

architecture  
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# VERITAS

design-group

July 2016 newsletter

## Aloha Everyone!

In this month's e-news, we are delighted to present one of VERITAS' latest completed projects, the **W Hotel and Residences, Kuala Lumpur**. We are also pleased to feature many exciting events at VERITAS such as our **Kali Raya family party** (Kewang Raya), **Staff Retreat to Krabi** in Thailand and many other interesting activities.

We hope you will enjoy this month's VERITAS e-news! And please don't hesitate to **contact us** if you would like to know more about any of the stories featured here.

### W Note!

Overall view of the W Tower showing the great detail of the rear of the hotel portion to screen off the built-up of Jalan Ampang's traffic.

The W HOTEL, and residences in Kuala Lumpur makes **positive commentary** about the street wall of Jalan Ampang. The building is recessed from the street to create a public plaza and a more generous drop-off area in front of the hotel. Due to the depth of the site, instead of conventionally angling the building such that all public spaces face the front a deliberate decision was made to stack the programs atop one another.

The tower that there will always be a buffer zone or separation between the intersection of the program and that both hotel and drop-off area for the residential occupants (serviced apartments) are separated.

The relationship between the different parts of the building is expressed via the **different facade treatments** for the car park, facade treatments are also determined according to the needs of that particular program.

At street level, the 'W' signpost becomes a model for the facade's screen grating the KLCC night skyline.

Subtle change on the building facade as the program converts from hotel to residences.

The hotel's facade has more glass per surface area than the residential apartments. Nonetheless, the drop-off area is placed between the hotel and residential apartment. Therefore the facade expresses the sequence of programs as one moves through the building. A **pool deck** on the 19th floor is orientated towards the rear of the building, away from the traffic noise of Jalan Ampang. The project was designed in collaboration with SOM, USA.

Facade lighting emphasizes the 'W' logo and the top of the building.

### WHAT'S HAPPENING @VERITAS?

#### VERITAS Kewang Raya

On 7th July 2016, the VERITAS Sports and Social Club (VSSC) organized the Kewang Raya Party at the Orchard Villa in Gombak. The typical 'kampong' environment brought back the nostalgic 'Kewang Raya' mood to all VERITASians and their family members. Authentic Malay cuisine was served and guests were entertained by VERITAS' own band 1&1 and AK1&1 kompong troupe. It was certainly a memorable night for everyone.



### WHERE ARE WE FEATURED

#### The Fallen Idols

On 30th June 2016, an article by VERITAS Architect's Dr. Miguel Angel Robles Cardona was featured in the property section of the newspaper. The article highlighted the competition to build higher and higher skyscrapers in big cities and that KLCC (Kuala Lumpur City Centre) was experiencing a similar phenomenon. We commented that the ever-growing cluster of skyscrapers in the KLCC area will eventually restrict the view of the iconic Petronas Twin Towers.



#### A different perspective on architecture

On 21st July 2016, VERITAS Group President, David Naimin was featured on the Edge Newspaper in the City and Country section. The article covered David's talk at Taylor's University, Lakeside Campus for the Architecture Conference Kuala Lumpur (ACC2016). The conference was organized by the Association of Consulting Architect Malaysia (ACAM) and the presentation was about the experiences and adventures of VERITAS in exporting professional design services globally.

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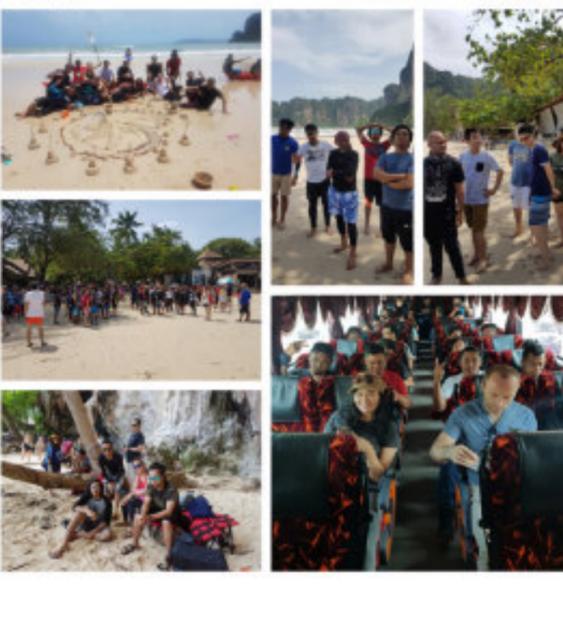
#### VSSC Orphanage Visit

During the holy month of Ramadhan, the VERITAS Sports and Social Club (VSSC) collected donations from all VERITASians for the orphanages of **Bumah Bukit Al-Fayyad** and **Pasek Jajanan Anak-Anak Yatim Al-Rahmat Hidayah**. The collected funds were used to buy food and groceries for the children. Members of the VSSC also spent a Sunday afternoon entertaining the children with songs and games.



#### Staff Retreat to Krabi

From 19th to 21st July 2016, VERITAS held its annual staff retreat to Krabi, Thailand for a relaxing weekend. The tropical sun, the beach and the spicy Tom Yam was just what VERITASians needed. The 3-day retreat was filled with fun activities such as team building, kayaking, gala dinner, exploring Krabi town, shopping and an amazing time on the beach. VERITASians had their own free time as well to explore the town's night life, to enjoy Thai massage and try the street food. It was a great getaway for all the "sun-kissed" VERITASians.



