Chairman’s Message

It is my great honour to serve as your Branch Chairman for a second term. On behalf of the following key officers of the Branch Committee for session 2007/08, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of you.

Immediate Past Chairman
Prof Ronald So
Vice Chairman
Mr W K Chow
Hon Secretary
Mr Louis K S Sezto
Hon Treasurer
Dr Arthur Wong
Activity Convenor
Mr Simon Mak
Activity Convenor
Mr Y Y Kwok
Information& Communication Officer
Mr Colman Ng

The Branch Committee fully understands that high value-added learned society activities can facilitate engineering practitioners and related professionals to exchange views, share experiences, do net-working and foster closer co-operation. With the resourcefulness and uniring efforts of our Young Member Section, the Branch has in the year of 2007 organized or jointly organized with liked minded local professional institutions a series of value-added technical talks, seminars and visits.

In addition to the above, the Branch successfully hosted in March 2007 a series of important events, viz. the 5th Australasian Regional Meeting with the participation of President Alec Osborn and Branch Chairmen of Australia, Malaysia and Singapore, the 1st Speak Out for Engineering Presentation Competition in Southeast Asia & Oceania, and the 16th George Stephenson Lecture “Tales of an Engine Designer” delivered by President Osborn.

Another important event was the landmark 3-day International Conference on Climate Change held in May 2007. Our Past Chairman Mr Otto Poon was the Chairman of the Organizing Committee whereas our Branch was one of the co-organizers of the Conference. President John Baxter participated in the opening and closing forum of the Conference, and thereafter took the opportunity to meet members and delivered an inspiring lecture on “Energy for Life”.

Taking this opportunity, I wish to say and trust you all agree that that we are greatly in debt to our Past Chairman, the late Prof T P Leung, for his wisdom, knowledge, leadership and commitment without which our Branch would not be able to function so effectively and efficiently. We have lost a very dear, dedicated and visionary mentor and a beloved friend. He will surely be always remembered and his presence will always be with us.

Finally, with the valuable advice from our Past Chairmen Edmund Leung, Otto Poon and Ronald So, and in particular your continued support and active participation in Branch activities, I am confident that we can have another fruitful year and our Branch can grow from strength to strength.

Dr C W Tso
Chairman
December 2007
Key Success Factors

Interview with Past Chairman Mr Otto Poon

Mr Otto Poon, Past Chairman of IMechE Hong Kong Branch, is a Chartered Engineer with over 40 years’ experience in Electrical & Mechanical (E&M) engineering. He established the Analogue Group of Companies in 1977 which have developed into diversified international engineering operations with over 1,500 staff. Otto was awarded OBE in 1996 and BBS in 2003 and was elected as an Outstanding Branch Member of the Year (2003-04) by the IMechE. The topic of this interview is of paramount importance to any engineer who wants to become top of the field: the Key Success Factors.

1. Question: Why did you choose to be an engineer?
   Answer: I was keen in seeking the truth. When I was a kid in primary school, my teacher told me that fuel like coal and oil would last forever. I doubted the answer. Today, everyone knows what the teacher said was not true. Also, I was interested in anything that moves. That's why I chose my profession as a Mechanical Engineer.

2. Question: Is there any difference in being an engineer now and in the old days?
   Answer: Yes, of course. The industry has changed. Manufacturing has declined in Hong Kong, and engineering applications such as air-conditioning and fire services has now become mainstream in the engineering field.
   Many HK manufacturers have moved to mainland China in the past two decades. There are now over thirty thousand companies operating in the mainland and employing over 10 million people in the field of manufacturing. So going north is another trend of engineers nowadays.

3. Question: So do you think the future playground of engineers would be in Mainland China?
   Answer: Opportunities are everywhere in Mainland China. Many engineering professionals in product design and production have also moved back. Nowadays foreign corporations are doing business directly with their counterparts in mainland, skipping their middleman in Hong Kong they used to have in the old days. The strength that we as Hong Kong people relied on has declined, and certainly I think there are more job opportunities and better prospect in Mainland China for young people.

