and of particular importance, the closer the bars to the point considered, the smaller the crack width. Thus, closely spaced reinforcements with smaller cover is more beneficial leading to smaller cracks than widely spaced bars with larger cover. In summary, an increase in concrete cover will result in an increase in crack width which is detrimental to the structure, or aesthetically speaking, not pleasing to the eye. ■

References: ¹BS 8110-1:1997; ²Wikipedia.org; ³BS 8110-2:1985

PICE-Qatar reaches out to distressed OFWs



PICE-Qatar members posed with the distressed OFWs at POLO—OWWA office in Doha, Qatar during the annual Outreach Program.

Members of the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers—Qatar Chapter again join hands in showing compassion by reaching out to the distressed OFWs in Qatar through holding of the Annual Outreach Program last December 16, 2014 from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM at POLO-OWWA office.

The program which was initiated by the organization through the effort of the current PICE-Qatar Sgt. At Arms, Engineer Medel Dalida was a success in drumming up support for the 34 distressed OFWs mostly women, housed in the OWWA office.

During the program, PICE-Qatar’s past, current and incoming presidents took turns in giving inspirational talks to somehow lift the spirits of our distressed “kababayans”. Engr. Arnel Punzalan disclosed in his speech the unfortunate ex-

periences and ordeal he suffer during his early years as OFW in Saudi Arabia and in Qatar. Accordingly, his bad experiences coupled with his exploits in the Middle East has only made him a stronger man in facing everyday life challenges which catapulted him to his current status as a successful civil engineer here in Qatar, drawing admiration from the crowd.

Highlighting the event was the dinner party with traditional Filipino cuisines and the gift giving — a traditional way of sharing the blessing. A cash gift was handed over to Mr. Philip T. Alano of POLO-OWWA for the purchase of three (3) - one way air tickets for the “lucky” OFWs.

Sponsors to the event were ASEP-Qatar chapter, FCC, Tim Hortons, friend of Engr Vic Juego and PSN for the media coverage. ■



PICE -Qatar aims for sustainable excellence

The Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers—Qatar Chapter (PICE-Qatar) International Charter No. 1-03 launched the new slogan “PICE-Qatar Embracing Innovation to Achieve Sustainable Excellence” during the 8th General Assembly held at Oryx Rotana Hotel, Doha, on 28 November 2014.

The same slogan was used as the 8th General Assembly’s theme with the purpose of raising awareness among the Civil Engineers in Qatar on the need to be more proactive in learning new technologies, applications and techniques relative to the con-

struction industry. This is due to the fact that the rapid urbanization that Qatar is undergoing today is coupled with introduction of new technologies in the field of engineering, design and construction thus without giving due attention to this development, Filipino Civil Engineers will be less competitive in the market and therefore will be in a difficult position.

PICE-Qatar has conducted numerous seminars and trainings in the past years and will continue to do so in the

(Continue on page 12)



The newly elected PICE-Qatar President, Engineer Ronaldo B. Nilo delivering his acceptance speech.

Official newsletter of PICE-Qatar launched

“The Tekton” - official monthly newsletter of the PICE—Qatar Chapter is launched with this maiden issue.

The newsletter is initiated by the 2015 PICE-Qatar President, Engineer Ronaldo Nilo and established with the primary aim of providing information on current events and issues within the organization and the civil engineering community in Qatar. Through this newsletter, the organization will reach out to the Filipino Civil Engineers and ensure a stronger, more active and cohesive organization in PICE, Engr. Nilo said during an interview. He also added that the newsletter will be issued monthly and will vie for the 2015 PICE Outstanding Newsletter award.

The initial staff handpicked by the PICE BOD to run the Newsletter are:

- Engr. Emilio M. Manalo—Editor-In-Chief
- Engr. Shiela Medel—Editor
- Engr. Alfonso Belito C. Belito—Editor
- Engr. Jeffrey P. Cimagala—Editor
- Engr. Elvin D. Fajutagana—Editor
- Engr. Ronald Nilo—Adviser ■

Civil Engineers hold 8th general assembly



The esteemed members of the PICE-Qatar during the 8th General Assembly

The PICE-Qatar 8th General Assembly was held at the Oryx Rotana Hotel in Doha, Qatar last 28 November 2014 from 3:00 PM to 11:00 PM.

Hosted by Engr. Victor Juego, Engr. Roy Baquiran and Ms. Lyn Tallod, the event was attended by about 300 members of the organization from the different parts of Qatar.

The affair was graced by the presence of

First Secretary and Consul, Hon. Gonarano B. Musor of the Philippine Embassy and POLO-OWWA representative, Ms. Amy T. Empaynado.

The event showcased presentation of products by different sponsors that includes CCL Qatar, Tarsheed, SMDC and Forever Living.

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EDITORIAL

“PICE—Qatar: Embracing Innovation to Achieve Sustainable Excellence”



The new slogan of the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers— Qatar Chapter (PICE-Qatar) Charter No. I-03 launched during its recently held 8th General Assembly on 28 November 2014 is a reflection of the organization's continuing commitment for the betterment of the Civil Engineering Profession and the Filipino Practicing Civil Engineers here in the State of Qatar.

Truly, the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers—Qatar Chapter has reached the height and continuously climbing towards the pinnacle of success eight years after it was created in the year 2007 by twenty five committed and enthusiastic civil engineers headed by founding president, Engineer Roy Baquiran.

Today, the organization is boasting a strength of over two thousand members which continuously swell everyday. By far, it is the most active among the Filipino professional organizations not only in Qatar but in the whole Middle East as well.

Its dedication and commitment to serve the civil engineering profession is unparalleled resulting to numerous trainings

and educational programs.

PICE-Qatar started and hosted the first International Technical Conference in 2012 here in Doha—an activity that now became a yearly undertaking by the PICE International Chapters with each different chapters rotationally serving as host.

This year alone, the organization has completed 12 trainings and technical seminars designed to continuously educate its members on the latest construction trends and innovation.

The Special Licensure Board Examination Review Program is very effective in helping associate members receive their professional licenses while working abroad and never fails to produce outstanding results each year since the program started in 2008.

In addition to this continuing professional development program, the organization is also credited for its community service program in the form of annual beach clean-up drive and the outreach program for the distressed Filipino OFWs.

Indeed PICE-Qatar is moving towards sustainable excellence. ■



Engr. Emilio M. Manalo—Editor-In-Chief

Engr. Shiela L. Medel—Editor

Engr. Alfonso Belito C. Betita—Editor

Engr. Jeffrey P. Cimagala—Editor

Engr. Elvin D. Fajutagana—Editor

Engr. Ronald Nilo—Adviser

President's Corner

My Dear Fellow Members:

Congratulations everyone for the job well done in 2014..... and welcome to 2015!

Today, the new Board assumes its mandate as PICE-Qatar leaders for 2015. The achievements of the previous Board will be our inspiration to embrace new ideas, strive harder and perform better towards sustainable excellence.

