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Consult Australia’s 2016 ASPAC CEO Conference provides a unique networking platform for the top echelons of the major consulting and engineering firms in the Asia Pacific region.

Designed as an exclusive forum for CEOs and senior business leaders within the industry, this invitation-only event provides an opportunity for insightful debate and discussion between peers from over 25 nations in the region.


3-5 May 2017
The Consult Australia ASPAC Leaders Conference in 2016 once again provided a unique networking platform for the top echelons of the major built and natural environment consulting firms in the Asia Pacific region. The Conference created an exclusive forum for CEO’s and senior industry leaders across the region to take time away from working in the business in order to focus on the business as they networked with, and learned from, industry experts and each other through presentations and insightful debate and discussion.

Megan Motto, CEO of Consult Australia said “In an industry that is constantly confronted with changing and challenging forces both internally and externally, it is more important than ever to band together as an industry to learn, share and network”.

Now in its fourth year, the 2017 ASPAC Leaders Conference will be held in Sydney from Wednesday 3 to Friday 5 May 2017. Over the course of the three days, attendees will engage in a plethora of interactive sessions covering industry issues at a local, regional and global level. Sessions will include panels with key government representatives, senior private sector clients and other industry experts and other peak body representatives, in addition to representatives from Consult Australia member firms. The format will facilitate and encourage the sharing of ideas and key learning’s in a stream of critical paths relevant to the built and natural environment industry in the Asia Pacific.

Day One of the conference concentrates on Capacity Building, with attendees spending the day focusing on the future of our industry across a number of dimensions including technology, work practices, people development, pipelines, and of course our clients businesses. The program for this day is highly interactive with each session consisting of an initial presentation from an industry or subject matter expert (or panel) followed by a facilitated discussion/workshop designed to enable participants to share their experience and concerns and learn from one another as we look at “our future” and that of the region.

As with previous year’s programmes, networking opportunities throughout the day, and the conference as a whole, will also be included in order to provide participants with the opportunity to spend time with their peers socially and in less structured discussions to enable the development of personal connections and networks.

The Consult Australia ASPAC Leaders Conference will be a not to be missed event for all senior industry leaders in 2017 so please save the date (3-5th May) and come and join us in Sydney for a dynamic three days of key learning’s and networking opportunities!

For further information please contact Mark Rock, Communications & Events Manager at Mark@consultaustralia.com.au and visit: www.consultaustralia.com.au/Home/events/ConsultAustraliaConference.aspx for previous speakers and program details. One, two and three days passes are all available and full programs will be available shortly.
In late September Consult Australia President Andrew Mather and I travelled to Marrakech in Morocco to represent Australia at the FIDIC International Infrastructure Conference. FIDIC (the French acronym for the International Federation of Consulting Engineers) is Consult Australia’s global peak body, and now consists of our international equivalents from over 100 countries.

Also attending from Australia were Consult Australia Past President’s Dick Kell (also a Past President of FIDIC) and Tony Barry (who was last year elected on to the FIDIC Board).

With Marrakech gearing up to host COP 22 in November, it was fitting that the theme of the FIDIC event was Climate Change, and explored the role of the built environment consulting sector in addressing both mitigation and adaptation.

Whilst the Conference itself was a mixed bag, it is clear that the role our industry has to play in not only the technical solutions at project level, but in engaging in both the national and international politics of climate change is absolutely vital.

This annual event, and our participation in FIDIC more broadly, is important for many reasons.

Firstly, FIDIC plays a key role in creating documents and enhancing industry capacity in areas that support the development and sustainability of our industry. Guidance material on Business Practice, Sustainability and Integrity Management are of great use, and the large range of FIDIC Contracts are widely used internationally (especially, but not exclusively, on aid projects funded through the World Bank and other multilateral development banks).

In addition, FIDIC negotiates on behalf of the sector to embed the ideals of quality, sustainability and integrity into international contracts, and also in a range of nations who are developing their own capacity...
to cope with rapid urbanisation. It is widely recognised that infrastructure investment is a key driver of development and economic advancement, but it is also widely recognised that the right infrastructure, delivered via the right process, can deliver greater long-term dividends.