4. Question: What do we need to prepare ourselves to work in the Mainland?
   Answer: The difference of living standard, food, accommodation, medical care and salary are all aspects that a person should consider when he or she plans to work in the Mainland. Also be prepared to be mobilised as travelling from North to South is common.

5. Question: Do Hong Kong engineers have any strength over our counterparts in Mainland?
   Answer: I think there are 3 key success factors that we should keep up with:
   1. High English standard - on average we have more opportunities to interact with people from overseas and also we are more familiar with Western cultures, at least at this moment.
   2. Creativity - innovations are important, and we must keep this advantage and be open-minded.
   3. Responsive mind - this is our secret weapon. As Hong Kong people we are renowned for our responsiveness. Hong Kong’s success is mostly contributed by our sharp and decisive reaction and our ability to be adaptive to the surroundings.

6. Question: How can we young engineers acquire these key success factors and equip ourselves for the future?
   Answer: I encourage young engineers to read books, not magazines though, books on management or anything useful. Young engineers should develop an analytical mind. Knowledge is power. Be hungry and keep learning. I myself am still learning.
   I believe in quality. My company insist on providing quality services to customers, which is why we have lasted for over 40 years, and customers keep coming back. So I know my strategy is correct.
   Join a professional institution and take part actively. They provide a good platform for young engineers to develop their management skills through organising activities for members. Getting chartered is an excellent way to demonstrate our competence as a professional.
MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE

On behalf of the IMechE Hong Kong Branch Committee, I wish to convey our deepest and heartfelt condolences to Mrs Justina Leung and her children on the demise of their beloved the late Prof LEUNG Tin Pui, BBS, JP on the 7th September 2007.

Prof Leung has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the fields of engineering, literature, education and community services, and has thereby made significant contributions to the betterment of the contemporary society. His appointment as a Justice of Peace and his award of Bronze Bauhinia Star Medal conferred by the Hong Kong SAR Government are rightly deserved.

IMechE Hong Kong Branch members are greatly in debt to our Past Chairman, Prof Leung, for his wisdom, knowledge, leadership and commitments without which our Branch would not be able to function so effectively and efficiently in Hong Kong. We have lost a very dear, caring, dedicated and visionary mentor and a beloved friend. He will surely and always be remembered and his presence will always be with us.

Dr C W Tso
Branch Chairman
18 September 2007

Visit of the 121st President of IMechE - Mr Alec Osborn MBE CEng FI MechE

Our 121st President of IMechE, Mr Alec Osborn, accompanied by IMechE HQs’ Senior Executive - Regional & International Operations, Miss Maria Taylor and Manager - Regional & International Operations, Miss Joanna Fox visited HK Branch on 23-27 March 2007. President Osborn had a busy programme during his visit in Hong Kong. President Osborn joined the 5th Australasian Branch meeting as soon as he arrived from UK on 23rd March 2007. On 24th March, President Osborn and HQs team joined the HK Branch to attend the Regional Speak Out for Engineering Presentation Competition held at the Hong Kong University of Science & Technology. The President also paid a visit to the Director of EMSD, Ir K W HO; Permanent Secretary of ETWB, Ir C K MAK; President of HKIE, Ir K L WONG and Department of Automotive Engineering of the HK Institute of Vocational Education on 26 March. Before the end of his official visit, President Osborn delivered the 16th George Stephenson Lecture entitled “Tales of an Engine Designer” at the World Trade Centre Club, Causeway Bay. Being a life-long design engineer on many types of IC engine, from high-performance racing engines to the diesel-engine power packs for main battle tank, President Osborn reflected on various challenges and shared his engineering experience which gives much food for thought for engine designers of today and tomorrow. Over 160 members met the President on the night and all enjoyed the pleasure of having a first class reception at the Club.
International Affairs Committee (IAC) Meeting

Reported by Dr C W Tso

The 2007 IAC Meeting chaired by Vice President David Greenway was held at IMechE Headquarters on 24 May 2007. The meeting was attended by Branch Chairmen from Australia, Canada, Benelux, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore, YM Board Representatives and HQs staff including Chief Executive Ruth Spellman.

