

BERITA ENSEARCH

JANUARY – MARCH 2008

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ENSEARCH NEW MEMBERS (JAN–MAC 2008)	2
MYTHS & FACTS OF IMPLEMENTING CP	3
ENSEARCH ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT TRAININGS (JAN–MAC 2008)	4
VISIT TO BUKIT TAGAR SANITARY LANDFILL	4
K. KUMARASIVAM YOUNG ENVIRONMENTAL-IST INTERNSHIP	5
ENSEARCH 24TH AGM	5
WASTE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION 2008	6

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ENSEARCH 24th Annual General Meeting on 10 May 2008
- Call for applicants for the K. Kumarasivam Young Environmentalist Internship Award 2008

THE COST OF IMPLEMENTING CLEANER PRODUCTION: THE MYTHS AND THE FACTS

by Dr. Ir. Abdul Aziz Abdul Raman and Ms. Jenny Tan Suat Eam

Cleaner production (CP) is being increasingly accepted around the world, primarily due to its marketing by the UN. CP means the continuous application of an integrated preventive environmental strategy to processes and products. For production processes, CP includes conserving raw materials and energy, eliminating toxic raw materials, and reducing the quantity and toxicity of all emissions and wastes. Even though the CP acceptance and awareness among industries in Malaysia and Asean region are increasing, there are still many wrong perception and understanding about CP when it comes to implementation, especially among the small and medium industries.



MYTHS VERSUS FACTS

Myth 1: Requires high Investment and operational cost

Fact: While many CP implementations may require monetary investment, some implementation can be done without involving any significant cost. The industries should not take a general view but instead divide the CP options into a hierarchy of five categories according to potential investments costs and return on investment as shown in the Table 1 below:

Table 1: Categories of CP implementation cost

Category	Cost	Payback	Examples
1	Almost no cost	Immediate	Procedural change
2	Done within the maintenance budget	Immediate	Leakage, insulation
3	Requires investment	Within a month	Additional piping
4	Requires investment	Within a year	Additional equipment
5	Requires big investment	More than a year	New technology

Every CP option should be given a chance to be evaluated and categorized. In most cases, CP implementation options are shot down even before any thoughts are given to the actual cost. The SME's may choose to implement category 1 and 2 immediately and consider other categories when situation permits.

(Continued on Pg3)



Note from the Publication Committee Chairman!

BERITA ENSEARCH welcomes our new corporate and individual members. In this issue a paper presented by ENSEARCH Council member, Ms. Jenny Tan Suat Eam in "ASEAN Plus Three Seminar on Promotion of Environmentally Sound Technologies and Cleaner Production" on 27th & 28th November 2007 in Kuala Lumpur is included. The Seminar was organized by Department of Environment, Malaysia. I do hope that the members will also take note of the trainings being planned and call for applicants for the K. Kumarasivam Young Environmentalist Internship Award. Members perhaps can disseminate this information to other non-ENSEARCH members. Word-of-mouth can sometimes be the best means of publicity. Thanks.

Dr. Ir. Abdul Aziz Abdul Raman

OUR VISION

"Malaysians are environmentally aware and are committed to take personal responsibility to manage and mitigate the impacts of their corporate, professional and daily living activities on the environment."

OUR MISSION

"To promote excellence in environmental management among organisations, professionals and interested persons."

ENSEARCH WELCOMES OUR NEW MEMBERS!

JAN 08 – MAC 08

Corporate

Europasia Engineering Services Sdn Bhd (Feb '08)