As we embark on a new journey into the exciting world of PICE-Qatar, I am proud to announce that we are releasing the first issue of "The Tektōn" – the official newsletter of Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers – Qatar Chapter, the brain child of our multi-talented editors and contributors. I would like to reiterate my earlier appeal to all members to send in your original papers or technical works in the form of technical reports, method statements, QA/QC tips, testing methods, design, greetings and any topic of interest to engineers, if you want them published. For those with ample free time, you may maintain a regular column in our Newsletter.

Yes, indeed, PICE-Qatar has been performing very well in terms of seminars, trainings, workshops, conferences, SPLBE review, community services, sports events and many other institutionalized programs and activities. We truly deserve to be awarded the "Best International Chapter" of Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers. It is my primary goal as your President to lead the organization towards achieving this award. As a heads-up, please appreciate the following reasons why we deserve this award:

- PICE-Qatar organized the first ever International Technical Conference in the Middle East and Asia;

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Meet the 2015(cont.)

Engr. Belinda E. Dela Cruz, PICE QATAR—Chairwoman, Committee on Membership



- She works as a Quantity Surveyor for Decoration World (DW).

- Prior to joining DW, she was a Production Engineer in the KCIC-GRC Division, a sister company of Decoration World.

- Before venturing overseas, she worked in Department of Public Works and Highways for more than 13 years in specifically in Material Quality Control Division (in different DPWH offices).

- She is an accredited Project Inspector I and Material Engineer I by the DPWH.

- She finished her Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering Degree in 1995 from Luzon Colleges (now University of Luzon) in Dagupan City.

- She is an active Life Member of the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers (PICE) since 2002, and is a Specialist on Project Management & Construction Engineering (PMCE).

- She is an active member of PICE Qatar from the time she joined the organization, serving as one of the committee members in various committees of the organization. She completed her three (3) consecutive terms as Secretary (2012-2014) and currently holds the chairmanship of the Committee on Membership (COME).

Engr. Helario S. Amoguis, PICE QATAR—Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means

- He is a registered Civil Engineer with the Professional Regulation Commission,



- He is currently working as Civil Engineer for Marine Works at Technital S . p . A . (Q a t a r Branch) since December 2013.

- Before working abroad, he was a full time Review Instructor at Padilla Civil Eng'g Review Center from January 2001 to March 2008.

- On July 2008, he accepted the offer to work abroad for the first time and joined Nass Corporation in Bahrain as Technical Design Engineer. After 8 months, he

transferred to Doha for better opportunity and environment.

- In almost 6 years in Doha, he has been active in all PICE-Qatar activities specially as Chairman for Committee on SPLBE since 2009 - 2013 running the Review classes program of the Chapter.

Engr. Mark Anthony P. Abendan, PICE QATAR—Chairman, Committee on Qatar Affairs



- He is working at Gulf Steel & Engineering (GSE) - Salam International Investment Limited for more than 4 years, and recently promoted as Project Controls/Contracts Manager.

- He is a licensed Civil Engineer, a registered Materials Engineer (DPWH - Bureau of Research & Standards Accreditation for Contractors and Consultants), a Certified Internal Auditor (ISO 9001:2008), and was trained in Quantity Surveying/Contracts Administration and Project Management by Rider Levett Bucknall-Philippines (during his stint from 2005 to 2007).

- He has 13 years of progressive combined experience in construction, contracts, and project management in a multi-cultural and global environments such as government and private contractors, and consultancy sectors.

- He is a member of the Project Management Institute (PMI-USA) since 2012, FPEA (2013), PICQS (2014), a Chartered member and presently serving as Sgt. at Arms (2014-2015) of PICE Qatar Toastmasters Club. He was awarded as Competent Communicator (September 2014), Competent Leader (December 2014), and soon to receive an award in Advance Leader Bronze from Toastmasters International (probably on January 2015).

- He earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree from Western Institute of Technology in 2001.

Engr. Loraine C. Radan, PICE QATAR—Chairwoman, Committee on Honors & Professional Licensure Examintaion



- She is a registered Civil Engineer by the Professional Regulation Commission.

- She obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Rizal System in 2004.

- She is currently working as Design Manager of Khalid Cement Industries Complex.

- She is active in the PICE-Qatar and has held various positions within the organization before finally appointed as Chairwoman, Committee on SPLBE last year and again this year.

Engr. Jennit Rufino, PICE QATAR—Chairwoman, Committee on Continuing Professional Advancement



- She is currently employed at British Engineering Consulting Company White Young Qatar (WYQ) and currently assigned as Materials Engineer in Al Udeid US Airbase Project.

- She was a former Materials Inspector in RIW in Al Khor Municipality – Grading Works for Al Khor New Industrial Area and RIW in Al Rayyan Municipality – Grading Works for Ain Khaled Project both under contract with Public Works Authority (PWA) / ASHGHAL.

- She is a licensed Civil Engineer for more than 11 years, specialized, certified and accredited by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), as registered Materials Engineer II. Her experience as Materials Engineer includes seven (7) years for contracting and four (4) years in engineering consultancy.

- She received her Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree from Western Institute of Technology, Iloilo City, Philippines in the year 2002-2003.

- She is a Life Member of Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers (PICE), a member of PICE Toastmasters Club and the Filipino Planning Engineers Association (FPEA).

Engr. Shiela Medel, PICE QATAR—Chairwoman, Committee on Publication and Information



- She is a registered Civil Engineer with the Professional Regulation Commission.

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Meet the 2015 PICE-Qatar

- He was conferred the title of Specialist in Project Management and Construction Engineering in 2012.
- A member of PICE-Qatar since 2010 who is serving as the treasurer of the organization since 2013.
- An active member/officer of two (2) reputable professional organizations; Association of the Structural Engineers of the Philippines (ASEP) –Qatar Regional Committee and Filipino Planning Engineers Association.

Engr. Michelle A. Revillosa, PICE QATAR AUDITOR



• She is currently working as Quantity Surveyor in Al Jaber Trading & Contracting Co., WLL.

- She is a registered Civil Engineer with the Professional Regulation Commission. She got her license in November 2012 through the Special Licensure Board Examination given by PRC here in Qatar.
- She was certified as Grade A Civil Engineer by Qatar's MMUP.
- She received her Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Adanson University—Manila.
- She is an active member of the PICE and PICE-Toastmaster's Club.
- She hails from Sta. Cruz, Marinduque.

Engr. Emilio M. Manalo, PICE QATAR PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER



• He currently works as Assistant Resident Engineer for AECOM's New Port Project.

• He is originally from the province of Batangas, who grew up as a Farmer

and while in college, an Ice Cream Vendor.