The following points were put forward by the Chief Executive:

- A new strategy, vision and four key themes had been proposed with the formative stages being crucial with objectives and deliverables set to lead the Institution into the next five years
- The vision improving the word through engineering would provide a platform for the Institution to be outward facing
- All parts of the Institution will be asked to consider what these new initiatives would mean individually for members, staff, international aspects of the Institution and particularly the branches and the Institution as a whole
- Thought would also go into what partnership could be formed that would help with delivering the four key themes: Energy, Environment, Education and Transport
- Branch members are asked for their views on where the Institution and individual members would aspire to be in the next five years
- Communication of the vision and strategy would become the first element of this year's Institution strategy

The Chairman of Hong Kong Branch presented its Branch Report using PowerPoint. This was followed by presenting a Report on the 5th Australasian Regional Meeting held in Hong Kong on 23-24 March 2007. The aforesaid two PowerPoint slides can be downloaded from the Branch website. The following messages from the Australasian Regional Meeting were put forward at the IAC meeting for Trustee Board's consideration:

1. Continue to arrange Annual Presidential Visit and George Stephenson Lecture
2. Revisit lower Annual Subscriptions Fees in alignment with local professional institutions
3. Revisit Joint Membership with local counterparts to facilitate reduction in Subscription (e.g. MASME and MHKIE)
4. Apart from the qualification of "Chartered Engineer", many members do not see much value of their overseas membership
5. Desirable to make Chartered Mechanical Engineer a license to practice and give legal protection
6. Review the disparity of academic requirements for corporate membership (Master Degree for IMechE vs. Bachelor Degree for Local Institution)
7. Consider awarding the "Certificate of Appreciation" to recognize the efforts, services and contributions of Overseas Branch Officers/Members.
8. Consider future appointment of Young Member Representative (Worldwide) at IAC Meeting should come from Australasia Branches
9. Consider to have one (1) Officer from Australasia Branches to join the Trustee Board as an Ex-Official Member
10. Study and give directive on proposed way forward for Preliminary China Plan

Branches were asked to ensure that their Branch strategies should be cascaded to the general memberships and to ensure the plans are kept updated. A copy of Hong Kong Branch Strategy can be downloaded from the Branch website.
5th Australasian Regional Meeting

WK Chow, Hong Kong Branch Vice Chairman

The 5th Australasian Regional Meeting was held in Hong Kong on 23-24 March 07 with a number of 1st “timers” - The first time that Chief Executive of IMechE could not join the meeting; the first time to have a strong delegation from HQs Regional & International Operations Office to participate; and the first time to have IMechE President to join the Meeting.

The Meeting Chairman, Prof Ronald So, opened the meeting by welcoming overseas guests, updating on the Initiative of Regional Speak Out for Engineering Competition status, and then setting out the Meeting’s objectives for discussion of which all Branch Chairmen agreed unanimously.

Briefing from HQs on IMechE Strategy in progressing the Institution forward was mainly focused on Intellectual Leadership; Strengthen Links with membership; Develop awareness of Engineering; and High standard of corporate governance.

Message from President Osborn was particularly encouraging as he endorsed the bottom up approach in organizing young member activities that the Region is advocating.

All Branch Chairmen, as usual, offered their witty and insightful remarks during the discussion on the key Regional and Inter-Branch matters. The confirmation of HQs endorsement of Regional Speak Out for Engineering Competition for every coming year was a strong boost to the morale of all Asia-Pacific Regional Branch Chairmen.

Amongst all initiatives under this year discussion, both the President and HQs would tender their strong support for the Region to set up a Cross Branch Young Member Work Group to discuss, define, evaluate and report to HQs on what assistance that young members really want to help them to become a competent and effective technical leaders in practicing mechanical engineering. Also, Hong Kong Branch was charged with the responsibility to develop a China Plan for HQs consideration of which we have completed the preliminary plan ahead of schedule and it is now with HQs for their consideration.