### DESIGNING FOR OTHERS

Architecture Malaysia: PKNS Headquarters  
On July 2016, VERITAS' award-winning project PKNS (Perbadanan Kemajuan Negeri Selangor) Headquarters building was featured in the Architecture Malaysia magazine. The story highlighted the design of the building as a **green building** and **energy-efficient solution** that features dynamic spaces that blend seamlessly with the natural setting of the lake-front environment.

SME Magazine: Designing for Others  
VERITAS Associate AIR Ail was featured in the July issue of SME magazine. The story was entitled "Designing for Others" and was a series of questions and answers on the insights of working with VERITAS Design Group. AIR is an incredibly talented Architect and has been with VERITAS for the past 5 years.

Leadership Retreat 2016  
On 21st July 2016, the Principals of VERITAS and the Group EXCO held its first Leadership Retreat for 2016 of the Grand Ion DeLeman Hotel, Genting. The purpose of the retreat was to prepare a rigorous leadership strategy and plan for second half of 2016. The International Principals from our Jordan and UK O&M offices were present and all attendees made inspiring presentations of their respective performance and future plans. The formal interactions were balanced with fun-filled activities and good food, including an evening with wine and cigars.

MOU Signing VERITAS - Taylor's  
On the 12th July 2016, the successful strategic alliance between VERITAS and Taylor's University was renewed for another 5 years by the signing of an extension to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The event was held at the Coda Gallery at Taylor's on the final of Design Competition of Semester 2 student. Congratulations to the winners! VERITAS looks forward to more amazing opportunities to collaborate with Taylor's University.



### SO, WHO IS THE STAFF OF THE MONTH?

Our staff of the month for May 2016 is VERITASian **Nurul Syazwani binti Wanjari** or commonly known as 'Nani' among her colleagues and friends. Nani is currently holding the position of a **Design Manager** and has been with VERITAS for the past 6 years and half years. Nani (NW) shares her personal story with Veritasian Gamanan (VG).

**(VG): What is your hobby/passion?**  
(NW): Reading is my passion. I love to read as much as I can. The way people tell stories and inspire others through words never fails to amaze me.

**(VG): What made you choose drafting as a career?**  
(NW): I like to construct things. To be able to draft and construct on the computer with programs such as CAD and REVIT excites me. Being a draftsman already allows me to do so. It's a career that has allowed me to do what I have always wanted.

**(VG): How would you describe working in VERITAS in a movie like? And why?**  
(NW): Working at VERITAS reminds me of a Korean-drama show called 'Yumi 1988'. The whole series focuses on family bonding, friendship, love and probably that's why I relate this to VERITAS. Everyone is like a family here. Everyone provides a helping hand when you need it. There's even a quote in the drama to describe the environment in VERITAS: "what helps you to overcome obstacles isn't brains but someone who will take your hand and will not let you go". I am proud to be VERITASian!

**(VG): What are the things you don't like in VERITAS?**  
(NW): VERITAS isn't like home. There's nothing I don't like about VERITAS!

**(VG): Where do you see yourself in another 5 years?**  
(NW): I'll be a successful employee that will bring many great benefits to the company. I will have learned more new things in the field of architecture and design. Continued growth is what I aim for now.

**(VG): What will be the best memory you have in VERITAS?**  
(NW): Being together with everyone in every event organized by the office and working in a team with fellow VERITASians are the best memories for me. We solve problems together and manage to help each other to complete the tasks given.



### SO, WHO ARE THE NEWCOMERS @ VERITAS?

**Teng Zhe Feng**  
Assistant Architect  
VERITAS ARCHITECTS SDN BHD

**Nicole Ann Choong**  
Assistant Architect  
VERITAS ARCHITECTS SDN BHD



### WHO'S CELEBRATING THEIR BIRTHDAY - July

- 1st: Karyl Singam
- 8th: Tin Mei Mei
- 6th: Phang Mun Kien, Shi Syazwan Izarah Ismail
- 8th: Pallyan Bt Hasmun, Suzan Bin Rahmat
- 9th: Iqqa Azra Azwan & Raja Husin
- 11th: Mohd Anwar & Fhariz Din
- 12th: Aidi Bin Mohamad
- 13th: Ng Yee Beng
- 14th: Yee Mun Yee
- 15th: Adzhan Amir Abdullah
- 16th: Zamrud Hasm Bin Zamrud Abidin
- 17th: Muhammed Shivan Mohd Alpin
- 18th: Marun Bin Ahmad, Suhaimi Bin Sa'ul
- 19th: Rosli Bin Samry
- 20th: Chiam See Choo
- 23rd: Hafizul Javan & Zahudin, Ahmad Syahir & Ahmad Annuadhin, Muhamad Ridwan Bin Omar
- 28th: Nazamman Bin Abd Rahman
- 29th: Shahrul Amyy Bin Shuib
- 30th: Mohamad Hafiz Bin Mohd Shah
- 31st: Wanid Sahar & Ibrahim



The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today.  
H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

### ARCHITECTURE KNOW THE SYMPTOMS



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