ADVERTORIAL

PENETRON® WATERPROOFING FIRMLY ESTABLISHED ACROSS THE REGION

ICS Penetron International Ltd. began in the late 1970's by founder and President Robert J Revera. It is successfully marketed in over 60 countries worldwide, through an international network of applicators and distributors. The PENETRON® System has been proven effective and is applied and specified on countless major projects worldwide.

After application, PENETRON® chemicals penetrate into the capillary tracts of the concrete by pressure of osmosis, Brownian movement and dry particle reactions, the active ingredients of PENETRON® react with various concrete minerals forming insoluble crystals which fill out cracks, pores and voids up to a width of at least 400 microns. This crystalline growth will eventually take place deep inside the concrete structure and has been found as deep as nearly 1 meter from the point of application.

Water molecules (and a wide range of chemicals) are then no longer able to pass through the concrete. However, air can still pass through allowing the concrete to breathe and avoiding vapour pressure to build. In the absence of further moisture, PENETRON® components lie dormant. Should moisture recur at any time, the sealing process resumes automatically and advances ever deeper into the concrete.

PENETRON® is often the system of choice for below ground and below water concrete such as basements, tunnels, potable water tanks, base slabs, elevator shafts, sewage treatment facilities and can be applied to existing concrete as a slurry, dry-shake or as an admixture in new concrete and allows specifiers and contractors alike to incorporate superior waterproofing and chemical resistance protection in accordance with the demands and constraints of a wide variety of project types and schedules.

PENETRON® ADMIX especially has proven to offer irresistible advantages to projects in the Asia Pacific region. The whole substructure of Terminal 3 at Changi International Airport in Singapore has recently been completed, with PENETRON® ADMIX living up to its reputation on this demanding project.

Further invaluable advantages the PENETRON® system offers are its ability to be applied from the positive or negative side, its ability to protect concrete against chemical attack, its ease of application, the fact that it can be applied to moist concrete, its non-toxicity (making it suitable for potable water tanks), and its ability to withstand high hydrostatic head pressure (tested up to 16 Bar).

The PENETRON® system is represented by qualified and experienced distributors and applicators across the Asia Pacific region and is now specified and used on demanding construction projects in China, including the first Olympic stadium for the 2008 Olympics in QinHuangDao, Singapore, Vietnam, Malaysia, India, Taiwan, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Korea, etc.

Please refer to back cover and visit www.penetron.com for further information. ■

Penetron used to waterproof KCRC West Rail, Hong Kong, contract DB320

FEATURE

ASEAN AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERING CONGRESS 2004

The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM), in collaboration with the Institution of Engineers Australia (EA), is hosting the ASEAN Australian Engineering Congress 2004 (AAEC 2004).

A distinguished line-up of keynote/plenary speakers includes the following:

- HE James Wise, Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia
- Hon. Datuk Shane Stone, President of Australian Liberal Party
- Y. Bhg. Dato' Mustapa bin Mohamed, Executive Director of NEAC
- Y. Bhg. Datuk Nasir Tun Razak, Chief Executive Officer, Commerce International Merchant Bank Bhd
- Y. Bhg. Tan Sri Dato' Ir. Zaini bin Omar, President – Board of Engineers Malaysia, Director-General - Jabatan Kerja Raya, Malaysia
- Mr. Doug Jones, Pesident – Engineers Australia
- Ir. Professor Wan Abu Bakar bin Wan Abas, Department of Biomedical Engineering, University of Malaya
- Professor Michael Dureau, Executive Director –The Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering; Chairman – Registered Engineers for Disaster Relief Australia (RedR)

The congress, which is themed, "Engineering Issues in Developing Nations", is aimed at providing a platform for a holistic approach and a multi-disciplinary discussion on engineering issues in the developing countries.

According to Ir. Adrian Yong, who is the organising chairman of the congress, the main theme comprises of several sub-themes. The sub-themes include:

Engineering A More Secure Region, which addresses issues such as terrorism and how engineering could assist in enhancing security for the public.

Engineering A Healthier Region addresses issues relating to the recent SARS scare and other viral/bacteria outbreaks, engineering projects in medical science, which enhances lifestyles, and other ways in which engineering can contribute to a healthy living.

Engineering Economic Development covers financial, social, environmental, education, risk management, technical, and disaster recovery issues affecting engineering and investment decisions.

Ir. Yong explained that in the formative years of an engineer's career, the engineer concentrates on developing his/her technical skills. In later years, the engineer may choose to move towards positions of business management and leadership.

Highly specialised technical skills are found at the forefront of engineering development such as energy efficiency, alternative fuels, new materials, construction and test methods, and so on. The development of highly specialised skills is essential as we move into a more efficient world.

On the other hand, engineers do not work in isolation and their work is for the benefit of the wider community. At this boundary, the engineering professional works interactively, with members from other professions such as banking and finance, law, health, and so on. It is not uncommon to find engineers who choose their career path and work in these allied disciplines, which have an influence on engineering practice. Examples are engineers in legal practice, politics, finance, and others.

When asked "Why ASEAN?", Yong said, "The ASEAN network of 10 South East Asian economies is increasing its interaction with Asian economic powerhouses, such as Japan, China, Korea and India, giving it a combined population of more than 3 billion and a total GDP of US$12.8 trillion (based on 2002 figures given in The World Fact book, an official US government website)."

"Clearly, the investment potential for infrastructure of virtually every kind in the fast developing ASEAN region and the mega-markets of Japan, China, India and Korea represent enormous engineering opportunities and challenges," he added.

Highly specialised skills are frequently covered in the numerous conferences organised by IEM and EA in their respective countries and in international conferences as well.

AAEC 2004 is different from these technical conferences because it seeks to address the impact of engineering on the wider community, which in turn, influences the practice of engineering. This is achieved by developing a strong network amongst likeminded congress delegates providing an opportunity to unlock business opportunities within the ASEAN region as well as in the mega-markets of Japan, China, India and Korea.

This strong network would enhance/develop people-to-people relationships to a level, which breaks down the barriers to the flow of economic health and wealth between these developing nations and Australia.

In a recent press conference, Professor Andrew Downing, National Deputy President of Engineers Australia, said that Engineers Australia represents 72,000 engineers, 10% of whom work outside Australia, including just over 600 who practice in Malaysia.

In the area of security, Downing said, "Engineers Australia developed policies and position papers on matters of major public concern and in particular, it had a major role to play in ensuring national and regional security and was raising awareness among its members of their need to contribute to all phases of security-prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. These issues would be addressed in the congress."

The congress is targeting senior government officials, private sector engineers, paraprofessionals and entrepreneurs from ASEAN and Australia to focus on opportunities and challenges.

The congress will be held at the Sutera Harbour Resort and Convention Centre, in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah from the 26 to the 28 May 2004 and has targeted some 500 delegates. This is preceded by a meeting of the Board of the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (AFEO) and the ASEAN Engineers Register (AER) at the congress venue on 24 and 25 May 2004.

AAEC 2004 is proudly associated with the following organisations:

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