Caring Engineers’ Concert 2007

As a founding member of the Trust that operates the "Hong Kong Joint Engineering Training and Education Fund", the Hong Kong Branch of IMechE, together with the Hong Kong Association of the ICE and Hong Kong Division of the IStructE, co-organized the "Caring Engineers' Concert 2007" on 23rd July at the City Hall, Hong Kong. It was the third time that we have organized such an event.

For this year's Concert, we also teamed up with the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers and the local Branches of CIBSE and IET.

The purpose of the Concert was to raise fund to subsidize summer training for engineering students as well as to organize career development programmes for young engineers.

The Guest Performers included Ir James Blake and Ir S S Lee, former Secretaries of Works, Ir Wai Chi Sing, the Director of Highways, and supported by “The Highways Band”. Other highlights included the performances of a drama organized by the young engineers, a world renowned soprano Miss Rao Lan, and our talented engineer turned musician Dr John Luk.

The Concert was well attended by Government Officials, members of the diplomatic corps, members of the Institutions, families and friends of the engineering profession and corporation sponsors.

The Concert raised HK$759,400 from sales of tickets, advertisements and commercial sponsorship, and netted HK$546,000 after expenses.

Finale
“Speak Out for Engineering” Presentation Competition (SOFE) 2007
Hong Kong, Southeast Asia and Oceania 2007

“Speak Out for Engineering” presentation competition was held on 27th January 2007, by IMechE Hong Kong Branch, involving five contestants from various local companies / universities. The competition aims at building up self-confidence of the contestants to speak out; strengthening the presentation and communication skills of the contestants and providing an opportunity for the contestants to learn from others. It was our honour to have judges from different fields, such as Human Resources, Toastmaster, Legal and Property Management. Ms Alice Ng was the 1st prize winner of the Hong Kong heat while Ms Sylvia Au Yeung and Ms Ingrid Wong shared the 2nd prize. Ms Alice Ng together with local winners from other Branches in Asia Pacific region, Australia, Malaysia and Singapore, joined the Regional heat on 24th March 2007. Topics presented were wide ranged and during the Q&A session, the contestants had demonstrated their in-depth understanding on their topics, and ability to handle difficult questions from Judges. Contestant Wong Soon Yew from Malaysia with topic “The Mechanics of Spinal Cord Injury: A Study of Vertebral Burst Fracture” won the 1st prize and Michael Riese with topic “A novel technique for low-cost, high-speed, high-resolution, digital video films in repetitive mechanical systems” from Australia Branch won the 2nd prize. The participants were delighted with this competition which helps them practice their presentation skills and make friends with young engineers from other countries.

As a continuum of the SOFE’s heat in early 2007, the Local Speak Out for Engineering Competition was held at the Polytechnic University on 8th December 2007. In this year, the number of contestants had shown an increase to seven in total; each of which had a very unique way of presenting his materials to appeal to the demanding judging panel that comprised of experts from legal, training, banking and engineering fields.

Out of those seven contestants, two managed to prove themselves to be the elites amongst the rest. The 1st runner up is Mr Lee Ho Pui, a final year student in the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Winner goes to Mr Cecil Fong from China Light and Power (CLP). His topic of presentation was “Useful Tips for Motor Car Selection”. Comments from judges on his presentation included: “easy to understand”; “well organized”; “good use of posture”, etc. As the winner of the local SOFE, Mr Fong will represent HK Branch to enter the Asia-Pacific Regional SOFE Competition which is scheduled in March 2008 in Australia. He will be challenged by winners from Australia, Singapore and Malaysia Branches. IMechE HK Branch would like to send their best wishes to Mr Fong in winning this trophy.

In relation to the SOFE, a series of workshops on “Improving Presentation Skills” are being scheduled in 2008 with the “HK Toastmaster Club”. Interested members are encouraged to keep an eye on this program.
International Conference on Climate Change (ICCC 2007)

Co-organised by the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, the Institution of Civil Engineers, Hong Kong Association, and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Hong Kong Branch, the International Conference on Climate Change was successfully held on 29 - 31 May 2007 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre attended by over 400 delegates from 20 countries.