- After graduating at Far Eastern University in April 1981 with the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree, passing its board examination and getting married, he started at Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System as Cadet Engineer and soon got a permanent senior position.
- While in MWSS, he patiently pursued his studies after office hour and later attained the Degree Bachelor of Science in Sanitary Engineering in April 1986 from the National University—Manila.
- In 1987, he moved to Saudi Arabia with his family and where he was assigned as Pipeline Supervisor for when after completing his five-year contract, he returned to his native place and was accepted in the University of Batangas Faculty of Engineering Department for three years.
- Realizing that earnings in teaching profession alone could not suffice the needs of his growing family, he decided to move to the city of Manila where he was hired as Senior Civil Engineer by a Philippine-based American Consulting Firm while at the same time was working as a teacher after his regular office hour.
- To financially support the studies of his five gifted children all initialed EJ, he moved to Qatar as OFW again and worked for KAHRAMAA in the Water Networks Department as Operations Engineer supervising the construction of 90-kilometer RAF-B twin-1200 mm diameter pipeline construction. Later, he accepted an offer to work in a consulting firm as Senior Civil Engineer and was soon promoted to manage small to medium government and private projects.
- Aside from PICE-Qatar where he serves as Board of Directors for four years now, he is also a member of the BOD of the growing Filipino Planning Engineers Association in Qatar and an active member of the Association of Structural Engineers of the Philippines – Qatar Regional Committee. He is also a government volunteer computer instructor since 2008 in the Information Technology Program by POLO-OWWA in Qatar.
- He currently serves as the Editor-In-Chief of the Tekton, the official newsletter of PICE-Qatar and was instrumental in its conception.
- He loves to play table tennis, basketball and billiard, serving as assistant coach of the PICE-Qatar Basketball's Blue Team.
- He also plays guitar and bass as he belongs to the Worship Team in his local church. He is a deeply religious man.

Engr. Arman A Tolentino, PICE QATAR BUSINESS MANAGER



He is a Sr. Structural Engineer of Diwan Al Emara.

- He is a registered civil Engineer with the Professional Regulation Commission.
- He is a PICE Life Member and an active PICE Qatar official who served as member of the Committee on Continuing Professional Advancement in 2012, Committee Chairman—Committee on Membership in 2013, Sgt At Arms and member of Committee on Membership in 2014 and currently Business Manager.
- He hails from Valenzuela City.

Engr. Medel F. Dalida, PICE QATAR SGT.-AT-ARMS



• Fondly called Cocoy in his hometown, Olongapo City.

- Studied in Saint Louis University (SLU) Baguio City but were not able to complete his bachelor's degree in his last year. After four years, he continued his studies at Technological Institute of the Philippines (TIP) Manila where he graduated while at the same time is practicing in the field as a Junior Engineer.
- He tried his fortune here in Qatar in early 1998 for the construction of the LNG plant of Qatar, He went back to his hometown and tried to get a better job. After two years, he decided to leave the country once again for a greener pasture.
- He worked in KSA where he almost reached all part of the country due to call of duty for 4 years.
- He decided to work again in Qatar and that was in 2007 where he met a group of Civil engineers forming an organization PICE-Qatar Chapter.
- He is currently working as a Construction Manager of SEG (Societe D'Enterprise and de Gestion).
- He ran for a BOD position of the organization in November 2011 and from that time, started working for PICE-Qatar in different capacities.

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Meet the 2015 PICE-Qatar Board of Directors

Engr. Ronaldo B. Nilo, PICE—QATAR PRESIDENT



• A licensed civil engineer / structural engineer with 15 years experience in construction and 10 years in project management and consulting.

- Currently working as Project Management / Structural Engineer for Msheireb Downtown Doha (MDD) Project.
- Formerly with AECOM as Senior Structural Engineer for Barwa City Project.
- Served as 1st Vice President of PICE-Qatar (3 terms).
- Past Chairman of 3 committees namely - Continuing Professional Advancement, Constitutional Amendments and Oversight, and Life Membership and Specialist Applications.
- Received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering Degree from University of the East, Philippines in 1987.
- Conferred the title of Specialist in Structural Engineering in 2003 and Specialist in Project Management and Construction Engineering in 2013.
- Passed the test for LEED Green Associate in 2014.
- He is a member of American Concrete Institute since 1994, International Code Council since 2008, Construction Management Association of America since 2011 and Green Building Certification Institute since 2014.

Engr. Gilbert P. Lorenzano, PICE-QATAR 1ST VICE PRESIDENT



• A Structural Engineer presently working with Qatari Engineer & Associates, Consulting Engineers.

• Worked as a Team Leader in Design & Project Management in Saudi Arabia.

- Worked as a Civil / Structural Engineer in Land development project including mass housing project in the Philippines.

- He is a licensed civil engineer for more than 16 years. A civil / structural engineer specialist in both design & project management for different Engineering consulting firms.
- Served as PICE-Qatar's 2nd Vice President in 2014, Sgt. at Arms in 2013, Committee on Ways & Means Chairman in 2012, & Committee on Professional Advancement member since 2010.
- Served as ASEP Qatar's Chairman for 2013—2015 and as Secretary in 2012 being a Regular ASEP Member.
- He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from University of Cordilleras formerly Baguio Colleges Foundation in 1998.

Engr. Aileen L. Abejero, PICE-QATAR 2ND VICE PRESIDENT



• She is a Quantity Surveyor for Q-Rail's Red Line North Underground.

• She was HOCHTIEF's Office Engineer for BARWA COMMERCIAL AVENUE (BCA) project.

- She is a licensed civil engineer for more than 12 years and her experience as Office Engineer & Quantity Surveyor includes 10 years in construction and project management.
- She served as Treasurer for 2 terms and 3 terms as Auditor of PICE-Qatar .
- She is also a member of the Toastmaster Club since 2013.
- She received her Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering Degree from Western Mindanao State University, Zamboanga City, Philippines in 2001.
- She was conferred the title of Specialist in Project Management and Construction Engineering in 2013.

Engr. Asuncion V. Lopez, PICE-QATAR SECRETARY



• She hails from Bocaue, Bulacan.

• Currently employed with DG Jones and Partners as Quantity Surveyor for Sheraton Park Project.

- She has gained over 19 years of experience in the construction industry of the Philippines and Qatar mainly in the field of Quantity Surveying and Contracts Administration.
- She is a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Far Eastern University Manila.
- A registered civil engineer since 1995 and a Life Member of the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers (PICE).
- She has recently completed an RICS Professional Adaptation Course through distance learning from The College of Estate Management, UK.
- She is also an Affiliate Member of Philippine Institute of Certified Quantity Surveyors (PICQS) and a member of the Board of Directors of Filipino Planning Engineers Association (FPEA) in Qatar.
- A competent Leader serving as Vice President for Education of PICE Qatar Toastmasters Club.

Engr. Allen L. Nacario, PICE QATAR TREASURER



• Currently working as Civil Engineer for Marine Works with Technital, SpA, Qatar branch—an Italian Consultancy firm since 2006.

