



**Institution of  
CIVIL ENGINEERING SURVEYORS**  
Hong Kong Region  
PO Box 2526, GPO, Hong Kong

Mr. Eric Poon, *Chairman of the Region*  
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## Regional News for April 2009

**18 April 2009:** 19 members from ICES and Lighthouse Club attended this joint technical visit to Hong Kong West Drainage Tunnel project. The manager of the JV Contractor - Dragages Nishimatsu JV, shared the challenges and gains from this Design and Build project. Following the Site walk, all our visitors have a better understand about the actual operations of this tunnel excavation by using Tunnel Boring Machine and understood the difficulties encountered during the course of work.



Deputy Project Director, Hiroshi Uetake introduced the project to our members

The entrance of tunnel where excavated material was being delivered offsite



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**30 April 2009:** The first Regional Committee meeting in Session 2009/10 was held. Mr. Eric Poon, the newly elected Regional Chairman, welcomed all committee members and expressed his gratitude for their supports. Mr. Poon briefed the committee members of the goals for this year, among other things, the direction of developments of the Region and further possible cooperation with the Tsinghua University in Beijing. New committee organisation was also formed. For details, please visit our Region website regarding the new Committee organization structure.



## **Coming Events**

**22 May 2009:** “Automated Tunnel Deformation & Building Monitoring System in Singapore” at 1/F, HKPC Building, Kowloon Tong. It would be the joint function with the Hong Kong Institution of Engineering Surveyors.

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**25 & 26 May:** Lighthouse Club International Construction Conference and Construction Services Exhibition. ICES is a named supporter of this seminar and we are pleased to provide a booth in the conference hall.

**20 June 2009:** Anderson Road site visit – This will be a joint function with Lighthouse Club. Please visit [www.dar.com.hk](http://www.dar.com.hk) for an introduction to this CEDD project.

## **Mediation – An Integral Part of Civil Procedures**

As reported in our previous newsletter, the Government is giving full support to the development of mediation in Hong Kong. Despite some corners of the legal profession are still skeptical and argue that it is difficult for the litigants' adversarial mentality to be changed over-night; ICES Hong Kong always advocates mediation as an alternative dispute resolution method. We are working with the Hong Kong Mediation Centre (HKMC) and hold courses and seminars to instill this new culture. The first mediation class organized by the HKMC endorsed by ICES Hong Kong was very successful. Not only the course material was informative, the negotiation skill they learnt would be very useful in their daily life.

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We are planning to set up a Mediation Assessor Panel and draw up a list of Accredited Mediator to provide Mediation Scheme service to our members. Existing members with Accredited Mediator are encouraged to apply for inclusion in the list. Those non-accredited members may apply for the training course provided by the HKMC and sit for the Accreditation Examination. Interested parties in this training course should contact our co-ordinators – Mr. Honby Chan at [honbyhk@yahoo.com.hk](mailto:honbyhk@yahoo.com.hk) or Mr. Marco Cheung at [wm.cheung@dar.com.hk](mailto:wm.cheung@dar.com.hk).

## **Macau Infrastructures**

To combat the financial tsunami, Macao Government has published the “Outline for Macao Urban Concept Plan (澳門城市概念性規劃綱要)”. The positioning is “With gaming and tourism as major economic pillars, fusing Chinese and Western cultures as city characteristics, with subtlety and habitability as directions for development, sustainable prosperity as a development objective, and openness as the city’s character, Macao is to be developed into a place for tourism and a place to live in, a centre of multi-dimensional development and a World City of Vitality.”

In connection to this, Macao Government is actively promoting the construction of infrastructures works. Apart from projects to improve the road network system to alleviate long term traffic congestion problem, some major projects including large scale reclamation, development of LRT system, enhancement or addition of Boundary Crossing Facilities are in the pipeline.

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Despite some setback in the gaming industry in the last few months, we are confident that there are more opportunities for our members to pursue their careers in Macao sooner. The new Hong Kong Committee will continue their effort to promote the Institution to the local universities and construction industry in Macau.



## Royal Charter Update

For those who have attended the AGM Dinner will know the news regarding our Charter petition process. We expect we will receive the Royal Charter Velum towards the back end of November and there are still quite a few things we need to wrap up, e.g. the approval of the Charities Commission, before we can officially launch the “Chartered” status. As the President pointed out in his “Good to Great” presentation during the AGM dinner, he reminded us of our mission, our vision and our values. The successful petition is only a staging post and not a destination. The charter in its current form does not permit the Institution to award individual chartered status to its members. ICES had worked hard in the last 10 years to reinforce its credentials as an organization of professionals worthy of charter; it still needs more effort to underpin our credentials as individual professionals and to be sure of achieving the recognition we strive for. To realize our full potential, we all have a part to play by living our values and demonstrating in our working lives what it means in terms of competence, performance, professionalism and friendship to be a member of the Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors. Let’s continue keeping these ideals in the forefront of our minds.

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