Ir Otto Poon, chairperson of the organizing committee and Mr Peter Woo, Chairman of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council kicked off the opening ceremony by their welcome messages. The conference was honoured by the presence of eight world-class experts as keynote speakers including Dr Ottmar Edenhofer, chief economist of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research; Prof Tim Flannery, author of the Weather Markers and Australian of the Year 2007; Prof Liu Yanhua, Vice Minister of Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology; Dipl-Ing Heinz-Peter Mang, Senior Engineer of Institute of Energy and Environmental Protection; Prof Qin Dahe, co-chair of Working Group I for AR4 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; Mr Thomas Roe, head of the European Union, Office of the European Commission in Hong Kong; Sir Crispin Tickell, Director of Policy Foresight Programme at the James Martin Institute, University of Oxford; and Mr Kurt Yeager, chair of World Energy Council's Study on Energy and Climate Change.

The conference provided an excellent opportunity to share views, knowledge, experience and innovative ideas towards this significant issue. 60 papers from all over the world were presented at the conference focusing on how climate change is affecting the world in different ways and ways to fight through climate change. Convened by Ir Dr Andrew Chan and Prof Johnny Chan, a plenary panel discussion was held on the third day of the conference comprising representatives from the co-organisers to summarise the discussions at different sessions of the conference and to further deliberate over the possible measures to reduce the threats of climate change. Following the deliberations of the plenary panel discussion, a paper of "Call for Action on Climate Change", which highlighted potential impacts, measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change as well as strategies to implement these measures, was drawn up to the attention of governments, businesses, communities and individuals. The summary of the paper was subsequently presented by Ir Poon during his closing remarks at the conference. The climax of the conference was reached when the Hon Donald Tsang, Chief Executive of the HKSAR, delivered his speech at the closing ceremony.

Activity Report on Essay Writing Competition

Two essay writing competitions were organised by YMS in Session 2006/07. The purposes of these competitions were to encourage participations in IMechE functions and to improve writing skills of young members. All YMS members were welcomed to participate.

Essay title of our first competition was "Creative Idea - Design, Develop, Apply and/or Use New and Emerging Technologies". The formulation of this title was also aimed at letting the participants/young engineers to arouse interest in new mechanical engineering technologies, while there is a common perception that only sophisticated technologies are practising in the mechanical engineering field. It was successfully held in end of 2006. The winner was Mr Pak On Shun. His essay topic, 'Cancer-Combat-Jet?' is very interesting and the technology mentioned is very innovative.

The essay title of our second competition was "Engineering Management - Contract Laws". It followed a seminar with the same title, which gave our young engineers an opportunity to learn and write something other than mechanical engineering. It was successfully held in early 2007. As two participants got the same high score, we decided to have two winners who are Mr Michael Chung and Mr Ricky Kan.

All essays received were of high standard. They were assessed in accordance with their structure and content, presentation skills, creativity of idea as well as use of engineering knowledge. We were pleased to have Mr Otto Poon and Mr Coleman Ng to be our honourable judges. Thanks Otto, Coleman and all participants!
1st IMechE Essay Writing Competition
Creative ideas – Design, Develop, Apply and/or Use New and Emerging Technologies
Winner : PAK On Shun

Cancer-Combat-Jet?

From Ancient Egypt Pharaoh to 21st century everyman, we humans face the same unavoidable problem down through the age. Qin Shi Huang, the first Chinese emperor, sent three thousands young men and women in search of the solution - the pill of immortality. Thanks to his failure, health and nutritious products burgeon in today's market. These elixirs together with the medical doctors, however, can only stand transfixed in front of deadly diseases, viruses or cancers. Millions of people are suffering from torturous but inefficient medical treatments, now that engineers solve problems, what about this?