FIDIC also celebrates international best practice, and awards projects from around the world at the FIDIC Awards Gala Dinner. These Awards recognise outstanding international projects such as the Guiyang-Guangzhou High-Speed Railway Station, Jinsha River Xiluodu Hydropower project and Qiantang River Tunnel in China, the Bouregreg Valley Development Project in Morocco and the Fulton Centre and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge New East Span in the United States.

It is truly inspiring to see the calibre of some of these projects. The excellence they celebrate places the future in good stead.

But FIDIC does more than just celebrate international best practice. It helps deliver it.

FIDIC’s capacity building activities (and in particular its vibrant young professionals network and associated training and development), are influential in building the next generation of consultants. These talented young individuals are building a confident, connected and innovative community which will lift the tide for all nations in years to come.

In a world trending towards isolationism, it is critical that we fight for the communities we live and work in to remain connected and collaborative.

Consult Australia is looking for members to sit on several FIDIC Committees to deepen this international engagement, and provide opportunities for our members to get involved with and contribute to global reform. Committees such as the Integrity Management Committee, Business Practice Committee, Contracts Committee, Risk, Liability and Quality Committee and Sustainable Development Committee give participants from around the world an opportunity to identify and promulgate best practice for the benefit of all. If members are interested to participate, they should contact our National team via Guillaume Marchand at Guillaume@consultaustralia.com.au

The 2017 FIDIC Conference (themed around resilience) will be held in Jakarta from 1-3 October, and I strongly encourage members to participate.
First Chinese Consulting Engineers Certified by FIDIC

More than 500 Chinese consulting engineers received certificates from FIDIC at the Certification Ceremony organized in Beijing, China on November 28, 2016. They are the first group of FIDIC certified consulting engineers (FCCE) in the world and are expected to play a big role in the promotion of the Belt and Road Initiatives. Participating in the event include FIDIC president, past presidents, Chinese government officials, representatives of WB, ADB and AIIB, CNAEC leadership and representatives of successful candidates.

The FCCE Pilot Program was formally established in March 2011 and is the first of its kind supported by FIDIC. It is hoped that it will establish the guidelines for similar FIDIC programs in other countries. To become a FIDIC Certified Consulting Engineer, a candidate must participate in a prescribed training and take a written examination. Only upon successfully passing the examination is a candidate designated a FIDIC Certified Consulting Engineer.

This milestone has been a collaborative effort involving FIDIC, CNAEC, Peking University’s Boya Strategic Management Consulting and FIDIC’s International Accredited Trainers, said Gregs Thomopulos, FIDIC past president and Chairman of FCCE Certification Management Board. The pilot program helps train high quality engineering consulting professionals in global perspectives, said Jae Wan Lee, FIDIC president.

The 6th Training Session of FCCE Program Opens

More than 110 Chinese consulting engineers registered in the 6th Training Session of FIDIC Certified Consulting Engineer (FCCE) pilot program which opened in Beijing, China on November 28, 2016. Upon completion of the three-week full-time training session, candidates will participate in two-day written examinations to earn the designation of FIDIC Certified Consulting Engineer.

An FCCE is a professional engineer who is recognized as an individual who understands the FIDIC body of knowledge as it pertains to the business of consulting engineering. This body of knowledge includes FIDIC Contracts, Enterprise Risk Management, Project Sustainability Management, Integrity Management, Quality Management, Business Practice, Business Development, and Project Procurement.

The certification is valid for three years, during which period the engineer will be required to attend additional lectures on relevant subjects in order to permit recertification at the end of three years. The intent is to ensure that you will remain current on the FIDIC body of knowledge.
Infrastructure development is the need of the hour in the entire African continent. To fast track it, one of the key requirements is building capacities, across the entire spectrum involving all stakeholders.

At present, there are 37 countries which are not members of the FIDIC.

To build capacity in Consultants, it is imperative that respective Consultant's organization in each country become members of FIDIC. To facilitate this process, we have provided for the underdeveloped countries with reduced Member Association easy entry rates which are:

“The new membership fee structure for small MAs was approved, to be implemented on a case-by-case basis as follows: applicable for 4 years, starting with 20% in year 1, 40% in year 2, 70% in year 3 and 100% on year 4.”

