



Chat EEE! Online Evening Sharing Chat with Practicing Engineers in Industry

By

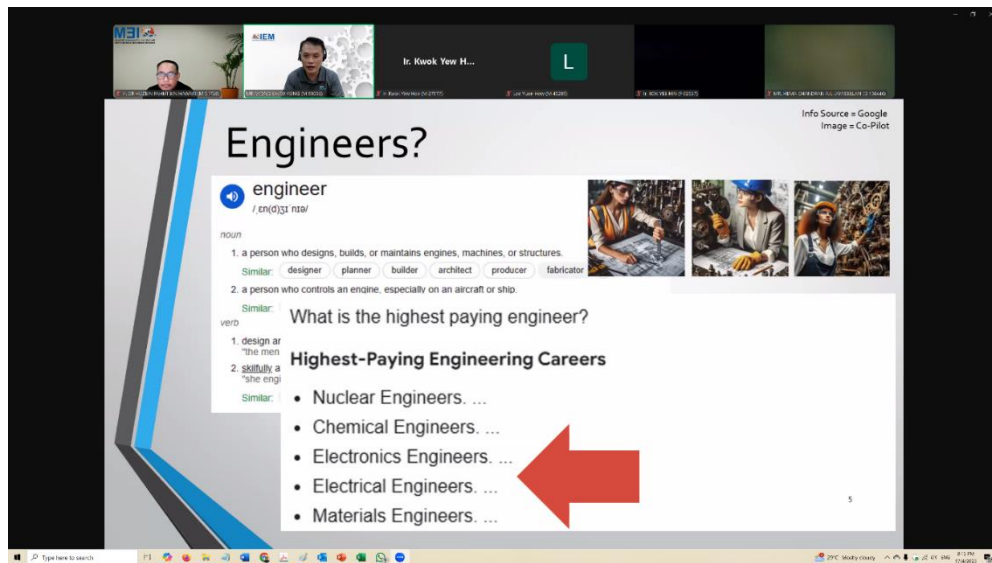
Ir. Dr. Huzein Fahmi Hawari

He is the eETD chairman for 2024/2025.

On Thursday, 17 April 2025, the Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM) successfully hosted an online session titled “Chat EEE! Online Evening Sharing Chat with Practicing Engineers in Industry”, jointly organised by the Electrical Engineering Technical Division (EETD) and the Electronics Engineering Technical Division (eETD). Conducted via Zoom from 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM, the event aimed to provide electrical and electronics engineering students and junior engineer with industry insights from experienced professionals. The session featured two key speakers: Ir. Dr. Wong Shaw Fong, Engineering Director at Intel Technology Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. and Ir. Lee Yuen How, Managing Director of EV Connection Sdn. Bhd.

Session 1: Engineering Journey of Ir. Wong Shaw Fong (8pm-8.45pm)

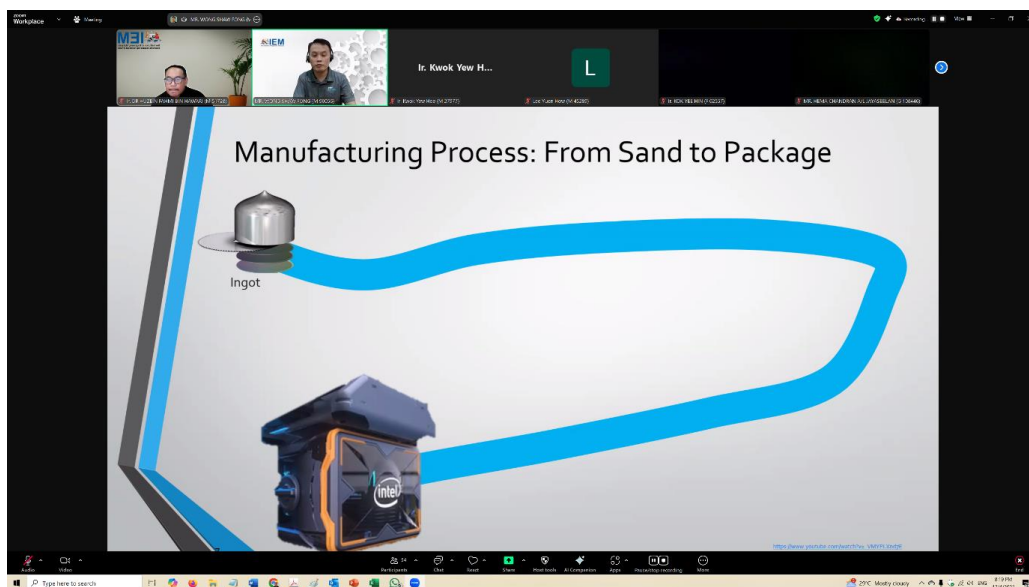
The first session was led by Ir. Dr. Wong Shaw Fong, who shared his engineering journey and career insights. He began by introducing his professional background, highlighting his diverse experiences in semiconductor manufacturing, electronic packaging, and advanced engineering solutions. He emphasised the importance of continuous learning and exploration, illustrating how curiosity and adaptability have shaped his career.



Defining engineers and the top paid engineering careers

Ir. Dr. Wong detailed his early education, including his undergraduate studies in Mechanical and Materials Engineering at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), where he conducted research on biodegradable polymer blends. This academic foundation helped him develop a deep understanding of materials science, manufacturing processes, and mechanical properties, which later proved invaluable in the semiconductor industry.