A very beautiful picture is now forming: knowledge and technologies from different fields, now, come together, contributing their own expertise to make the "pill of immortality". While chemists research into new chemicals for drugs; biologists study the organ mechanisms; Mathematicians explore the DNA sequences; Mechanical engineers, who built us automobiles, brought us to the sky, conditioned the air and fixed the water supply, shall join this glorious battle for the mankind. To attack those little monsters in our bodies, what’s better than using something equally small? Nano/Micro-electromechanical Systems (NEMS/MEMS) are going to help.

NEMS and MEMS are what you need for developing tiny stuffs. These technologies have already been extensively applied in life sciences. For instance, microfluidics, a special realm of MEMS, enables the minimization of a chemistry laboratory onto a single chip (?TAS), which accelerates the drug development; Micro-pumping and control make possible the implantation of drug delivery systems in human organs such as injection of insulin for diabetes care. With mature silicon micromachining techniques and novel fabrication technologies, gears, motors, sensors and actuators in micro/nano scale are readily available for mechanical engineers to configure their weapons in the battle with the diseases.

It is no longer a crazy idea to build a combat jet carrying cancer-fighting drugs, navigating the blood streams, shuttling between different organs and firing at the detrimental cells or diseases. These targeted missiles shall relieve the sufferings of patients receiving chemotherapy and enhance dramatically the efficacy of the drug.

Is it merely a fantasy? Archimedes, the old brilliant engineer, might not believe in the images brought by the MARS Exploration Rover today. Should nations in the world devote some of their military funding in researching this cancer-combat-jet (After all, the baneful diseases are humans' real common enemies), we could perhaps witness its first test flight next year.

Figure 1 : http://www.medicalprogress.org/alternatives/alternativesnews.cfm?news_id=386
Figure 3 : http://www.mems.sandia.gov
Figure 4 : Conceptual cartoon of the cancer-combat-jet
Interpretation of contract laws is essential for a competent Mechanical Engineer or Project Manager to facilitate their daily project management responsibilities. As we understand that the domestic agreement or contract are not enforceable, but the formation of contract with offer and acceptance in commercial agreement are enforceable by court, despite in a form of bilateral contracts or unilateral contracts. Quiet enjoyment under contract is common such as the curtain wall defects claims on main contractor within 12 years Defect Liabilities Period (DLP). For the good practice in engineering management, the up-to-standard written specification and filing system on contract document shall be established as to minimize unnecessary disagreement.

Regarding the terms of contract, the basic definition of Representations must be realized by Engineers. In order to constitute a misrepresentation, the contract or tender shall be proved that there is a material statement of fact which is untrue and is made by one party to a contract and which induces another party to enter into that contract. Terms of a contract are of two kinds named Express terms and Implied terms, which defines the rights and duties arising under the contracts.

The aim of the damages is to put the innocent party in the same position he would have been in had the contract been properly performed. Liquidated Damages (LD) must be a very common term to Engineers as appeared in every tender document or form of tender with specified rate. The parties agreed in their contract that in case of breach, the damages shall be a specified sum in a specified way. Most importantly, they are absolutely enforceable by court. Engineers shall identify the difference between LD and Penalty, by considering the aspect of the genuine pre-estimate sum and fixed sum of damages for different kinds of breaches etc. However, the use of words in contract or tender document is not conclusive.

Exemption Clauses shall be another fundamental element in engineering management under contract. It may be a kind of Express terms inserted into a contract by one of the parties to exclude remedies or limits damages or impose time limits for claims in favour of that party. They are usually incorporated into a Standard Form of contract.

Structure of Tender document may not be standardized in engineering industry but the contract binding effect must not be sacrificed. Time management shall begin with tight control on the date of commencement and time for completion. Furthermore, the magic on interim payment and percentage of retention shall also be a key part for employer to manage the performance and progress of contractors. Standard Terms and Conditions of Contract shall be well defined with description on the Employee’s Compensation Insurance, site safety liabilities and statutory obligation.
2nd IMechE Essay Writing Competition
Engineering Management – Contract Laws
Winner : KAN Wai Kit Ricky

On 16 December 2006, the Hong Kong Joint Engineering Training & Education Fund organized a seminar on Engineering Management and Contract Laws. During the seminar the honourable speaker Mr Albert Leung introduced the key concepts of Contract Law and also explained how to apply Contract Law in Project Management in order to effectively enhance the management of the project.