- In the Philippines, he has been employed in a reputable engineering consultancy as a Structural Design Engineer for medium to high rise buildings.
- He put up his own construction company but finally decided later on to continue his engineering career in Qatar on 2005.
- He is a licensed Civil Engineer, Geodetic Engineer and Master Plumber from Iriga City (Bicol).
- He also an accredited Civil Engineer by Qatar's MMUP.
- He graduated from Technological Institute of the Philippines, Quezon City in 1991.

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PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF CIVIL ENGINEERS QATAR CHAPTER



CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Date	Description	Location/Remarks
1/2/15	1st BOD meeting / Orientation for SPLBE Review	FCC
1/9/15	SPLBE CE Review / Orientation	FCC
1/16/15	SPLBE CE Review / Seminar on Contracts Management	FCC/Oryx
1/23/15	SPLBE CE Review / Seminar on Contracts Management	FCC/Oryx
1/30/15	Induction of 2015 BODs, New Civil Engineers & New Members	Wyndham Grand Regency
2/6/15	2nd BOD meeting / SPLBE CE Review	FCC
2/13/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
2/10/15	Qatar National Sports Day	Corniche
2/20/15	SPLBE CE Review / Introduction to FIDIC Seminar	FCC/TBA
2/24/15	Blood Donation Activity OR Outreach Program (Tentative)	POLO/OWWA
2/27/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
3/6/15	3rd BOD meeting / Technical Seminar/Workshop / SPLBE CE Review	FCC/TBA
	Start of Basketball Tournament (Tentative, Sports Committee to finalize)	TBA
3/13/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
3/20/15	SPLBE CE Review / Technical Seminar/Workshop	FCC/TBA
3/27/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
4/3/15	Good Friday	
4/10/15	4th BOD meeting / SPLBE CE Review	FCC
4/17/15	SPLBE CE Review / Technical Seminar/Workshop	FCC/TBA
4/24/15	SPLBE CE Review / Technical Seminar/Workshop	FCC/TBA
5/1/15	5th BOD meeting/ SPLBE CE Review	FCC
5/8/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
5/15/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
5/22/2015	FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION / Sports Festival	QBC
5/25/15	Actual Foundation Day	
5/29/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
6/5/15	6th BOD meeting / SPLBE CE Review	FCC
6/12/15	SPLBE CE Review / Independence Day / Technical Seminar	FCC / TBA
6/19/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
6/26/15	SPLBE CE Review / Technical Seminar/Workshop	FCC/TBA
7/3/15	7th BOD meeting / SPLBE CE Review	FCC
7/10/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
7/17/15	SPLBE CE Review / Technical Seminar/Workshop	FCC/TBA
7/24/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
7/31/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
8/7/15	8th BOD meeting / SPLBE CE Review	FCC
8/14/15	SPLBE CE Review / Technical Seminar/Workshop	FCC/TBA
8/21/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
8/28/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
9/4/15	9th BOD meeting / SPLBE CE Review	FCC
9/11/15	SPLBE CE Review	FCC
9/18/15	SPLBE CE Review / Technical Seminar/Workshop	FCC/TBA
9/23/15	4th ITC & Board Exam	TBA
9/24/15	4th ITC & Board Exam	TBA
9/25/15	4th ITC & Board Exam	TBA
10/2/15	10th BOD meeting / Technical Seminar/Workshop	TBA
10/30/15	Beach Clean-Up	TBA
11/6/15	11th BOD meeting / Technical Seminar/Workshop	TBA
11/27/15	Annual General Assembly & Election	TBA
12/4/15	12th BOD meeting / Technical Seminar/Workshop	TBA
12/15/15	Christmas Party with Distressed OFWs	POLO/OWWA

Quality Control.....

And so is the Quality Control System.

When World War 1 was fought in 1914 to 1918, there was a strong demand for more weapons and ammunition. The introduction of mass production in the arms manufacturing leads to poor quality workmanship in the assembly line which is the same problem that we are encountering today when quality takes a back seat against production. Unlike today however, those soldiers in World War 1 paid dearly with their lives as more and more weapons and ammunition malfunctioned in the heat of the battle.

Lessons learned, full time inspectors were introduced to counter bad workmanship. Quality Control by Inspectors were introduced and utilized from 1920 to 1930.

The systematic approach in Quality Control was finally started in 1930.

Today, years after the first Quality System was recorded and with the inception of several Quality Management System in the construction industry and the creation of several certifying bodies to oversee compliance to a particular Quality Management System, we are still struggling in our goals to attain our Quality Objective.

During the just concluded 3rd PICE International Technical Conference held in Oman, the lady consul general of the Philippine Government in that country gave a rousing speech about the importance of Quality in Engineering and Construction Work. She proudly mentioned that her grandfather was the civil engineer who built the "mansion" - the Presidential retreat house in Baguio City. She was so full of admiration to her grandfather for building a structure that is so beautiful and strong—an iconic structure that will remain a beacon of quality engineering and workmanship for more years to come.

We as Civil Engineer build the future. Our legacy is measured by the quality of the structures that we build to which we as a person will be judged by future generations. ■

SCENES and Faces at PICE-Qatar



FEATURE SECTION

About the Writer

The writer, **Engineer Ramil B. Cruz** is a talented member of PICE-Qatar and is our first ever contributor outside of the the Tekton's editorial staff. His creation entitled “Landas” is a tagalog poem originally dedicated to his wife and kids.

