



Digital Tools for Project Managers: Prospects and Challenges

by Ir. Tiong Choong Han

Ir. Tiong Choong Han is currently a committee member in the Urban Engineering Development Special Interest Group (UEDSIG).

Ar. Eric Gan, founder of REDceo.net, presented a talk entitled “Digital Tools for Project Managers: Prospects and Challenges” on 19 May 2018, at the invitation of the Urban Engineering Development Special Interest Group (UEDSIG). The event was well attended by some 48 IEM members who were eager to learn how digital tools could be applied successfully in the planning, monitoring, control and delivery of Real Estate Development (RED) projects.

REDceo.net is a cloud-based knowledge and project management solution developed specially for the building and construction industry. Ar. Eric Gan specializes in utilizing the cloud platform to implement real-time project management interventions having undertaken numerous multimillion-dollar property development projects in Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam and Africa. He is a trainer and consultant for the real estate industry and provides project management consultancy services and training in the areas of project management, property management, construction management, quality management and knowledge management.

Prior to the start of the talk, the session chairman, Ir. Tiong, welcomed all participants and briefly introduced the speaker to the audience.

The talk began with Ar. Eric Gan elaborating on his technical qualifications and experience and on how he began his “digital journey”. He gave detailed descriptions of *REDvision*, *REDceo*, *REDSop* and *REDmonitor*. He explained that *REDvision* is used to develop a knowledge-centric vision for adoption by the real estate developer and investor, while *REDSop* is to facilitate the preparation of the developer’s or contractor’s own Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on a Do-It-Yourself (DIY) basis. *REDmonitor* on the other hand has been developed to enable any real estate developer, contractor or financier to monitor, collaborate and track projects anytime, anywhere.

Ar. Eric Gan then elaborated on *Digitalization: Digital Economy & Digital Business* and its effects and impacts. He pointed out that digitalization affects and disrupts all industries including Construction and Real Estate Development. Digitalization is the integration of digital technologies into everyday life and business. Through digitalization, manual processes are transformed to digital processes wherever feasible, to improve productivity and to deliver results on demand in real time.

In addition to the impacts and effects of digitalization, Ar. Eric Gan also emphasized on the challenges that Construction or RED project managers will encounter if the related Construction or RED industry work is carried out on site in an uncontrolled environment. He further elaborated on how to apply digital tools to the RED process by referring to a few case studies.

Before concluding his talk, Ar. Eric Gan highlighted that through the adoption of digital tools for project managers, work performance could be enhanced in terms of improvement in productivity and efficiency.

The audience was then engaged in a lively Q&A session with the Speaker. The response of the IEM members during Q&A session was extremely encouraging. As a mark of appreciation, Ir. Dr, Wang presented a souvenir and a certificate to Ar. Eric Gan at the close of the session.



IEM members at the 19 May 2018 talk on 'Digital Tools for Project Managers: Prospects and Challenges', organised by UEDSIG