A contract is a legally binding agreement between parties that the law will enforce. Contracts can be created in writing or orally, or by simple deed. For a contract to be valid, there needs an agreement which includes an “offer” and a corresponding “acceptance”. Agreement can be bilateral, where an offer is made to all people and acceptance comes from a particular person who fulfills the contractual terms or the condition precedent; it can also be collateral which the contract is between the particular parties.

In contract law, an intention by both parties to enter into a contract can be enforced through courts. For business situations, it is assumed that commercial agreements between two parties are intended to be legally bound. On the contrary, many kinds of domestic and social agreements, for instance between children and parents, are unenforceable on the basis of public policy.

A contract also includes “consideration”. In simple words, consideration is the exchange of goods, services, or money. Considerations must be sufficient, but need not be adequate. It must also be real and must not be an existing duty.

Terms of the contract are the obligation and rights of the parties. Terms can be expressed unambiguously by the two parties or implied by the parties themselves, by law, or by customs. There are three categories of terms: conditions, warranty and innominate. Compensation entitlement and whether the innocent party can set aside the contract depend on these different situations.

Care must be taken that there are some factors which would vitiate the contract, such as lack of capacity, lack of consent, mistakes, duress, undue influence and unconscionable bargain.

A contract will be discharged when all obligations under the contract have been performed accurately and completely. If all parties to the contract have agreed to its termination, or there was a breach of contract and a party entitled to set aside the contract has indeed set aside the contract or the contract is frustrated because unforeseen events have rendered performance of the contractual obligations impossible, then the contract will also considered to be discharged. On the other hand, a breach of contract is failure to perform as stated in the contract. There are many ways to remedy a breached contract assuming it has not been waived. Typically, the remedy for breach of contract is an award of money damages. When dealing with unique subject matter, specific performance may be ordered.

Many engineering projects nowadays are governed by contracts. As an engineer we must equip ourselves with reasonable knowledge on contract requirements, contract compliance and also contract management. This seminar provides us a great insight into the contract law principles which is a true asset when we are dealing with the legal aspect of project management.

Reference:
1. Handout, Fundamental Knowledge on Contract Law
Young Member Section (YMS) One-Sentence-Campaign......

I joined the IMechE YMS because...........

Young Member Section (YMS) Committee 2007-2008: a group of dynamic and enthusiastic young mechanical engineers who come together in YMS, working hard organisating events for local Young Members of IMechE.

Chairman
Mr Ricky Kan......
I like the people here, we are brothers and sisters.

Committee Member
Mr Alan Lau......
In IMechE you can gain much more than you imagine.

Co-opted Committee Member
Mr Howard Tong......
I wish to help promote Mechanical Engineering to youngsters & those who love and want to broaden their knowledge in this field.

Vice Chairman
Mr Franky Shum......
"I am a young mechanical engineer"

Committee Member
Ms Chelsea Tam......
it provides me with a platform to share and gain experience with Mechanical Engineering professionals.

Co-opted Committee Member
Mr Peter Wong

Hon Secretary
Mr Lawrence Chan......
it provides a good channel to work with mechanical engineers from all over the world.

Committee Member
Mr Timo WU......
I enjoy promoting Mechanical Engineering with the organisation having fine reputation and enthusiasm.

Co-opted Committee Member
Mr Zack Wong......
it is an energetic professional group.

Hon Treasurer
Mr Dicky Poon......
it supports my professional engineering image and provides a good platform for member’s communication.

Committee Member
Mr Alex Young......
it’s good for me!

Co-opted Committee Member
Ms Ingrid......
it is fun

Immediate Past Chairman
Mr Kenneth Wu......
I could meet and work with professional engineers, just like you!