<i>LANDAS</i>	
Maliit na kinikita, sukatin ko’y ‘di malirip Magkasya minsa’y hindi, sa mag-anak ko’y hilahil Paano na sa pagdatala koleyiho Nila’t sakali Naisibi’y ngayon pa lamang munti-munti’y nagagamit	Sadyang kay tagal yata, aming paglalakbay Humimpil muli ang biyahe, ‘sa Kuwait nag-antabay Tatlong oras pinamalagi, sa magarang panuluyan Huling yugto ng biyahe; Qatar na ang hantungan
Humigit sa isang taon ang naging pag-iisip Hantungan ay desisyong..kailangan nang umalis Lisanin inang lupa, sa dam dami’y kay pait Waring tinik ang wangis, sa lalamuna’y nakabikig	Dito’y ilang araw, ‘wala sa tamang ulirat Sa pagtulog..pabiling-biling; pipikit-magnumulat ‘San man ako sumuling, palagi kong nagugunita Mag-anak kong iniwan ay kumusta na kaya?
Lumiban ilang buwan sa’king naging bakasakali Palaring matanggap sana sa trabahong nilulunggati Pagluwas ay madalas, sa Maynila ang pagsapit Suongin yaring hamon kahit ang puso’y may ligalig	Namalagi... dalawang linggo; gastos na’y dalawang libo Yao’y halaga pa lamang ng pagtawag-pagtext ko Sa ‘di kainamang-palad ay ‘di lubos na matanto ‘San ba’ng bilihan ng cellphone? at isa pa’y...kung papaano?
At hindi nga malaon, tadhana ay sumukob Sa gitnang silangan ang base, kumpanyang naangkop Naghalong galak-lungkot sa isipa’y lumukob Daluyong ng alinlangan, h’wag sana akong makubkob	Sa kagandahang-loob ng isa nating kababayan Inhinyerong kasabay ko; Larraquel, huling ngalan Ipinagsama niya ako sa tanyag ditong bilihan ‘Laking galak; aking abay, nakausap... mainaman
Paglipas ng bawat araw ay tila ba humahangos Laksa pang mga bagay kailangan ko pang isaayos Liyag kong iwan ay ‘di gasino pang talos Ibayong panangutan na kailangan n’yang iyapos	Kasamahan ko’y mga piyon dito sa Labor accommodation Pasasaan ba’t lilipat din ‘pag takda na ang panahon Sarili’y nilibang ‘pag kasama’y wala doon Tuwina’y nag-iisa; ‘sa pagbabasa na lamang tumuon
Lubos sa aking diwa, panahon ko na’y kinakapos Hanap-buhay nami’y..kay abay, mailagak nang lubos Kapupunan sa kakulangan, dito nawa ay umagos Pagkain ng pamilya’y sa bawat araw maidaos	Nakasusulakok na amoy ng basura at palikuran Kasama sa mga bagay na kailangang pag-tiisan Nakahaing mga pagsubok, gampanan ko ay kailangan ‘Para ‘to sa mga mahal ko; walang ‘di malalampasan
Sa bawat araw na lumilipas ng buwang nalalabi Ginawang abala’ng sarili upang lungkot ‘di gumapi Batahin ko nang tunay lumalamong pighati Buong puso’y ituon...kinabukasan Nila’y itangi	Sadya yatang tunay na ang pag-ibig ay tumitingkad Maging-irog ‘pag ‘nagwalay, tumatamis...bumubukadkad Lakas ko’y hinuhugot sa bawat niyong pagtawag Sa lungkot ng pag-iisa, siya kong tanging kalasag
Nagpatuloy mga araw, paglisan ay lumalapit Magpaalam sa magulang, at kapatid...‘di hinapit Damdaming pag magkasama’y ninam nam pa ‘ding pilit Yapos ng butihing ina...‘gang sa huli’y ubod -higpit	Puso’y nadudurog kapag anak daw ay may sakit Wala namang magagawa... kaya’t ako’y alumpihit Maibabahaging tanging lunas sa iniindang pasakit Salapi’y magpadala...nang kagalinga’y manumbalik
Takda kong paglisan, sa madla ay ikinubli Sapagkat lubhang ang tao, surii’y totoo’t hindi Tunay na tao’t katoto ay mabililang sa daliri ‘Di mo tukoy kung sinong kasama mo pag dalamhati	Samu’t-saring mga lahi, kasama dito sa trabaho Mga Pinoy, mga Egyptian, mga Syrian at Indiano Datapwa’t ‘san mang dako pala, isang tangi ang sigurado Escariote’y mga nangagkalat, paka-ingat sa mga lilo
Ilang araw pa... at ang lahat ay gayak na Tanging damdamin ko na lang ang iwan at hindi pa Sa bagabag ng kalungkutan ako ba ay padadala Kinabukasan ng mga anak, ‘ipagsapalaran na lang ba?	Paalala ng kaibigan, akin pang natatandaan Magtiwala na sa banyaga; sa kababayan...pag-isipan! Hindi man lahatin, nananaig pa din sa karamihan Animo’y mga talangka, pababa kung maghilahan
Pagkakilala sa sarili, sa wari ko’y ‘di gayon Maging kabiyak ko’t supling sa palagay ko ay aayon Kailan ma’y ‘di sumuko sa sulirangng masasaklap Katuwiran ko’y palagiang...“wala bang mahirap-hirap?”	Paggpapanibago ng lakas ang bawat araw na lumilipas Patibayan diwa’t bisig, silakbo nawa’y magingas Pagsisikhay ko’y ibinuhos; pagtitiis ko ay sakdal Biyaya nawa’y bumukal nang naaayon sa pagpapagal
“Everything is normal...there’s nothing to worry about!” Tuwí-tuwina’y inuusal... should there be negatives to shut out Ang mundo’y sadyang liglig sa pakikipagtunggali Madarapa’t masasaktan, mahalaga’y pagbangon mong muli	Tadhana kapag dumadagok, loob mo’y manghihinawa ‘mga planong pinagsumikapang, kung mauwi...ay sa wala ‘kung kailan abot-kamay, siyang dating yaring sigwa ‘Magagastos mo ang sininop na sa iba’y laang sadya
Dumating na ang araw; maayos sanang mapadpad Sa him papawid, salipawpaw, iimbulog na’t lilipad Paalam na irog ko, paalam na mga anak Sa ‘sang tao’y magkikita tayo, isantabi ang pag-iyak	Kinikitang kakarampot ay pilit kong pinagkakasya ‘magtira ma’y pampagkain lang; itlog ang ulam ko sa tuwina Ito’y haplos ng pangarap... ang wika nga ng iba ‘Mata ng Diyos, ‘di nakapiniid...Tagumpay ko’y pasasaan ba?
Sa nakabibinging katahimikan; impit na mga hikbi Pintig ng puso ko’y ibig tumigil... ibig mapawi Kung niloob lamang ng Diyos na ako ay makapili Sa tabi Mo’y manahan na lamang, at tuluyang manatili	Suwerte...kahit papaano, sa panahon ay sumasaliw Sa halimuyak ng biyaya, minsan di’y pinatitikim Nang dahilan sa pagpupunyagi sa trabaho kong tinatangi Maganda kong itinatanim, siyang akin ding pag-aani
Sa paglisan ko’y sinadyang huwag nang ‘pahatid Sa kahit kaninuman, maging sa aking kapatid Paa’y ‘di maihakbang; damdami’y naaantig Halik at yakap mo... abay, lubos akong mananabik	Luha, dugo’t pawis yaring akin lamang puhunan Tupdin mga pangarap ng mga anak hanggang sukdualan Si panganay mag-iinhinyero; ang sumunoed...magm emedikoo Ang aming bunso nama’y binabalak mag-arkitekto
At, ako na ay nagtungo...‘sa paliparan ang punta ‘Di lumingon pa upang Luha’y ‘di na makita Ng aking sintang ‘lungkot...badya sa mga mata ‘Wag manimdim...ikaw lamang...manalig ka sanal	Paa ko’y naihakbang, at mahinahon nang nagtungo Sa landas ng pangakong bukas, nawa’y ‘wag tayong lumiko Pagtangis ng aking puso sa lamig ng mga gabi Iwawaksing pilit sa limot, hanggang sa ako’y makauwi
At sa ere’y umangat sasakyang panghimpapawid ‘May ilang oras din ‘ang dagat ay aming tinawid Sa Bangkok, dugtungang-biyahe ay unang lumapag ‘Kalahating oras na buminbin; muli sa ere’y naglayag	Akin nang nababanaag, masayang bukung-liwayway Pusong dating may hapis, ngayon na’y nagpupugay Pagbabalik ko’y buong sabik, buong tatag na hinihintay Sa init ng inyong yakap, muli akong hihimlay

-romeobravocharlie.12/23/2014

QUALITY CONTROL—A glimpse in History

By: Engr. Alfonso Belito C. Betita

If you are thinking that the Quality Assurance / Quality Control System is a new system created no older than the industrialization of America, Europe or elsewhere in the world, then you have to think again.