FIDIC also runs the contract courses in Tanzania. Some recent courses which were conducted in Tanzania are:

1. FIDIC-Contracts-Course-Mod2-Tanzania-21-22-November-2016 - Claims and Dispute Resolution course
2. FIDIC-Contracts-Course-DBO-Tanzania-23-24-November-2016
3. FIDIC-Contracts-Course-Procurement-Tanzania-25-November-2016

Consulting community in the African Continent needs to be encouraged to participate in such courses so that in the coming years, we achieve our objective of developing capacities to ensure Quality, Integrity and Sustainability which are the hallmark of FIDIC.

Well maintained road networks which meet the expectations and needs of road users are an important element of development strategies in Africa today. African Governments are convinced of the value of road infrastructure investment in promoting economic growth. Many Governments are taking steps to increase investment in the road sector in their respective countries. However, increasing investments in the road sector is not enough in itself. It also requires, increasing professionalization and enhancement in skill sets of all those involved in the management, construction, maintenance, and operation of roads. Thus, the International Road Federation Geneva suggests that appropriate actions be taken to increase the level of professionalization in the road sector.

One way to increase the level of professionalization in the road sector is to make it a mandatory requirement for the staff of the Stakeholders involved in a Project, to attend a course before the start of each of the Project. The objective of mandating attendance at this course is to ensure the quality and efficiency for carrying out road projects as well as to inculcate a behavioural attitude for the aspect of safety of self and the community.

Road projects like other infrastructure projects typically involve three sets of stakeholders and they are:

1. The Client / Customers
2. The Contractors / Concessionaires (responsible for the building of the infrastructure)
3. The Consultants (who conceive and prepare design and supervise construction)

Representatives from each of the 3Cs above, should be mandated to attend the course, particularly for large projects.

The course that we are proposing will build competencies which will be needed during the Project lifecycle as well as during its maintenance. We are proposing a five-day course, with four modules, covering the following four topics:

- Contract Conditions for FIDIC Contracts
- Contract and Project Management
- Quality Measurement and Assurance
- Work Zone Safety
India, as a country, is trying to develop Infrastructure across its large area in a rapid pace, to make up for the severe deficiency that exists in various sectors. For ensuring fast growth of GDP of the country, emphasis is being given on expansion of networks in Highways, Railways, Inland Water Transport and Marine sector. Growth has been accelerated also in sectors like Power, Health and Education. The sudden spurt in growth has created imbalance and to address the important issues therein Infrastructure Summit 2016 was held at Hyatt Regency, Kolkata on the 29th September 2016 by CEAI jointly with the Bengal Chamber. This was the Inaugural edition of the Summit, and its principal objective was to create a platform for all stakeholders in Infrastructure development to share their views, problems and solutions in this area of supreme importance for the development of the country.

The event provided an excellent opportunity to the Consultants and Contractors to explain the impediments to systematic and efficient working to senior representatives of Authorities and discuss alternative solutions. The owners and authorities, building infrastructure, used this forum for conveying their expectations and demands to organisations participating in infrastructure development, including the Consultants.

The deliberations were spread over three sessions, apart from the Inaugural Session. CEAI took charge of the session dedicated to Transport Infrastructure and arranged for all the high level speakers for this session.

The event was attended by Sri Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Railways and a host of dignitaries including Joint Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport, Mr. V. L. Patankar, Director IAHE, Mr. Vinayak Chatterjee, CMD, Feedback Infra, Dr. Arup Roy Chowdhury, CMD, National Thermal Power Corporation (Retd.) and Dr. Samarjit Chatterji, Former President, CEAI.

The Transport Infrastructure session was chaired by Mr. Amitabha Ghoshal, Chairman, E&NE zone of CEAI and participants included Mr. V. L. Patankar, Mr. Dip K Sen, Director & SR. EX. VP of L&T Infra, Mr. Samarjit Chatterjee. Mr. Sutanu Ghosh, GC member of CEAI and Secy. E & NE zone of CEAI and current President of BCC&I, chaired the Inaugural Session.