Moving forward, he described his journey through various engineering roles, working with leading companies in semiconductor and packaging technologies, including Intel, Seagate, and Soletron. He provided insights into semiconductor packaging, explaining its critical role in ensuring the mechanical protection, thermal management, and electrical performance optimisation of electronic components. He then illustrated how modern advanced packaging technologies enable product differentiation and enhance system integration.




Introduction to semiconductor packaging

Throughout his talk, Ir. Dr. Wong also emphasised key career development strategies for young engineers. He advised students to adopt a growth mind set, continuously seeking opportunities for technical skill enhancement and interdisciplinary learning. He encouraged them to pursue volunteering and professional leadership roles, which not only broaden technical expertise but also build strong industry networks.

Session 2: Industry Perspectives from Ir. Lee Yuen How (8.45pm -9.30pm)



The second session featured Ir. Lee Yuen How, who provided a broader industry outlook, focusing on electrification, automation, and sustainable energy solutions. He highlighted the shift from traditional oil and gas industries to emerging fields such as electric vehicles (EVs), battery energy storage systems (BESS), semiconductor advancements, and smart grid automation.

Engineers are Late Game Heroes 

- You're entering a future that needs you more than ever

20th Century – Oil and Gas (O&G)

21st Century – Electrification (Renewable Energy, EV, Semiconductor Chips/IC, Battery (BESS), AI, Automation, Grid of the Future)

20 th Century O&G	21 st Century Electrification
	


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Industry shift from 20th century to 21st century

Ir. Lee discussed the critical role of foundational engineering principles, urging students to solidify their understanding of electrical wiring, Ohm's Law, power equations, and industry regulations. He emphasised that modern engineers must balance technical expertise with strategic thinking, ensuring they understand both the 'why' and 'how' behind engineering solutions. Addressing career development, Ir. Lee advised students to focus on skill acquisition over job titles, prioritising continuous learning and professional networking. He stressed the importance of collaboration and adaptability, explaining that engineers must be proactive rather than reactive when navigating industry shifts and technological advancements.

In his concluding remarks, Ir. Lee emphasised personal integrity and resilience, encouraging students to embrace challenges with confidence and perseverance. He reminded

them that failures are stepping stones to success, and that investing in self-improvement—whether through certifications, training, or mentorship—will lead to long-term career growth.

Focus Area 3 – Curiosity and Growth 

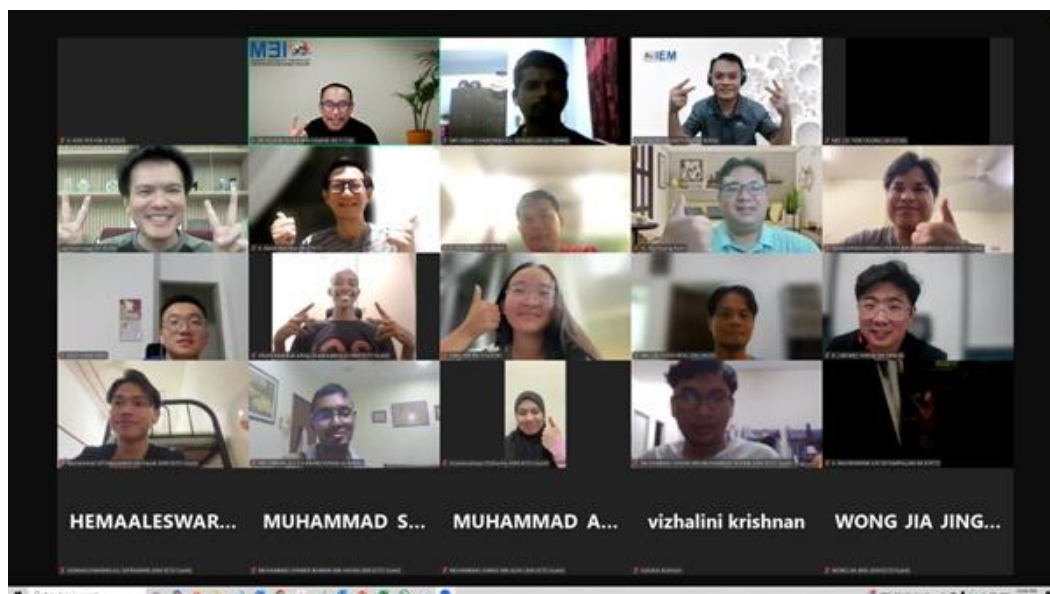
- Keep Learning: EVs, renewables, AI and Smart Grid, BESS
- Don't wait to be told – ask, read, explore (research before asking seniors and boss)
- Be proactive and not reactive
- Myself (ISPQ, SEDA QP, REEM, Green Building consultant, Volunteer in EV charging standard writing)

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Reactive vs. Proactive Time

The diagram illustrates two work styles. On the left, the **REACTIVE** cycle includes: Answer emails, Inbound issues, One-on-ones, Ops meetings, and Reviewing work. On the right, the **PROACTIVE** cycle includes: Important tasks, Thinking time, Reading up, Self-care, and Prioritising.

Engineer needs to be proactive



Group photo of the speakers and some of the participants

In conclusion, the session provided students with valuable insights into the realities of engineering careers, bridging the gap between academic learning and industry expectations. Both speakers emphasised the necessity of strong technical fundamentals, continuous skill development, and ethical professionalism. Their experiences and advice encouraged students to approach their engineering journeys with curiosity, resilience, and a commitment to lifelong learning.