The oldest evidence of existing Quality Control System was discovered in 1974 and traced back during the time of Emperor Qin Shi Huang of China.

The Terracotta Army—a life size statue of soldiers, horses and chariots were accidentally unearthed by Chinese Farmers digging a water well in Lintang District, Shanxi Province, China near the Quin Shi Huang Mausoleum.

Numbering about 8,000 statues in different sizes and positions depicting the emperor’s army, scientists believe that they were manufactured in workshops by government laborers and local craftsmen during the 210—209 BC. They were buried together with the emperor when he died with a belief that they will guard him afterlife.

The statues were made using local materials where heads, arms, legs and torsos were created separately and assembled. The study also suggests that no less than nine different molds were used for the statues of the soldiers alone suggesting a system similar to what we call a modern day “assembly line production”.

In those times of tight imperial control, each workshop are required to inscribe their name on items they produced. These inscriptions were found on the unearthed statues suggesting early system of traceability and Quality Control. The erring workshop or laborers were meted out with unspecified punishment.

There is a saying that history was shaped with the blade of the

(continue on page 9)

PICE-Qatar Family would like to convey our warmest greetings to the following, who are celebrating their birthday for this month!!!

JANUARY

Ambitious and serious; Loves to teach and be taught; Always looking at people’s flaws and weaknesses; Likes to criticize; Hardworking and productive; Smart, neat and organized; Sensitive with deep thoughts; Knows how to make others happy; Quiet unless excited or tensed; Rather reserved; Highly attentive; Resistant to illnesses but prone to colds; Romantic but has difficulties expressing love; Loves children; Homely person; Loyal; Needs to improve social abilities; Easy to be jealous.

January Birthstone: Garnet

Days have passed into year; you have become better with time. May you continue to become better with each birthday you will enjoy. Every year that passes is another stepping stone to greatness.

Life is great at any age so enjoy yours. Happy Birthday

Your birthday only comes around once a year so let’s make today a day to remember.

Every year that passes is another stepping stone to greatness.

May your days be filled with sunshine and beautiful colors. And may your nights be filled with comforting dreams and wishes to come.

Wishing you all the great things in life, hope this day will bring you an extra share of all that makes you happiest.

Another year is added, but also another opportunity for growth and experience.

A simple celebration, a gathering of friends; here is wishing you great happiness, a joy that never ends.

Birthdays are filled with yesterday’s memories, today’s joys, and tomorrow’s dreams.

Days have passed into year; you have become better with time. May you continue to become better with each birthday you will enjoy.

May today be filled with sunshine and smiles, laughter and love.

Hope your birthday blossoms into lots of dreams come true!

May this birthday start a new turn in your world. May it also bring forth inevitable joy, happiness and favor your way.

January Birthday Celebrators

January 1

DELA CRUZ, GERARDO Jr. G.
GUBAN, DANILO G
MACALINO, MICHAEL T.
MORALES, MERWYN O.
QUIJANO, VIRGILO P.
SABANDO, ALEX V.

January 2

AMPER, GUILLERMO Jr. L.
BELE, PEDRO EDISON S.

January 3

DE JESUS, ERWIN
ROSENDO, JANETTE C.
TUBID, MA. CRISTY G.

January 4

AMILAO, AMORSOLO G.
FRANCISCO, RICHARD M.
MINESES, MICHAEL M.

January 5

CEDIÑO, RENANTE F.
HONRADO, FREDDIE Z.
MORALES, BENEDICTO N.

January 6

ALINDADA, RENE AMBROSIO S.
DUSONG, JANETTE T.
NINGAL, ROFEL L.
TARUN, ARDEE F.

January 7

AMOGUIS, ROMEO S.
BAGAY, ALEXUERTE Jr. A.
GARCIA, FREDERICK M.
LOZANO, BERNARDO Jr. P.
ROSAL, PHILROS Y.
VICTORINO, ARJAY WILLIAM M.

January 8

DELA CRUZ, ALEX M.
MAUSIG, ROY H.
PORRAL, LEODEGARIO Jr. H.
SANTAMARIA, OSCAR C.

January 9

CAAYAO, REGIN JULES S.
CANUBIDA, ROLDAN E.
EVANGELISTA, WARREN M.
GARCIA, HAYNA S.
RUALES, RANDY C.

January 10

ABLAY, FELIX G.
CAMIT, RHODERICK C.
CASOY, GENALIN A
CRAME, RHIAN M.

January 11

ABIBAS, JOHN REYMUND A.
PRADES, JOEL Q.
SADJAIL, ADDIEN L.

January 12

ANDAL, CHARLES B.
ELBO, JEROMEL A.
ELLA, JOEL N.

FRANCO, CHRISTIAN P.
HABITO, ARMANDO L.
TAPA, ROBERTO E.

TOLENTINO, ARMAN A.

January 13

AMOGUIS, HELARIO S.
BADUA, VIVENCIO R.
BARTOLOME, MARITES C.
CRISME, ARNEL F.
LIMPIN, LEO M.
SISON, SPRING B.
TAPUSO, REY S.

January 14

DELOS REYES, CHARLOTTE C.
MARCELO,DAVID A.
MARTIN, ALEXANDER I.
NOBLE, JAN RICHARD E.

January 15

BALLAIS, JENNIE C.
BARBA, LYNDON JOSEPH S.
HASSAN, WASPHY S.
MIRANDA, ARNIEL M.
SERES, MELCHOR R.
TORREGOSA, RONALD E.

January 16

DIMACULANGAN, RENNE T.
GANSATAO, JONEL M.
TAMONDONG, ALBERT B.
TEMBLOR, LEONILO D.

January 17

ACOSTA, MICHAEL C.
ALEJANDRO, RUEL M.
ALSONADO, PABLITO D.
CHUA, ANTHONY D.
IBAÑEZ, JONATHAN A.
MAYBUENA, DIOSCORO L.

January 18

BERNAL, ARMANDO M.
CASCO, SAMUEL M.
CUI, FRANCISCO Jr. A.
ENCINA, MARLON V.
LITAWA, JOAN L.
NONGUI, ALVIN C.
RAYO, PEDRITO B.