The event was attended throughout by important members of Engineering Industry, including Consultancy sector. The deliberations veered around structural adjustments needed and means of their implementation.

The proceedings were recorded and follow-up actions listed and shared with delegates.
As an active member of FIDIC, INKINDO, the National Association of Indonesian Consultants, is committed to socialize and promote the better understanding of documents produced by FIDIC, not only to its members, but also to the stakeholders of construction industry in Indonesia.

During this period, INKINDO assisted by AntaVaya, a Professional Training Provider has conducted accredited FIDIC International Training Programme on Conditions of Contract for Construction module 1, known as RED Book by certified FIDIC Trainer, DR Sarwono Hardjomuljadi.

The Training has been successfully conducted at Trans Luxury Hotel in Bandung, West Java on August 30 and 31, 2016, attended by 30 (thirty) participants from the construction industry.

For the next program, INKINDO, also assisted by AntaVaya is currently planning to conduct again accredited FIDIC International Training Programme on Conditions of Contract for Plant and Design & Build, and EPC/Turnkey Projects, known as Yellow and Silver Book Modules respectively by mid of December 2016, with DR Sebastian Hoek from Berlin, Germany as certified Trainer.

FACE, the Federation of ASEAN Consulting Engineers

As one of the Founders of FACE, INKINDO has initiated the reactivating of FACE using the ASEAN Economic Community which was officially launched by end of 2015 as the trigger, whereby the current President of FACE is also the current INKINDO’s President, Mr Nugroho Pudji Rahardjo.

During the recent FACE Meeting which was held on August 26, 2016 in Chiang Mai, Thailand (Photo below), FACE has agreed to form Committees working on the following issues:
• Practice and Competency, covering standards, liabilities, fees, rates, etc.
• Mobility (individual and corporate), covering exchange program, Mutual Recognition Arrangement, accreditation, recognition of professional certification, etc
• Association development, covering association activity and set up
• AEAN Development, especially ASEAN Connectivity issue.
The next FACE Meeting in 2017 has been scheduled to be held on:
• March 2017: Hanoi, Vietnam
• August 2017: Manila, the Philippines
• October 2017, Jakarta, Indonesia

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ECFAJ has been conducting various trainings and seminars in fiscal 2016 as described below.

1. Trainings
   a) Basics of Consulting Practice for Rookie Consultants: 14-15 April
   b) Skill-up Trainings
      - Financial and Economic Analysis: Basics and Application: 3-5 Aug, 5-7 Sept
      - Introductory English and English Presentation: 20-21 June, 2nd TBD
      - Outline of Procurement and Project Management in ODA Projects: TBD
      - Introduction to Yen-Loan-Financed Projects: TBD
   c) Project Cycle Management in ODA Projects: TBD

2. Seminars
   a) Seminars relating ODA Projects
      - Environment and Social Considerations: 12 April, 1 Dec
      - Procedures and Outline of ODA Projects: 19-27 May, 1-8 June
   b) World Bank Procurement Guideline: 6 June
   c) Seminars relating to FIDIC Conditions of Contract
      - Contract Management Seminars: 6 Oct, 2nd (Jan TBD) and 3rd (March TBD)
      - Silver Book Seminar: 14 April, 2017
      - Dispute Board Seminar: 14 Oct
   d) Seminars relating to ECFAJ Activities
      - Annual Seminar 10 Feb, 2017: FIDIC president will address FIDIC policy and activities
      - YP Seminar: 9 Sept,
      - Interdisciplinary Seminar: Feb 2017 (TBD)
A Lesson in Time Travel

New Zealand welcomed close to 250 delegates from over 10 different countries to beautiful Queenstown for the 2016 FIDIC-ASPAC Conference. The event was held in early May and hosted both local and international speakers. The Presidents’ Welcome heard messages of greeting and inspiration from hosting association ACENZ’s Keryn Kliskey, ASPAC Chairman Liu Luobing, and FIDIC President Jae Wan Lee.

