

IFMA HK Chapter Annual Dinner
cum Asia Pacific Facility Management Awards Presentation Ceremony

Keynote Speech by Ir Alfred Sit JP, Director of Electrical & Mechanical Services

Good evening, Mr. Fung, Mr. Tier, Mr. Brooke, Dr. Cheung, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. It is my great honour to join this year International Facility Management Association (IFMA) Hong Kong Chapter Annual Dinner cum Asia Pacific Management Awards Presentation Ceremony.

By this chance, I would like to thank IFMA for the contribution on driving the quality of facility management in Hong Kong. I notice that every year IFMA organizes a series of program including educational events and facility management workshops and conferences. The events held by IFMA provide great opportunities for collaborating building and facility professionals to consolidate and broaden the knowledge on excellent facilities management. These events provide a great platform for us to exchange our brilliant ideas and inspire others with a wide range of trendy professional topics, including sustainability, innovation, technology, etc. EMSD is delighted to collaborate with IFMA for supporting their events. We greatly treasure collaboration with trade professionals. All along these years, my colleagues and I always share our experience or views on energy efficiency in buildings in various international and local events, certainly including IFMA.

Today is the second time that IFMA presents Asia Pacific Management Awards to recognize the outstanding performance of facility management from multi-disciplines. It is amazing that the nominees come from a wide range of projects. They make good use of advanced technology to contribute excellent facility management. The creative thinking and innovative practices come from the projects may pave a new trend in the facility management. It is important to give our appreciation to those building and facility professionals for their great efforts in managing the projects efficiently. I hope the winners and nominees could keep excellent works in the future and do not hesitate to share your vision and ideas with us.

Hong Kong is the city with the most skyscrapers in the world with around 8500 high-rise buildings. The effective management of a high rise building is not easy and it requires professional knowledge and practices.

Global Facility Management Association indicated that the global facility management (FM) market worth US\$1.12 trillion (8.7 trillion Hong Kong dollars) in 2015. In Hong Kong, it was estimated that there are 38,000 building professions working as facility management. The FM industry contributed about 1.5% to Hong Kong GDP. Compared between 9 major countries in Asia, the GDP per FM profession in Hong Kong is about one million Hong Kong Dollars and ranked one of the top in Asia.

Advanced technology and innovations are one of the tools helps us achieve a more efficient management of facilities. EMSD is actively supporting the development of innovative technology. Our headquarters can be used by start-up of the E&M trade and energy efficiency related industry as shared testing grounds to field-test novel technologies. We also identify other trial venue for the start-ups, so as to facilitate and expedite field tests of related projects. The effectiveness of the technologies could be verified by the real performance and published on the website “InnoPortal”. By the results, facility manager may have more options in choosing the new products and technology with good potential.

To in line with the Energy Saving Plan, Hong Kong government take the leads on energy in different sectors. More than 60% of commercial and private office buildings are aged over 25 years or more. Most of these buildings were built with less concern of energy saving measures in the past. Taking lead by the EMSD, the Technical Guidelines on Retro-commissioning was launched in 2017 to provide a clear framework to engage the building industry on enhancing building energy efficiency on existing building sectors. It is believed that this should subsequently create a lot of the joint-force opportunities to build a more energy efficient world. The pilot projects and technical guidelines are just a start. To pave the way to the energy efficient world, without your support, it cannot make this thing happen.

I am looking forward to continuously strengthening our connection and collaboration with IFMA and all major stakeholders of facilities management to foster a more sustainable built environment for our future generations. I also look forward to working with you all in facilitating more innovative technologies for facilities management in Hong Kong. Thank you very much for your attention.

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