Committee Member
Mr Sam Cheng......
I can work collaboratively with all professionals came from Mechanical Discipline and make me much more mature.

Co-opted Committee Member
Ms Kay......
it is a group for mechanical engineers and mechanical-engineers-to-be

Committee Member
Mr Andy Cheung......
our young members are energetic and devoted to the promotion of engineering professionalism.

Co-opted Committee Member
Mr Teddy Chan
Mr Ng Hon Sum
Ms Elaine Yung

Committee Member
Ms Wendy Cheung......
it is the best international mechanical organization with energetic members.

Co-opted Committee Member
Mr Zack Wong......
it is an energetic professional group.

Committee Member
Mr Hoyce Ho......
it best represents young mechanical engineers in Hong Kong.

Committee Member
Mr Vincent Cheung......
i can broaden my horizon, develop my network and learn from all ME professionals in HK

Co-opted Committee Member
Mr Howard Tong......
i wish to help promote Mechanical Engineering to youngsters & those who love and want to broaden their knowledge in this field.

Committee Member
Ms Eunice Chan......
in IMechE, what you see is what you get.

Committee Member
Mr Eddie Cheung

Hon Secretary
Mr Lawrence Chan......
it provides a good channel to work with mechanical engineers from all over the world.

Committee Member
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Committee Member
Ms Wendy Cheung......
it is the best international mechanical organization with energetic members.

Co-opted Committee Member
Mr Zack Wong......
it is an energetic professional group.

Committee Member
Mr Hoyce Ho......
it best represents young mechanical engineers in Hong Kong.
Life in Jilin

John Chow D H, Young Member Section Past Chairman

Having been staying in Jilin City in the north-eastern part of China for approximate 18 months, I have closely experienced the mushroom development in our mother country. Taking an example of natural gas usage (as I am gas engineer :D) in the city, the total consumption has grown 100% in 06/07 compared with the figures in 05/06. I can see the steady growth would continue for at least 10 years. In corporate with the fast developments, a thousand further projects of challenging scale would take place. Of course, they are challenging, however they are also opportunities to us as well.

So friends, if you are interested in developing your career in China, you should be prepared for the challenges at the beginning. "Challenges" are not only limited to the technical issues, but also cultural and social issues. Reading China news is a good way to understand their culture, or sharing with your friends or seniors are indeed good for you. I still remember how I felt embarrassed when having my first dinner with the People’s Government. They asked me for my opinions about the 1-country-2-system policy. My response was tight tongued, totally.

Dear members, as IMechE YMS would occasionally organize activities which are related to China, say firm visiting in Guangdong Province, seminars about the current situation in China... etc., you can grasp those opportunities and step forward, see if it is attractive to you to work in China.

IMechE HK Branch Activities Session 2007/2008

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<td>YMS Technical Visit : Guangdong Daya Bay Nuclear Plant</td>
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<td>2. TBC</td>
<td>YMS Presentation Seminar &quot;Use of Humour&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. mid Jan 08</td>
<td>YMS seminar : Get through your professional review - Interview Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Feb 08</td>
<td>YMS Technical Visit : CLP Power PQ Exhibition and Technology Center, SSP</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Mar 08</td>
<td>YMS Technical Visit : Penny's Bay Power Station</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. 19 Mar 08 (Wed)</td>
<td>&quot;Innovative BMP-Balanced Magnet Pulsation Used Oil Renewal Technology&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. 29 Mar 08 (Sat)</td>
<td>Regional Speak Out for Engineering Presentation Competition (Adelaide, Australia)</td>
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<td>8. 30 Mar 08 (Sun)</td>
<td>6th Australaisen Regional Meeting (Adelaid, Australia)</td>
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<td>9. May 08</td>
<td>YMS AGM</td>
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<td>10. May 08</td>
<td>Hong Kong Branch AGM</td>
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Membership status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hon Fellows/Fellows</th>
<th>93</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>1240</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Affiliates</td>
<td>672</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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(Source : IMechE UK, Dec 2007)