Day one was ushered in by Queenstown Mayor Vanessa van Uden, quickly followed by a Maori performance. Attendees were up and off their seats participating in a Haka (see picture) and singing along as an experience of the local culture. Other speakers throughout the day included Mai Chen, a premiere NZ lawyer, speaking on superdiversity before a joint industry recap from engineering and contracting association leaders, Andrew Read (IPENZ) and Peter Silcock (Civil Contractors Federation). The day was concluded with presentations from Sean Chiao, President Asia Pacific AECOM, and Anthony Barry, Managing Director Asia Aurecon. After the daytime programme concluded, delegates had the opportunity to join us for a fancy dress themed steamboat ride aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw. This historic and fully operational steamship cruised guests around Lake Wakatipu as everyone enjoyed nibbles and drinks.

Day two was packed with interesting business speakers including local engineering and construction industry leaders Connal Townsend (Property Council NZ), Dave Kelly (Master Builders), Tommy Parker (NZ Transport Agency), and John Ellen (Strategic Pay) in a morning panel session. Our “Out of Focus” speaker and comedian Joe Bennett ticked the funny bones of delegates before handing over to business speakers Debbie Mayo-Smith and Bruce Holland. Long time FIDIC and ASPAC supporter, BST Global, provided an afternoon speaker in Andrew Fist, the BST Global Regional Director Australasia. Closing out the 2.5 day conference was our Black Tie Gala Dinner perched atop the scenic Queenstown mountains in the Skyline Gondola and Restaurant. Guests had the opportunity to be whisked 500 meters high in a gondola to where the dinner and VIP speaker Tim Shadbolt would delight guests.

After all was said and done New Zealand said farewell to all of our guests who made the journey to join us at the 2016 FIDIC-ASPAC Conference. A big thank you to everyone who made the journey and an invitation to check out photos of the conference at the ACENZ Flickr website here:

www.flickr.com/photos/acenzphotos/albums
New Zealand - Association of Consulting Engineers New Zealand

Bruce Holland on “A Global Shift in Strategy”

ASPAC Chairman, Liu Luobing, welcoming delegates and guests to the official start of conference during the Presidents’ Welcome

VIP dinner speaker, Tim Shadbolt, at the Black Tie Gala Dinner atop the Skyline Gondola and Restaurant

Guests from the CNAEC delegation enjoying our fun photo booth after the Gala Dinner

Sean Chiao, President of Asia Pacific AECOM speaking on “China’s Shift of Going Out”

A local cultural performance by the Maori people.
Developing Technical Capacity on Landslide Mitigation of Young Professional Engineers of a CECOPHIL Member Firm

One of the primary purpose of the Council of Engineering Consultants of the Philippines (CECOPHIL), the FIDIC Member Association in the Philippines, is to promote the advancement of the consulting engineering profession in the country. Accordingly, CECOPHIL encourages its member firms to enhance the skills, knowledge and abilities of the professionals within their firms through various capacity building programs including technical workshops, training courses and seminars. It is worth noting that this is also consistent with one of the core objectives of FIDIC and ASPAC of promoting and assisting the worldwide development of a viable consulting engineering industry through capacity development, which is important for the industry to maintain best practices and high quality engineering consulting services.

In light of the above, Philkoei International, Inc. (PKII), a CECOPHIL regular member firm, has collaborated with the Nippon Koei Research and Development Center (NK R&D Center) to conduct a two-day technical course for its young civil engineers on November 21-22, 2016. Landslide mitigation, which is the subject of the short course, is a very important engineering topic especially in the Philippines, which experiences an average of 20 typhoons every year making the country highly susceptible to rainfall-induced landslides. Moreover, due to the effects of climate change, the typhoons that enter the Philippines are now becoming stronger and more destructive and therefore, the threat of landslide occurrence is likewise increasing. PKII thus considers the issue of landslide mitigation very relevant to the company’s consulting business and operations.

The technical course aims to help the young professional engineers of the CECOPHIL member firm to become familiar with the landslide hazard, increase their knowledge on how to mitigate the hazard, and help them incorporate these ideas and concepts in their future engineering and consulting works.

