



# PRESIDENT'S SPEECH DURING 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY DINNER



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IMM President session (2016 - 2018)

Assalamualaikum WBT

30 years ago this day, the Malaysian Material Science Technology Society was registered with the Registrar of Society. The name was changed to its present day name, as the Institute of Materials Malaysia, in 1997, and acknowledged as a professional society in the country, actively promoting material science and technology. Back then IMM was formed out of a desire to provide affordable local professional tradesmen certification, like blasting and painting, corrosion and welding technicians for the Oil & Gas industry.

Tan Sri Wan Zul, we have a long standing relationship with PETRONAS, for, in our humble beginning, it was PETRONAS who prompted us to set up IMM as a local materials institute. In 1989, in collaboration with PETRONAS, IMM introduced a local Coating Inspector certification at a cost of RM 3K. The NACE equivalent, costed RM 30K, beyond the reach of most locals. This created many jobs for Malaysians as corrosion inspectors working in the Oil & Gas industry. This was then followed by a locally developed cathodic protection training program in the mid 90's. In 1999, in collaboration with CORAL 1.0, the first locally developed blaster and painter certification program was established, establishing IMM as the de facto standard in the industry.

We have come a long way since our humble beginning. Now we have more than 4000 active members, 18 committees, from Timber, to Polymer, Composites, Corrosion, Vibration and Coatings committees, to name a few. We also run Regional Chapters; Southern, East Coast, Sabah, Bintulu and Miri as well as Student Chapters at 4 local Universities; UTAR, UTM, Curtin and UMS.

We also have task forces set up to tackle industry issues such as Coatings Fingerprinting, Welding Improvement, Upskilling Sarawak Engineers & Technicians, USET, and Sabah O&G Human Capital Development. The latter two are collaborations with the Institute of Engineers Malaysia, IEM, and state government organizations.

These are supported by a Council body, a Secretariat and a Management Committee. As an institute, IMM is unique in a way, as we are the only professional body in the country that has a value proposition on membership that span across from academia to industries, from university professors, PHDs, postgraduate and graduate students, to professionals in the industry and to skilled trade practitioners. No other institutions has this. This places IMM in a good position to tackle most industry challenges on materials and materials' related issues. One such issue, solved the quality of paint for the offshore industry, resulting in a World's first Coatings Fingerprinting Methodology, the development of a "Mill Certificate" like certification for polymer coatings.

As a voluntary organization, IMM work these issues through the various committees. These committees consist of 'like minded' individuals with a passion on the advancement of materials technology. Once an issue is raised, the committee will call upon those interested and an open discussion is then held in a seminar. The

issues and resolution are then worked on, in some instances, several repeat seminars are held. For more complex issues a task force is formed, giving more focused attention. Usually these task forces work on weekends as most of the IMM members are volunteers. Let us recognize these individuals on the sacrifices they make for the advancement of materials technology for the country.

Ladies and Gents, let us take stock and reflect on IMM's past achievements.

*IMM Hosted over 100 technical seminars since 1988, solving industry problems on some,*

*IMM has been recognised as the de facto authority on materials technology by the Oil and Gas Industry,*

*IMM certificates are recognized by PETRONAS and the Oil & Gas operators in Malaysia,*

*Established the World's first Coating Fingerprinting Certificates and,*

*Appointed as the first Authorised Certification Body by the Asian Welding Federation*

The above achievements are made possible by the relentless efforts of our past presidents, council members and their advisors. These are the people who have shaped IMM into what it is today.

Ladies and Gents, to commemorate our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we have a new vision & mission going forward. This is aimed at enhancing IMM's position in today's borderless world. It will also give a more meaningful value add proposition to our members, a new raison d'être. This was formulated over several sessions with IMM Council Members guided by our Advisor Datuk DR Rahim.

*Our new vision is – "to be an internationally recognized leading institution in materials science and technology". In support of this vision are 5 mission statements:-*

*To be the technical authority on material science technology*

*To develop & enhance skills for all categories and practitioners*

*To become an internationally recognized certifying body*

*To be the forum for industry and academia collaboration and lastly*

*To positively contribute to society and quality of life*

It is with hope that the above will spur and motivate members and propel IMM to new heights both at the national and international level.

In the new low cost world, collaboration will be key to survival. No man is an island, and we hope to see more collaboration with institutions within the country as well as abroad. IMM has collaborated with the UK Institute of Materials, Minerals & Mining i.e. IOM3 and have organised numerous joint seminars on Materials Technology