Individual

Anthony Wong Chye Chye

Nikki Wong Foong Mei

Goh Chia Lynn

Asmira Sofiani bt Asmadi

Dzuhairy bin Ab Taleb

Faziatud Diana bt Rosnen

Hirziah bt Ismail

Kamal Adli b Abd Aziz

Mohd Hafizudin Mohd Nawar

Nor Farhana bt Yusoff

Nor Faridah Izzati bt Salamah

Norashikin bt Abu Hassan

Nuratiqah bt Mohd Ariff

Nurul Hidayah Ab Rashid

Ranjan Kumar A/L Nallathambay

Sapini bt Spawy

Sharifah Shafini bt Syed Mohd Rasdi

Siti Fairuz bt Harun

Siti Izdahafifi bt Herdiyanto Saputra

Siti Nur Syahirah Zukri

Wan Nor Hasneza bt Md Rokmar

Jeyakumar a/l Mogarajah

Mohd. Izziuddin bin Ab. Malek

Ali bin Omar

Azwan Syahrman b Mohd Salleh

Farah Nazila bt Abd Aziz

Haryati bt Zainal

Jasaliza Nurain bt Mohd Salleh

Mohammad Fitry bin Hanzah

Noorul Syafarina bt Mohd Azam

Nor Farhanah Zainon

Nor Hazmaliza bt Othman

Norfarahain bt Afandi

Nurul Aqidah bt Mohd Sinin

Nurul Nasyrah bt Rapai Kasini

Rosidi b. Abd Sohoh

Shanorain bt Mohd Shah

Shelian Step Stephen

Ummi Nadzirah bt Sanusi

Theresa Thymbong Anak Henry

Sujang

ENSEARCH is a non-profit, membership organisation comprising of people interested in promoting the practice and research in environmental management. It was formed in 1984 by a group of local professionals and academicians, from various disciplines. The group recognises that for the Malaysian Environmental Quality Act (EQA), enacted in 1974, to achieve its objective there is a need to raise the awareness and capacity of Malaysians to manage their impacts on the natural environment. Thus, ENSEARCH, a multidisciplinary association, was formed to promote and increase the environmental awareness/commitment of Malaysians, and to educate them on the environmental management methodologies and technologies available.



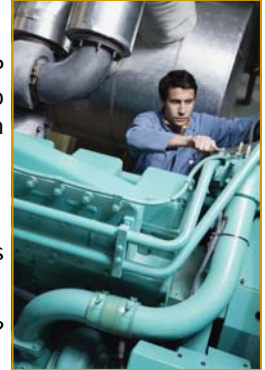
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THE COST OF IMPLEMENTING CLEANER PRODUCTION: THE MYTHS AND THE FACTS CONT.

Myth 2: Requires sophisticated technology

Fact: There is also a perception among the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) that CP implementation can only be done through technology changes or big modifications to processing equipments. Here SMEs may require some dedicated brain storming and go through the check list in following sequence.

- Can it be done by other means (only procedural or material change)?
- Rather than getting a new and costly technology, can the existing equipment or processes be modified to achieve the CP implementation program and targets?
- Can it be done with other cheaper technology (even with lower increased performance)? Some improvement is better than no improvement.
- Can the technology or modification be done step by step or in phases (within a specified period according to available funds)?



Myth 3: Requires expert assistance

Fact: There is a belief among SMEs that their problems can only be solved by experts and they can't implement CP on their own. SMEs must realize that they are the best candidates to plan and implement their CP options. While assistance from expert may help at the beginning, the SME should start believing in themselves. A simple route that a SME without special funding can take to plan and implement CP options is as follows:

- Form a CP group (one or two members) from quality, production and engineering departments. The boss must be included as well.
- Get someone (ENSEARCH, DOE, etc) to give some simple talk about CP or read from various resources available.
- Identify CP options. Books, internet references and case studies are available in abundance.
- Make CP implementation as a continuous activity. Start from no-cost/low-cost housekeeping options and move on to other options gradually.

As the saying goes, the hardest thing is to start the ball rolling. Every SME should have a CP implementation activity as part of their continuous program towards business and environmental sustainability. This will create a healthy culture and in the long run will bring in more than the anticipated returns.

Other negative perceptions

Table 2: Negative Perceptions and Facts about CP

Negative perceptions	Facts
It does not bring benefit	It can bring short and long term benefits
It is only a public relation exercise	It is also a public relation exercise
Somebody is trying to make money from you	Somebody is trying to make money for you
Requires heavy human resource allocation	Can be done with the existing resources
It is a project base activity	It is a continuous activity
Requires expansive R & D activities	Not all R & D activities are expansive

CONCLUSION

In summary, CP implementation can be done by any industry as long as there is a **will** to do so. There are many myths surrounding the implementation of CP options with regard to cost, technology and benefits. The fact is: Where there is a will, there is a way to do it!

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT TRAININGS (JAN-MAR 2008)

ENSEARCH conducted two environmental management trainings; 'General Principles of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)' in February and 'Environmental Legislation' in March. The details of each course is listed below;

General Principles of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

- Date: 27th February 2008, Wednesday
- Trainer: Ms. Geetha P. Kumaran
- 16 participants



Environmental Legislation



General Principles of EIA

Environmental Legislation

- Date: 26th March 2008, Wednesday
- Trainer: Mr. Peter Ho Yueh Chuen
- 26 participants

UPCOMING COURSES:

EIA for Natural Gas Sector: 1 day

Proposed Trainers: Ms. Vijayalakshmi Benjamin Samuel
21 May 2008

Air Pollution Assessment: 2 days

Proposed Trainers: Mr. Tan Poh Aun and Mr. Lim Sze Fook
4 & 5 June 2008

Rental of ENSEARCH Training Centre

The ENSEARCH Management Committee has decided that ENSEARCH Members and Partners can use the facilities of our Training Centre for a fee of RM1000.00 per day and RM1500.00 for two days. For more details on its facilities, contact Ms. Renee at renee@ensearch.org.

We would like to thank members of ENSEARCH for supporting our training efforts and we hope to keep improving and to be able to provide for our members' training needs. For more information on upcoming courses or if you have any specific enquiry regarding training matters, you can contact Ms. Renee.