January 19

ALKERA, JEROME C.
CAMACHO, MARIO R.
BACCAY, ANDREI ATHELO D.
BORDARIO, REX P.

HILARIO, ANTONIO J.
RODIL, JOSEPH S.
SUAISO, EZEKIEL T.

January 20

ABALOS, REYNALDO M.
AGUILA, RODRIGO G.
DUMADAG, JAKE T.
NOBLEZA, DANILO A.

January 21

REPOL, SANTOS Jr. P.
VARGAS, JASON G.
YASIN, HAMZA C.

January 22

ERAN, JIMMY G.
CARINO, VICENTE V.
FERNANDO, LIZA LORENA H.
LACE, JOSELITO E.
VELASCO, RODGER T.

January 23

BALITO, MCKINLEY A.
BAUTISTA, EDMOND S.
LLAGUNO, RAIMONDO C.
ORIDO, ALEJO JR. L.
TACAS, REYNOLD T.
TRINIDAD, REYMUNDO D.
VELOSO, ARMANDO A.

January 24

BACLA, ARZEL D.
BAHALLA, JOEL G.
ESPIRITU, MARLO B.
IBRAHIM, SUHARTO B.
JARON, JULIUS R.
SON, ADRIANO M.
TOTI, MUHAMADALI A.
VERGARA, ANTHONY BRIAN S.

January 25

AVENDAÑO, ADELWISO A.
PASAJE, ROGELIO J.
PAULO, ROLANDO O.
REYES, ROBIN R.

January 26

BETITA, ALFONSO BELITO C.
BO, ALBERTO B.
MALDIA, CHRISTIAN ED M.
MARTINEZ, PEPITO Jr. Q.

January 27

ARNATE, DARWIN A.
ESTIPONA, REYMUND V.
JAVIER, JASPER I.
SUAREZ, ALVIN L.

January 28

ATUN, ELMER Jr. P.
CABLAO, RODELITO F.
ERANZO, SALES V.
LORENZANO, GILBERT P.
MENDEZ, ALEXANDER L.

January 29

LAFORTEZA, EMMANUEL M.
MINGI, DIOSDADO Jr. L.

January 30

DE LEON, LEO S.
GALANG, JEFFREY P.
JUMAO-AS, NESTOR C.
KIONISALA, ALEXIS M.
MAGDARAOG, NEPTHALE Jr. B.
PAJARILLO, DENNIS L.
TUBARAN, MICHAEL Z.
YAP, GIL ROY P.

January 31

SALCEDO, SHERWIN R.

SPLBE CORNER

11 PICE-Qatar New Civil Engineers hurdled the SPLBE

The Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers—Qatar Chapter produced eleven (11) successful new Civil Engineers - 24% passing rate compared to the regional passing rate of 22.90%, when the Professional Regulation Commission announced the results last December 4, 2014.

The Licensure Examinations were given by the Board of Civil Engineering in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, Al-Khobar and Riyadh in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and in Doha, Qatar last October 2014.

The eleven new engineers represents 34.38% of the 32 passers of the SPLBE given in the Middle East Region.

The entire PICE—Qatar family wishes the best to the following New Civil Engineers:

1. Basilan, Rodney P.
2. Beltran, Elizabeth M.
3. Corporal, Ross A.
4. Danlag, Rafael Jr. R.
5. Dee, Jerry
6. Dela Cruz, Mary Grace R.
7. Dela Cruz, Pablismar M.
8. Panado, Angelov G.
9. Ricafrente, Richard L.
10. Rongcales, Jeffrey D.
11. Yasin, Hamza C.

Meanwhile, the SPLBE Orientations will be on the 2 January 2015. This will be followed by the review proper that is tentatively scheduled to begin on the 9th of January 2015.

According to Engineer Loraine Radan, the SPLBE Review Director, this year's review classes will be held every Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm with one hour lunch break. Review classes will be conducted by a team of former engineering instructors headed by Engineer Jeffrey Cimagala, the first and lone UE CE Summa Cum Laude Graduate who himself is a Civil Engineering Board Examination Topnotcher.

Passing the Licensure Examinations while working as an Overseas Filipino Worker is indeed a golden opportunity enabling those who have yet to acquire their respective licenses—the Associate Members, a chance to be recognized and be included in the roster of Professional Civil Engineers. ■



Engr Jeffrey Cimagala shown congratulating the new civil engineers during their thanksgiving at the Filipino Community Center on the weekly PICE-Qatar gathering.

SPLBE Testimonials

I would like to say a very big THANK YOU for helping me achieve my dream to become a license civil engineer. Now I have an option to go home and continue my construction company in the Philippines and best of all, to be closer to my family. In attending and participating in the SPLBE review classes, I was prepared mentally and emotionally on the day of the board exam. Lots of your teaching techniques are very useful in the preparation and in answering the exam. I encourage PICE Qatar to continue their endeavor in conducting the SPLBE Review classes to help lot of aspiring Filipino engineer here in Qatar to achieve their dreams and to fulfill today's MMUP requirements. Once again a very Big THANK YOU and all credits to Engr. Jeffrey Cimagala, Engr. Larry Amoguis, Engr. Loraine Radan and Engr. Sheila Medel.

Engr Jerry Dee

Hard work, time management and lots of Prayers are essential to reach my goal. - to be a full pledge ENGINEER!!! Eventually through SPLBE, it became possible. ENJOYING every Fridays, after work group studies and every lessons we took—contribute to my belief that "I CAN MAKE IT".

My great appreciation to PICE organization, the COHOPLE, especially Sir Jeff, Ms. Loraine, Ms. Shiela and Sir Larry for support and motivations & also my group mates. THANK YOU so much.

Engr Elizabeth Beltran

The Tekton

By Jeffrey P Cimagala

With the advent of technologically-driven society, more often than not we usually prefer to browse through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and similar social media networks via the internet. All of these now play vital roles in our daily lives with which our main source of information comes from. With regards to delivering news and current affairs, be it from our country, the Philippines, or within Qatar, we are just a click away and voila – we get whatever information we need.

However, we are also facing the fact that our motivation to enhance our technical know-hows through reading and immersing ourselves on relevant issues and updates is slowly being dragged away. In this regard, PICE-Qatar has initiated the revival of its publication to address the need to effectively disseminate information and news related to the general practice of Civil Engineering as well as the Institution's activities from past, present and future endeavors.

The publication is initially called, PICE-Qatar Builders. However, to invoke the inquisitiveness and acquire the interest of our readers, we have decided to revise the name to – "The Tekton". This is the author's brainchild to facilitate a change. Tekton is an ancient Greek noun relating to a carpenter or wood-worker or builder [Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org>].

Being the brains and main driving force of changing the landscape of our environment and society for betterment of mankind, we believe the name is apropos in as much as we would want to convey the true meaning of being a Civil Engineer by profession.

