



CIBSE UAE Newsletter No.3 April 2015

The Future We Want

“Changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development.”

RIO + 20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

This is a direct quote from the UN report on the 2012 Conference in Rio de Janeiro. Much needs to be done if this vision is to be achieved. Building Services engineers are at the forefront of attempting to realize this goal in cities, almost despite the odds. Greedy landlords, avaricious developers, underfunded government regulators, ignorant end users amongst others make for the tempestuous sea through which CIBSE members have to navigate their small craft.

It may seem a bit too literal but everyday more examples of poorly designed and executed building services rear their ugly heads in the Middle East. In this environment it has become an urban commandment that the buildings must have air-conditioning no matter what. But at what cost, is there an alternative? Certainly it is hard to live without it in summer but can we? Building service engineers must find the solution because who else will?

Your UAE Group Committee has been hard at work and this month's newsletter includes a report on the successful BIM event, an update on the Annual Dinner as well as what is going on in the world of the Young Engineer.

Annual Dinner

Last year's was a success and this year's should prove to be even better. The venue is once again **the Fairmont on Palm Jumeirah** and the date is **21st May**. Headlining the speakers will be the current President Peter Kinsella who is based in Australia, along with Saeed Alabbar the Chairman of the Emirates Green Building Council. Bookings are already available and group tables will be an excellent opportunity to share the night with fellow members. For more details contact Carilyn Clements CClements@cibse.org however a separate notice will be coming out in the very near future.

Legal Entity

Our permanent base is nearly there. CIBSE HQ is now carrying out their due diligence having already agreed in principle. We will be licensed as an association and it will allow us to manage our own affairs as the UAE CIBSE Group. And, although our partners have been absolute angels with their generosity, it will mean that we can finance our local activities and events through sponsorship whilst still retaining an essential degree of independence. As we said earlier, anyone here who has tried to do this knows how much patience is needed.

Events

In contrast with our first year when it was a bit of a struggle to organize events, we are beginning to see a good harvest in the coming months. Already there have been two excellent events with a number of top flight others to follow. Our plan is to have at least another two or three before the end of this year. One being on Solar Hot Water and Value Engineering in conjunction with Ecoval, the other being a joint session with Emirates Green Building Council. Your continued support is essential for the success of these events.

CIBSE Guides

CIBSE UAE Chapter is extending an invitation to UAE consultants to join for periodical discussions on CIBSE Guides. The first discussion will address CIBSE Guide A which has been recently updated earlier this month. Beforehand each consultant's representative will be assigned a chapter to discuss in a round table environment. Interested consultants who wish to participate should send an email to hassan@griffin-consultants.com.

Building Information Modeling

Building Information Modeling (BIM) is described as a digital representation of physical and functional characteristics of a facility. It has now become more than that with applications ranging from property development to managing prisons. Raef Hammoudeh from KEO International Consultants Abu Dhabi and a committee member of the CIBSE UAE Group was the moderator at the April event held in the Radisson Blu Hotel on Yas Island and it proved to be a good, almost central, location.

Our Building Information Modeling within the Middle East April Event was highly successful night with excellent speakers, high attendance and thought provoking views of where BIM will be in the near and medium term. The speakers were of high quality and included Elizabeth Peters from AECOM, Allen Holland from KEO, Gerry McFadden from WSP and from our sponsors for the evening Renad Jabaji of Autodesk.

FM Expo Innovation Zone CIBSE to be present

In May the Expo will take place in the World Trade Centre, EXPO is the only dedicated facility management exhibition in the Middle East, a critical event for facility managers, building operators, property owners and free zones managers. One of our UAE Group committee members Azmi S. Aboul-Hoda, Managing Director of EMergy LLC will be presenting a paper on Energy Optimization in Existing Buildings – a topic near and dear to our hearts and a seriously neglected aspect of sustainability in this region. More details on the conference can be had on <http://www.fm-expo.com> and it appears that most of the sessions will be free.

CIBSE YEN UAE Launch Event 20 March 2015

Elie El Choufani, the YEN Member for the UAE Group committee, along with 25 other young CIBSE engineers met in Zaabeel Park in Dubai for YEN's first official event in the UAE marking the start of the network and the formation of its committee.



The event was very positive; all were encouraged by the launch of the YEN and engaged in a lively conversation on how YEN can support their professional development. There was a number of questions on the route to chartership. Chartered engineers among the group were happy to share their experience, give advice and encourage everyone to register on the CIBSE website and become members according to their appropriate grade.

It was a valuable opportunity for the young engineers to meet and discuss personal and professional development. It included an introductory presentation to CIBSE YEN, followed by a series of riddle-solving games, where the winning group received a complementary lunch from the park's food market.

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