

## *Regional News for November 2011*

### *ICES in Beijing*

*Andrew Keung /*

*Miranda Lui*

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**22 – 24 Nov 2011:** Following the momentum built up by Bill Pryke, CEO in his visit to mainland China last month, Miranda Lui, ICES HK Vice Chair visited Beijing in November and had met CHINCA again to discuss the renewal of ICES-CHINCA Cooperation Agreement and if everything goes smoothly, we look forward to having a signing ceremony of the Agreement when we will meet again in next April in Macau.

BK SURCO will be our business partner in providing the training supports to CHINCA in future. We also discussed the role of BK SURCO and the best logistic arrangement.

We are also pleased to be one of the Supporting Organizations of CHINCA's "International Project Managers Award" event. Miranda was honoured to represent ICES and present awards to 41 qualified managers during the event.

In addition, we appreciate CHINCA for their plan to assist ICES promotion and publicity to various organizations in mainland China.

During this Beijing visit, Miranda also met CIOB China representative Mr. Qiu Chuang during the CHINCA event. He invited ICES to be one of the supporting organizations for the "JCM Talks", a joint CPD monthly event with other different organizations including universities and professional bodies in Beijing.



*Miranda attended the CHINCA event in Beijing in her November visit*

## Construction News Update

*Andrew Keung*

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With economic turmoil taking its toll on new developments in most countries, it is a blessing that the Hong Kong government continues to pump in more money into the construction of infrastructures in Hong Kong.

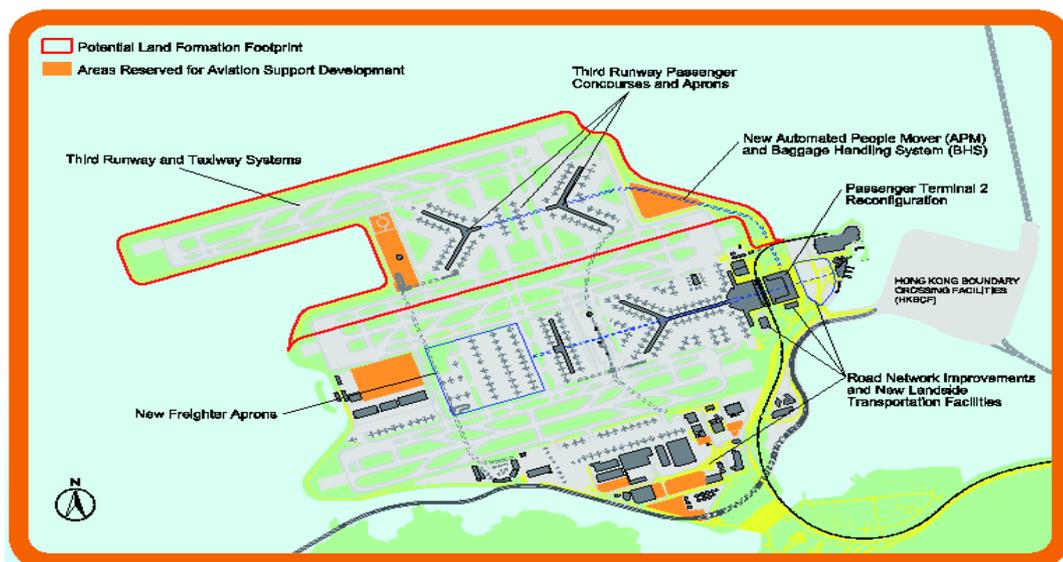
- ✚ **West Kowloon Terminus for the GZ-SZ-HK Express Rail Link:** Leighton-Gammon JV has won the biggest and final XRL civil contract for HK\$8.9 billion. The contract involves excavation to a depth of 33m and removal of 1.7 million cu m of spoil. It also involves construction of the spectacular steel and glass roof above the entrance of the terminus.



- ✚ **Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge:** Follow the approval of the project funding from Legco on 18 November, Highways Department announced that China Harbour had won the first major civil contract for HK\$7 billion. The contract involves 24 million cu m of sandfill and reclamation of about 130 hectares of land for the development of the border crossing facilities.



- ✚ **Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) Master Plan 2030:** The 3-month public consultation for HKIA Master Plan 2030 has concluded. The Master Plan puts forward 2 development options. Option 1 is to maintain the existing dual-runway system but to enhance the terminal and airfield facilities, which would only meet growth up to about 2020, it only costs HK\$43 billion. The other option is to expand to a 3-runway system that would give the airport sufficient capacity to cope with the expected traffic growth up to 2030 and possibly beyond, but it requires reclamation of 650 hectares and costs HK\$136 billion.



- ✚ **Land Supply to meet Government's Target for 40,000 flats/ year:** Launching the first-stage public consultation on ways to increase back-up land for the government housing target for the next 10 years, Secretary for Development Carrie Lam suggested that the current practice of shipping the surplus construction fill to mainland city some 170km away, caused carbon emission of 50 tonnes/day and cost HK\$70/tonne to handle, HK\$33 more than using it for local reclamation, reclamation outside harbor would be a "green" way to find space to dispose of construction fill and should not be demonized. The consultation also seeks views on rock-cavern

developments for various facilities from sewage plants to data centres and restaurants. Earlier studies identified 5 possible sites in Lantau, Tuen Mun, Mount Davis, Shatin and Lion Rock. The consultation will end in next February.

✚ **39th International Federation of Asian and Western Pacific Contractors' Associations Convention (IFAWPCA):** Hong Kong is hosting the IFAWPCA this November. Delivering a speech at the Convention, Secretary for Development Carrie Lam said that the infrastructure programme would be heading for another golden era in coming years. Many of which aims to promote closer relation with the mainland. Projects in hand include the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, which have commenced construction. Active planning work is underway for the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Joint Development of the Lok Ma Chau Loop and the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Express Link between the airports of Hong Kong and Shenzhen. For greater economic integration between mainland and Hong Kong, a new land crossing at the eastern part of Hong Kong and Shenzhen is also planned.

✚ **Kai Tak to be another Central Business District (CBD):** Followed the announcement by Secretary for Development Carrie Lam to turn Kai Tak, Kowloon Bay and Kwun Tong into another CBD, the government has rolled out plans showing a 9 km long monorail with 12 stations and estimated cost of HK\$12 billion. The rail will connect the existing Kwun Tong and Kowloon Bay MTR stations with the waterfront, cruise terminal and other facilities in the new district.



## Coming Events

**17 Dec 2011:** Joint societies Christmas Party will be held with other 10 societies at Habitat Lounge, 29/F QRE Plaza, 202 Queen's Road East

**Feb / Mar 2012:** Ian Cowling, ICES Chief Examiner will be visiting Hong Kong and China next Spring. He will provide training for new examiners and refresher training for existing examiners. We need more examiners for Hong Kong as well as big cities in mainland. Please watch details later in our webpage.