What can a Project Manager do to promote Green Buildings?

SPM lunch-time talk on 27 Aug 2010 given by Wong Hooe Wei, Assistant Secretary (2009 - 2011), Singapore Green Building Council & Chairman, CapitalLand Green Committee

Plenty! Since the Project Manager is the leader of the project team, and drives a project right from the onset, he or she can do many things to promote Green Buildings in every stage of the project life-cycle.

Think Green right from the feasibility study stage. Carry out environmental impact assessment of a site, or in the case of upgrading works, of the existing building, right from the beginning. Indentify any environmental risks and opportunities for conservation or enhancement of the environment, or for green of the building. Take these into account when embarking on the design.

At the start of the design stage, the Project Manager can align the project team towards achieving certain Green goals of the project. Set Green rating targets, if that is not already done when the feasibility of the project is determined. Generally, the higher the rating target, for example, Green Mark Platinum or Green Mark Goldplus in Singapore, the more environmentally friendly the properties. The project team may benefit from the inclusion of a consultant specializing in Green Buildings so that the specialist’s input can be obtained right from the start.

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BCAA-SPM Project Management Seminar

In October 2010, the Society of Project Managers collaborated with the Building and Construction Authority Academy in organizing a Project Management seminar focusing on complexity in project implementation. The Seminar, entitled “Managing Complexity in Projects”, was organised with the objective of creating a forum for sharing of experience on some of the more significant projects. It was held at BCA Academy on 1 October 2010. Some 300 participants from developer, contractor and construction professional organizations attended the event.

The papers presented were:

i. Project Complexity - An Appreciation & Assessment [Yip Kim Seng]

ii. Delivering Khoo Teck Puat Hospital in 5 Years - Complexities & Challenges [Push Chin Yee (Ms)]

iii. The Pinnacle@Duxton - Design Management & Construction Management - Productivity [Lyn Ang (Ms) & Loh Wing Hup]

iv. ION Orchard - Process Integration & Risk Management [Lee Kuan Boon & Terence Koh]

v. Kallang-Paya Lebar Expressway - Planning in Infrastructure & Managing Constraints [Chua Hn Leong & Song Tse Wm]

SPM Newsletter will feature these papers starting with this issue and over the next issues. In this issue, The Pinnacle@Duxton is showcased.