

**The Hong Kong Polytechnic University**  
**30<sup>th</sup> Congregation Ceremony 2024**  
**Faculty of Construction and Environment Session**  
**13 November 2024**  
**Ir Raymond POON, JP, Director, EMSD**

**Opening Statement:**

Esteemed faculty and department, proud families, honored guests, and most importantly, the accomplished graduates.

2. Good morning, I am truly humbled to be here celebrating this memorable achievement with all of you today. EMSD has long been committed to providing structured training to nurture talented graduates into professional engineers. We have witnessed the growth of numerous trainees and unlock their potential talents. As you get ready to embark on the next exciting chapter, congratulations on your graduation. I hope E-M-S-D will provide the wisdom for your journey ahead. Here, E-M-S-D represents not only my department, but also stands for “**Evolution**”, “**Mindset**”, “**Spirit**” and “**Dependence**”, serving as lifelong companions in your professional and personal growth.

**[Evolution] – Continuous Improvement**

3. Through years of rigorous study, we have **evolved** into professionals equipped with the knowledges and skills essential for functioning of our city. From electrical and mechanical systems to sustainability practices, from manual processing to digitalization, from human-centric thinking to artificial intelligence, our expertise is dedicated to driving the development of Hong Kong.
4. The buildings and cities we inhabit are not permanent, immutable structures – they require continual enhancement, optimization, and creative renewal. We must embrace the mentality of continuous improvements. Complacency is the enemy of excellence. Consistently reassess, update your skillsets, and let

curiosity be your driving force and keep evolving.

### **[Mindset] – Life’s Bigger Blueprint**

5. The true measure of our success extends far beyond any technical prowess; it indeed lies within our **mindset**. The real blueprint we must continuously work on is our character – our integrity, resilience, patience, empathy, and vision.
6. Just as a building requires a solid foundation, our journey should be anchored in values that are unshakeable despite life’s inevitable stresses and storms.

### **[Spirit] – Bigger Than Oneself**

7. Remember, true success is not just about personal achievements; it is also about the **spirit** we bring to others. Each of us holds immense potential.
8. The work we do is always more than individual accomplishment. Our contributions will shape the physical world that entire populations inhabit daily. Recognize this great responsibility, and let it instill a sense of higher purpose and ethical obligation in everything we do. Believe in our abilities and strive to reach new heights. May this spirit of purpose and responsibility guide us towards a future where our endeavors benefit all.

### **[Dependence] – Support from Others**

9. The most impressive architectural feats or mechanical marvels could not be achieved without robust support systems. In the same way, never underestimate the importance of dependence and trust on others. The collaboration between EMSD and universities to enhance the E&M industry serves as a shining illustration. The connections we make, the relationships we build – are the hearts of our journey. Our personal and professional growth will be accelerated by cultivating our own reinforcing support network – mentors who inspire, friends who energize, and loved ones who ground you. Never lose sight of these

pillars.

10. Together, we can achieve more than all of us ever dreamed possible.

**Conclusion:**

11. Once again, congratulations, class of 2024.
12. I do not doubt that the education and training at Poly U has prepared you to take on the most complex engineering challenges. As you leave the halls of this esteemed university, I wish you to carry “E-M-S-D” as your guiding principle. What’s more, perhaps joining our professional team as part of our EMSD’s family, let “E-M-S-D” also be your true lifelong companion in your future career. The EMSD Engineering Graduate Training Scheme’s application will be closed soon, on 21 November 2024. Let us continue to dream boldly together, evolve constantly, adopt a growth mindset that empower you to tackle challenges with confidence, maintain the spirit that fuels you, and most importantly, embrace the dependence as a strength that will enhance your journey.
13. At this beginning of your lifelong journey, may you pursue your dreams with courage, determination, and an unwavering belief in yourselves to leave a lasting legacy. The world is waiting for the remarkable contributions you will make. Cherish your youth and allow your dreams to propel you forward.
14. 祝願大家都可以將自己的夢想化成動力，以夢為馬，不負韶華。