VISIT TO BUKIT TAGAR LANDFILL—28TH FEBRUARY 2008

A visit to the Bukit Tagar Sanitary Landfill was organised on 28th of February 2008. The visit was facilitated by Mr. Mohd Fatimi Said, Operations Manager of KUB-Berjaya Enviro Sdn Bhd. Mr. Fatimi spoke about the latest information and developments in landfill management in Malaysia. The visit included a short briefing about the current landfill management practices carried out by KUB-Berjaya Enviro, followed by a site visit to the landfill. KUB-Berjaya Enviro Sdn Bhd (KBE) is the developer and operator of the Bukit Tagar sanitary landfill, premised on a 40-year concession by the Government of Malaysia, and is supervised by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

A total of 32 participants, consisting of ENSEARCH members and non-members from the industry came along for this trip, which provided them with a general picture of current practices and technology in KUB-Berjaya Enviro Sdn Bhd's sanitary landfill management.

1ST QUARTER 2008



ENSEARCH 24TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ENSEARCH will be having its **24th Annual General Meeting** at Matahari I, Level 5, Cititel Midvalley, Kuala Lumpur on 10th May 2008 (Saturday) at 11.00 a.m. The programme of the AGM is as follows: -

9.00 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.	Registration & Welcome Coffee
9.30 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.	Talk by 4th K. Kumarasivam Young Environmentalist Internship Award 2007 winner
10.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Talk by Invited Speaker
10.30 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	Coffee break
11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	ENSEARCH 24th Annual General Meeting
12.30 p.m.	Buffet Lunch at Citi Café, Ground Floor, Cititel Midvalley

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Opening Address by the President
2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 23rd Annual General Meeting held on 6th July 2007 (Friday)
3. Matters Arising
4. Tabling of the Annual Report, Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts for the financial year 2007
5. Acceptance of the Annual Report, Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts for the financial year 2007
6. Election of Council Members
7. Debate and decision on any resolution, duly submitted and received by the Hon. Secretary General at least two weeks before the Meeting
8. Any Other Business

Please register your interest to attend the AGM with ENSEARCH Secretariat before 28th April 2008. Should you require any assistance, contact Ms. Anjelinah at angie@ensearch.org.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE K. KUMARASIVAM YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALIST INTERNSHIP AWARD 2008

The Environmental Management and Research Association of Malaysia (ENSEARCH) would like to invite young Malaysians with a passion for environmental management excellence to apply for the **K. Kumarasivam Young Environmentalist Internship Award**, which began in 2004 and will provide the selected individual with the opportunity to be placed as an intern in a reputable center of environmental management excellence abroad for a period of at least two weeks. It will cover all expenses related to travel, accommodation and an allowance for living expenses. In previous awards, successful applicants have been placed in **Korea, Germany, Australia and Thailand**.

Contact Ms. Renee at renee@ensearch.org for more details regarding the internship award application. Deadline for application closes on 30 June 2008.

WASTE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2008

WASTE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION 2008
WM2008 : PROFITING FROM GREEN PRACTICES
 11 - 12 November 2008, Sime Darby Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur

PLANTATION **OIL & GAS** **INDUSTRY**

Organised by:
 Environmental Management and Research Association of Malaysia

Endorsed by:
 Ministry of Housing and Local Government, Malaysia
 Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia

Supported by:
 National Solid Waste Management Department
(Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Bill 2007)
 Department of Environment, Malaysia
(Environmental Quality Act 1974 and Scheduled Wastes Regulations 2005)

First Announcement

WM 2008, a 2-day Conference & Exhibition on Waste Management, is again organised by **ENSEARCH**. This Conference is endorsed and supported by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The Department of National Solid Waste Management and Department of Environment, Malaysia is expected to play a key role in this event in accordance with the Theme.

This 2-day Conference is scheduled for **11th and 12th of November 2008**, at **Sime Darby Convention Centre, Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur** is expected to primarily cover issues concerning **Scheduled Waste Management and Solid Waste Management for Industries, Oil and Gas and Plantation sectors**. To showcase the Private sectors services and products, an Exhibition has been slotted to add value to the Conference.

The theme of the Conference is "**WM2008: Profiting from Green Practices**". The Conference generally aims at presenting an opportunity for both the Regulators and key Industry players an avenue to deliberate and exchange current waste management issues, updates and implications of the new **Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Bill 2007** as well as to look at the updates and challenges faced by the Industry in

relation to the **Scheduled Waste Regulations 2005**.

To accord this event the right stature, the Minister of Housing and Local Government, Malaysia and the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment are to be invited to officiate the Conference on each of the days. The Director Generals of the Department of Environment and the Department of National Solid Waste Management have agreed in principal to deliver Keynote Addresses for both days respectively. Speakers and Participants are expected from a cross-section of the region and nation. We are confident that WM2008 will attract 300 or so participants and will be a positive platform to profile oneself.

You may view/download the complete first announcement brochure at www.ensearch.org.

For details on registration, sponsorship and exhibition booths, please contact Ms. Anjelinah at angie@ensearch.org.