In reflection to the objective of this undertaking, the team aims that the publication becomes integral to the Institution's means of delivering worthwhile reading materials not just in the technical aspect but also as a platform where every member has an opportunity to share their thoughts and expertise. In addition, these publications will serve as a repository of documented activities regularly conducted by PICE-Qatar.

Finally, we define distinction by the members' active participation. Hence, we encourage everyone to take some time off your busy schedules and ink that story or article for a chance to be published and have your names carved in the history of PICE-Qatar. ■



The Tekton Staffers on the job.

President's Corner...

- PICE-Qatar hosted the ITC with the most number of attendees (273) from Philippines, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait & Singapore. To date, no ITC has ever beaten that record;
- PICE-Qatar has consistently fielded the most number of visiting participants, always second to the host country.

Whilst we have other justifiable reasons for claiming the award, there may also be other criteria that will be issued by PICE National Committee on Awards in the future. We must remain steadfast in maintaining our standing in the International Chapter Community and strive harder in all aspects of our services to the membership and to the Civil Engineering profession. We have a lot of things to do in 2015.

The next ITC is foreseen to be held on September 24-25, 2015 in Saudi Arabia or Bahrain. There are constraints in granting visas going to Saudi Arabia. Therefore, we need to inform in advance the Regional Coordinator for the 4th ITC who among our members are planning to attend. This will facilitate the Committee to make the necessary adjustments in case it will be required to change the venue to Bahrain. I personally request our able members to attend this forthcoming ITC whether it will be held in Saudi Arabia or in Bahrain. There may be some reservations because of some sad stories about Saudi Arabia. But to tell you the truth, and based on my nearly 15 years of stay in Saudi Arabia, I consider it as one of the safest places in the world. I am excited to see Saudi Arabia again after more than 7 years. I am going to attend the 4th ITC and I hope you will join me. Let's maintain our reputation as the international chapter with the most number of attendees. Please confirm your interest to **Engr. Mark Anthony Abendan**, our new Chairman of PICE-Qatar Affairs replacing our energetic out-going Chairman Ric Silvestre. We look forward to having many significant community projects under Engr. Mark's chairmanship.

We are the biggest international chapter in terms of membership, reaching 2,015 by the start of Year 2015. Our Committee on Membership was able to welcome 299 new members last year under the able initiative of Engr. Leopoldo Carpo. The burden to surpass this record is now on the shoulders of Engr. Belinda Dela Cruz, our new Chairperson for Membership. I hope that you will give your full support to her. This committee is the busiest committee of our organization, serving 52 Wednesdays every year attending to the needs of the members and coordinating with the PICE-National.

To help the Committee on membership in the tasks of orienting and enjoining new members, I have appointed area coordinators in areas re-

latively far from Doha. Our area coordinators for Dukhan is former Vice President **Engr. Leopoldo Catabay**, and for Al Khor – **Engr. Leopoldo Carpo**. They will play a vital role in the membership campaign. We are also looking for area coordinators for Messaied and Madinat Ash Shamal.

We were able to get 18 life members approved last year – the highest in a single year in the history of PICE-Qatar. Additionally, we were able to submit 6 ACPER applications, 3 APEC applications and 2 ASEAN applications from PICE-Qatar. I now passed the task of handling this job on the shoulders of Founding President **Engr. Roy Baquiran**, our new Chairman of Life Membership and Specialist Applications. I encourage all qualified members to level-up – be a life member, be a specialist or be registered in the international registry of engineers through ACPER/APEC/ASEAN.

The Committee on Continuing Professional Advancement (CoCPA) which successfully organized 12 technical seminars and workshops under the leadership of Engr. Medel Dalida (elected as Sgt-at-Arms for 2015) will be handled this year by **Engr. Jennit Rufino**, herself an active member of CoCPA in 2014. This committee is close to my heart being a past CoCPA chairman and I look forward to seeing a very active CoCPA this year.

Last year, our Committee on Honors & Professional Licensure Examination (CoHOPLE) guided 46 reviewees during the 7-month long review classes that produced 11 new Civil Engineers. This year, we will start the review classes earlier and we hope to have more passers this time. CoHOPLE will still be under the leadership of **Engr. Loraine Radan**. We expect all members of the Board of Directors to fully support this endeavor by assisting the Committee on rotation basis.

The remaining two constitutional committees namely Committee on Ways and Means and Committee on Publication and Information will continue to be under the Chairmanship of **Engr. Helario Amoguis** and **Engr. Sheila Medel** respectively. There will be lots of new products and items for 2015, as well as lots of improvements in our website. I enjoin the entire membership to support the programs and activities of the above-mentioned committees.

To know more about my partners in leading our beloved PICE-Qatar in 2015, please read the article "Meet the 2015 PICE-Qatar Board of Directors" at page 3.

Our tentative schedule of activities for the Year 2015 is included in this publication. I am sure you will find an activity and a time that will suit your schedule no matter how busy you may be. Remember, your organization is serving you all Wednesdays and all Fridays of the Year 2015 (except Good Friday). Please participate in the activities and show how proud you are to be a member of the most active professional organization in the Middle East – PICE Qatar!

As we begin another year, I wish for continued health and success for the entire PICE-Qatar Family. I am confident that with the help and collaboration of everyone, we will continue to make great strides in creating new initiatives and in achieving our goals and objectives.

Have a blessed 2015 everyone!

Always proud to be a member,

Ronald Nilo

The Engineer's Guide

By Jeffrey P Cimagala

Concrete Cover: In British Standards, defined as the design depth of concrete cover to all steel reinforcement, including links. It is the dimension used in design and indicated on the drawings. The actual cover to all reinforcement should never be less than the nominal cover minus 5mm¹.

In the construction aspect, this is just a minor part of the whole concreting works. Often times we tend to disregard its significance when compared to sizing of rebars, layout and arrangement. However, in the design aspect, concrete cover plays a major part when it comes to durability and serviceability of main frame reinforced concrete elements. On site, we usually encounter a situation wherein the contractor proposes an increase in the concrete cover, say from 40mm to 75mm.

Being the supervision engineer, will you accept this or not? The answer lies on the technical point of view and the reasons why the concrete cover has been specified by the designer. The thickness of the cover is driven by parameters which include the type of environment affecting the corrosion of rebars, thermal insulation—to protect the bars from extreme temperatures due to fire and to give reinforcing bars sufficient embedding to enable them to be stressed without slipping².

If we want to avoid corrosion on the rebars, then we must ensure that the bars are protected and that any cracks will be prevented. However, having a thicker cover does not guarantee this as concrete tends to crack more in thicker than in thinner covers. In general, there are three main facets of design that need to be considered to determine the allowable widths of flexural cracks at a particular point on the surface of a member, namely, the proximity to the point considered of reinforcing bars

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