Event Overview:

In this era of rapid globalisation, the ambitions of mankind has driven surface space to become increasingly scarce, forcing creative solutions in the underground space. Advances in tunnelling techniques have come a long way since its inception. It has seen wide applications from the secret escape tunnels, to the various mined tunnels undercrossing mountains, modern day mechanised circular tunnels and beyond. However, underground space is not infinite; interfaces between surface developments and underground expansions, as well as underground-underground interfaces arise as mankind expands their “horizons”. Protective as we are, disputes arise from such interfaces, drawing out legally binding agreements and engineering assessments. Hence, engineers play a deterministic role in the coexistence of factions of development. Dr. Victor Ong will address some tunnelling and underground space design and supervision considerations, with risks as well as impacts due to tunnelling and deep excavation works.

The second part of the seminar seeks to provide practical insights on the contractual issues commonly encountered by employers, contractors and other project stakeholders in tunnelling and deep excavation contracts. With the aid of cases from both local and foreign jurisdictions, Mr. Christopher Chuah will illustrate the importance of managing such contractual issues and the consequences that could follow should the same be overlooked in a tunnelling and deep excavation contract. Emphasis will be given to critical issues such as adverse or unforeseen ground conditions which are often associated with significant impact on time and cost as well as the legal implications of an inaccurate soil investigation report for the various project stakeholders.
Er. Dr. ONG Chee Wee, Victor
PE(Geo), PE(Civil) (S’pore), QECP
PE(Civil) (M’sia), ASEAN Chartered P.Eng.
2nd Vice President, SIBL
Managing Director
ONE SMART Engineering Pte Ltd

Er. Dr. ONG Chee Wee, Victor is the 2nd Vice President of Singapore Institute of Building (SIBL) and the Managing Director of ONE SMART Engineering (Singapore & Malaysia) Pte Ltd. He is a Specialist Professional Engineer (Geotechnical) as well as a Professional Engineer (Civil) registered with Professional Engineers Board (PEB), Singapore and Malaysia.

He is also a registered ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer, APEC Engineer and International Professional Engineer. He obtained his PhD in Geotechnical Engineering from the National University of Singapore (NUS).

Dr. Ong is currently serving on two International Technical Committees for International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) Technical Committees TC 207 on Soil-Structure Interaction and Retaining Walls and TC 212 on Deep Foundations. Dr. Ong is also serving as Technical Committee of Asian Technical Committee (ATC-6) “Urban GeoEngineering”. He was elected as SPRING Singapore Technical Committee for The Standards Council (Civil & Geotechnical Works).

Dr. Ong is a recipient of the Best Contribution Award in Asian Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference and The Hulme’s Prize Award by Tunnelling & Underground Construction Society of Singapore (TUCSS). He was also named Young Consulting Engineer of the Year in 2014 by the Association of Consulting Engineers Singapore (ACES). Recently, Dr. Ong has been awarded Singapore’s Top 50 Engineering Achievements by Institution of Engineers Singapore (IES).
Christopher CHUAH heads the Infrastructure, Construction & Engineering Practice and is a Partner in the International Arbitration, China and Myanmar Practices. His main areas of practice encompass both front-end drafting/advice and construction disputes (including FIDIC standards), both litigation and arbitration. He is a leading light in the field of building and construction law and has authored various books on this subject. He is one of the General Editors of the Singapore Construction Adjudication Review.

Christopher has acted as leading counsel in numerous reported landmark cases on construction law including acting for Mer Vue Developments Pte. Ltd., the developers of The Seaview Condominium, in a landmark High Court decision that clarifies the extent and scope of the liability of the developer, main contractor and architect in a claim for building defects. Christopher graduated from the London School of Economics. He is admitted to the English Bar and to the Singapore Bar. Apart from a law degree, Christopher has a Diploma in Surveying (Distinction) from the College of Estate Management, Reading, UK.

Christopher is a legal adviser to the Singapore Contractors Association Limited ("SCAL"), as well as a member of the Committee for International Construction and Building Contracts. He is a Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators and Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, as well as the Chartered Institute of Building. He has also been appointed to the Singapore International Arbitration Centre's Main Panel of Arbitrators and is also on the Panel of Arbitrators of the Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration (KLRCA).

Christopher is an accredited adjudicator under the Building & Construction Industry Security of Payment Act (Cap 30B), who is part of the first group of such appointments. He is a member of the Construction Adjudicator Accreditation Committee which was formed by the Singapore Mediation Centre to assist with the training and accreditation of adjudicators. He is also a member and a Senior Adjudicator of the Singapore Mediation Centre Professional Conduct Panel.
RICS-SIBL Joint Seminar:
Challenges and Potential Contractual Disputes in Tunnelling and Deep Excavation

Date: 17 July 2017 (Monday)
Time: 14:00 – 17:00 (Registration starts at 13:30)
Venue: NUSS Guild House at Suntec City, 5 Temasek Boulevard (Suntec Tower 5) #02 - 401/402, Singapore 038983

$110 (RICS/SIBL member)
$150 (AIOB, CIOB, CIJC member (ACES, IES, REDAS, SCAL, SIA, SISV, SPM), IEA, SCL)
$180 (non-member)

Fee inclusive of refreshments, handouts. NO GST
Closing Date for Registration: 10 July 2017
Online Registration: http://rics.org/ricssibljointseminar1

For enquiries, please contact Linda Kwok (lkwok@rics.org) or RICS Singapore office at +65 6812 8190.

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