

Bintulu Region Engineers' Week Report

By: Sdr. Chan Tuck Leong, Organising Chairman

The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia Bintulu Region of the Sarawak Branch organised its activities for Engineers' Week from 29 April to 3 May 2005. The Region deferred its activities from March due to localised holidays in Sarawak and unavailability of target groups. The activities this year was planned and organised by a Sub-Committee comprising fellow engineers in Bintulu. The programme was structured to publicise IEM, to promote applications for Professional Engineer status, and to promote our esteemed profession and continuous education.

A Professional Interview Workshop was conducted on 29 April 2005 in MLNG Sdn. Bhd.'s auditorium together with the Young Executive Club of that company. The workshop is a follow-up to introductory talks given in last year's Engineers' Week. The workshop was conducted by Ir. Lee Hung Sang and Ir. Yeo Joon Chiew who are both regular PI assessors. They answered queries from the audience after giving a talk focusing on PI application and procedures. The audience of about 50 engineers came from the Tanjung

Kidurong Industrial Area. The workshop inspired a number of engineers to promptly apply for registration with BEM as well as IEM.

In conjunction with the PI workshop, there was an exhibition by Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS for postgraduate studies in fields of engineering. This exhibition was held to provide an avenue for practicing engineers to find out about opportunities to continue their education. This is in line with IEM's objective to promote continuous professional development amongst engineers.

On the efforts to promote the engineering profession, a career talk was organised on 30 April at Kelab Kidurong Bintulu. More than 140 science stream students accompanied by their teachers from secondary schools around Bintulu attended this talk. Students were very enthusiastic and many arrived 1 hour before the scheduled start time. The talk was officiated by Ir. Yeo Joon Chiew. A presentation was made by the author on general traits, qualifications and the employment trend of engineers in Malaysia. The students were further given details on specific branches of engineering by engineers in that area. Ir. Ting

Ding Sie talked on Civil Engineering while Sdr. Hairul Amri spoke about Mechanical Engineering. Sdr. Robert King talked about Electrical Engineering while the author gave a talk about Chemical Engineering. The panel answered a number of questions from the floor and the event ended with Ir. Lee Hung Sang handling out sets of career guidance books to the teachers. Curtin University Malaysia and Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS also participated in the talk by providing information regarding entry requirements to their respective campuses for engineering studies.

On 2 May, a gathering of golfers took place for the IEM Friendly Golf Game organised by Ir. Pau Kiew Huai, Sdr. Robert King and Ir. Lee Hung Sang. There were 80 engineers on the 18-hole course that morning. The very challenging game (due to humid weather and a tough course) ended some 4 hours later and the prizes were handed out by IEM Bintulu Region Chairman, Ir. Nasser Abd Wahab.

On the sideline of these major activities, committee members also called on local government officials and industrial captains to seek their support for IEM activities. ■