A total of six young civil and structural engineers participated in the course, which was given by Mr. Senro Kuraoka, Chief of NK R&D Center. Mr. Kuraoka is a geotechnical engineer with expertise on natural and manmade slopes. The resource person for the course has also tons of international publications and a wide array of landslide-related experiences obtained from Nippon Koei’s various international consulting projects as well as R&D initiatives. Aside from heading the NK R&D Center, he is also a lecturer in Kyoto University, one of Japan’s leading universities.

On the first day, Mr. Kuraoka discussed about the origin and causes of landslides and the need to prevent and mitigate them. He particularly focused on rainfall-induced landslides which is the more prevalent category in the Philippines. He then discussed the different types of landslides, such as recurrent landslides, debris flow, rock fall, and rock slope failure, and explained how geology, topography, natural phenomena, and human activities become factors or triggers for the occurrence of landslides.

Next, Mr. Kuraoka explained landslide risk reduction management using the simple diagram shown in the figure below.

He described the importance and implications of both types of countermeasures and clarified that although structural measures are not the priority because they are too costly, all countermeasures indicated in the diagram should be executed together to make sure that less lives are at risk and the loss of properties and resources will be limited.

To conclude the first day, Mr. Kuraoka discussed how computer programs and applications such as Google Earth, which is a virtual globe, map and geographical information program, can be a valuable tool in detecting a landslide potent area. He shared how the course participants as engineering practitioners can make observations and create simple and quick assessments of a project site using said program.
On the second day, the resource speaker engaged the attendees on the more technical side of landslide mitigation and demonstrated how to create numerical models of a landslide scenario that can be used in slope failure analysis. This lecture further enhanced the skills and widen the technical capacity of the young engineers in analyzing landslides and identifying appropriate landslide mitigation measures.

Throughout the course, Mr. Kuraoka encouraged the active participation of the attendees and asked them to share their thoughts on the topics. Consequently, one of the participants presented a relevant case from PKII’s previous project. Mr. Kuraoka then gladly enlightened the young engineers on how to more effectively carry out the analysis for the case presented and discussed how to incorporate the lessons and concepts they learned during the course in similar cases in the future. The course finally ended with the question and answer portion which further enhanced the knowledge of the participants on the subject of landslide mitigation. Overall, the capacity building initiative was a success and the participants certainly gained a lot of insight and technical skills that can soon help them become better engineering practitioners in both the Philippine and global consulting industry.
Korea Young Professionals Group Seminar

KENCA in collaboration with its new Young Professionals Committee (KYPC) hosted their first Young Professionals Seminar on 18 October, 2016. Under the theme Leading the Engineers of Tomorrow, three eminent guest speakers from leading Korean and American engineering firms spoke to over 160 participants at the seminar.

Dr. Hee Jeong Shin, CEO of Dongmyeong Engineering (DMEC) in Seoul, discussed the Trends and Future Prospects of the Korean Engineering Industry. He addressed the challenges caused by shifting global economy and advised that the Korean engineering industry have to become first-movers and take more risks to innovate and lead market trends.

The second session was conducted by Mr. Richard Stump, Vice President of Stanley Consultants in Honolulu. As one of the pioneers of the FIDIC YP Forum, he not only delivered an engaging presentation on (Young) Professional Wayfinding in a Global Sea of Change but also emphasized the importance of being involved in local and international YP communities. In this session, the participants learned how to think critically, to assign value to events and experiences, to build one’s skills, to take risks and to adapt to the “New Normal” in this fast-changing world.

Finally, Ms. Susan Park Rani, President of Rani Engineering in Minneapolis, spoke about her journey to success and challenges she faced as a minority woman in a predominantly male industry in America. During her presentation entitled Success is a Journey, Not a Destination, Susan told the participants that life’s journey, complete with challenges, setbacks and successes, are what will mold one’s career and provide valuable life experiences.

This new event brought together young professionals, university students as well as American military engineers in Korea to explore how they can successfully navigate their lives and careers in today’s infrastructure industry. By providing their insights and concrete advices, the speakers aimed to guide our future leaders to build a satisfying and dynamic career and integrate their work and life. They also provided strategies to develop strong professional network and to keep up with industry trends and outlook.