

VISIT AND TALK BY THE PRESIDENT OF ASHRAE

Reported by: Ir. Yeo Boon Kah, Chairman, Building Services Technical Division

The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE) is considered the world's foremost technical society in the fields of heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVAC&R). It is an individual membership society and an international organisation operated for the exclusive purpose of advancing the arts and sciences of HVAC&R. It has more than 50,000 individual members worldwide who share ideas, identify needs, support research, and write the industry's standards for testing and practice. The result is that engineers are better able to keep indoor environments safe and productive while protecting and preserving the outdoors for generations to come.

The President of ASHRAE is an extremely distinguished position and IEM had the pleasure to host the 2003-2004 President of ASHRAE Mr. Richard H. Rooley on 14 November 2003. The event was jointly organised by the Building Services Technical Division, IEM and the Malaysian Chapter of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (MASHRAE).

Mr. Richard H. Rooley was educated at Morrisons Academy, Scotland and Trinity College, Dublin. He trained initially in civil, mechanical and manufacturing industries and then joined the consulting practice Donald Smith Seymour and Rooley where he was a partner from 1970 to 1991. As Principal of Project Management Partnership and Rooley Consultants

since 1991, he has been associated with the design and supervision of a large number of major building engineering services projects. He has extensive experience in the cross discipline integration of design, construction and operations, and maintenance. He acts as an arbitrator and as an expert witness in construction disputes. He is a consultant to AET, the provider of flexible space solutions in buildings. He was Chairman of BSRIA (1985-87) and also a Member of Council and Honorary Secretary for Civil Engineering (1993-95) in the Royal Academy of Engineering. He became President of ASHRAE in June 2003 and has the distinction of being the first President of ASHRAE from outside North America.

The visit commenced with a dialogue and discussion between IEM President Ir. Prof. Abang Abdullah bin Abang Ali and ASHRAE President Mr. Richard H. Rooley. Several IEM council members including Deputy President Ir. Prof. Dr. Ow Chee Sheng and Vice-Presidents Ir. P. E. Chong and Ir. Chee Meng Sang were also present. MASHRAE was represented by several of its Board of Governors.

The two Presidents formally exchanged greetings and provided their opening remarks on the role of each organisation. The dialogue proceeded to discuss the areas of cooperation between ASHRAE/MASHRAE with IEM, ongoing matters of mutual interest and upcoming joint events and activities. The two Presidents then exchanged mementos

and adjourned for tea and refreshments. The meeting was held in a very cordial, light and relaxed atmosphere, further cementing the relationship between IEM and ASHRAE/MASHRAE.

Following the dialogue and discussion, Mr. Richard H. Rooley proceeded to present his talk on "Building Services and Refrigeration: Vital to Buildings in International Communities." Unfortunately, IEM President Ir. Prof. Abang Abdullah bin Abang Ali had to leave due to another engagement and he was represented by Vice-President Ir. P. E. Chong at the talk. About 40 participants attended the talk, which focused on the development of building services and refrigeration in relation to the building industry worldwide. It was a very stimulating and enjoyable talk as Mr. Rooley drew on his many years of experience. He delivered many anecdotes including one where his daughter (who is a practicing mechanical engineer) sat next to an engineer in his nineties at an official function and both could relate to each other's engineering achievements despite the vast difference in age. There was also a Q&A session, and at the conclusion of the talk IEM Vice-President Ir. P. E. Chong presented a token of appreciation to Mr. Richard H. Rooley. ■

Mr. Rooley's talk will be presented in the next issue.

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The missing issues are:
1993 - Vol. 52
1995 - Vol. 25 (No. 1)