



(Founded in 1980,
Incorporated by Act No.
42 of 2003)
Oct, 2019

A Member Association of
the International Federation
of Consulting Engineers
Issue 34

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS, SRI LANKA

From the Editor....

I submit my second newsletter with great pleasure as the Editor of the year 2018/2019 and I have been working, rendering services to the best of my capacity to achieve the goals of the society.

I am happy to state that, I have been motivated to implement new concepts and ideas with the assistance of other council members and I also would like to highlight some important views in the forthcoming news.

Further, I extend my thanks to the colleagues who responded by sending emails and articles on time, in all forms to make this newsletter a success.

In conclusion, I would like to mention that we would be able to achieve the aims of the association by working together as a team sharing ideas experiences and knowledge and also accomplish the general objectives of ACESL by determining resolutions for national and international issues that influence our profession.

Your feedback to the newsletters of ACESL will be highly valued and appreciated. I consider this as an opportunity to invite you all to forward your contributions in different ways.

Eng. P Dhammika Dharmaratne
Editor/YPF Cordinator(ACESL)

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Nine Council sessions, several public workshops, lectures and field visits were held within the past couple of months in the year of 2018/2019. Following activities were initiated by the Council.

- ✓ Decision was taken to hold the FIDIC Workshop for module 02 by an International FIDIC trainer and the scheduled dates are 8th and 9th November 2019.
- ✓ Special award was given to Sri Lanka due to organizing ASPAC 2018 conference within a very short time period.

- ✓ ASPAC 2019 Conference in New Delhi, six number of members were participated representing Sri Lanka. (List of participants are as follows)
- ✓ (Mexico Conference is in September 7 to 9 and President didn't participate)
- ✓ It was decided to allocate a separate page from the ACESL website for the YPF instead of launching a separate website for them.
- ✓ 32nd newsletter was issued and uploaded to the web.
- ✓ New membership application form was finalized and it was uploaded as a pdf document to website of the association.
- ✓ Annual General Meeting was scheduled to hold on 4th December 2019.

ASPAC 2019 CONFERENCE IN NEW DELHI- LIST OF PARTICIPANT'S:

1. Eng. Anura Gamage(Hons. Secretary)
2. Eng. P D Dharmaratne
3. Eng. Dr. Kamal Laksiri
4. Eng. Gihan Jayathilaka
5. Eng. R P Lokurathne
6. Eng. Deshan Gamage(YP Group)

Event Organized by ACESL-No-01

1.0 Evening lecture

Pipe Laying, Pump Performance and Modern Plumber in Water Management

Date : 7th March 2019
 Venue : Silk Route, Malabe
 Resource Person : Eng. P. A. Gamini De Alwis
 B Sc (Eng), CEng, FIE(SL),
 MEIZ, MAES, Head of Pump
 Division. Richard Pieris &
 Company PLC



President Eng. (Mrs) Kamala Gunawardena delivering the Welcome Speech



Eng. Gamini Alwis Conducting the Presentation

Eng. Gamini commenced his speech by thanking council of the ACESL for inviting him as the guest speaker and welcoming all the members gathered there. Eng. Gamini De Alwis stated that his past experience under the topic given in the construction industry.

Summary of his lecture is as follows. He said that

“The pump performances, selection of pumps, plumbers make decisions on how pipes are laid are the critical factors in water management in Sri Lanka, Today, that the modern plumbers are well educated in these aspects”.

Further he said that “The various parties involved in a water management project shown in Table 1. Therein, Designers, Consultants and Contractors tend to have somewhat similar perspectives and tend to have similar approaches to decisions pertaining to plumbing. Manufactures, Suppliers tend to have somewhat similar perspectives and have similar approaches to a market. The plumber tends to be a separate entity having own challenges and decisions to make.”

Table 1: Parties involved in a water management project in different levels

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------|
| Designers Consultants Contractors | Manufactures Suppliers | Plumber |
|---|---------------------------|---------|



Some of the Participants



Pipes fixing is in progress by plumbers



In house pipe network arrangements for several houses



Plumbers in other jurisdictions at work and their products

Comparing with some plumbers in Sri Lanka and some in developed jurisdictions, together with respective products. This further underscores the need for proper education to plumbers.

And also he highlighted that “A plumber makes significant decisions on what types of pipes, pipe fittings (such as elbows, bends, tees, reducers, sockets) and valves are to be used, in what sizes and at what positions. These decisions are critical in minimising the frictional losses, water hammer effects, and surge effects and so on. Good practices in these contexts are quite technical to a point that they are beyond learning just by watching another at work; one needs training by a technical expert.”

Complications in Pump Selection Decisions

Eng. Ajith mentioned that “Another critical challenge occurs when pumps are selected. Often, pumps are selected without sufficiently understanding the pump curve provided by the manufacturer. Such poorly selected pumps, not only affects the volume and pressure of the water delivered at the output, but adversely affects the running costs of the pump, and its wear and tear leading to higher maintenance costs as well.”

Further he mentioned that three important facts persons in our industry should understand are:

- Shut-off Heads NOT the maximum head a pump can deliver. At that pressure, actually, no water flow can be delivered. The pump can merely balance the column of water at its output.
- Run-Outs NOT the maximum flow rate a pump can deliver. At that flow rate, actually, the pump cannot deliver any pressure.
- The pump would deliver its best performance close to the Best Efficiency Point (BEP).

Our non-technical clients, obviously, would not understand the above. People in the industry are, often unable to explain these to the clients. In that context, in the sales arena, pump specifications are often misinterpreted as both Shut-off Head *and* Run-Out flow rate can be obtained at the same time. As a result, pumps often installed cannot deliver the expected performance. The correct choice should have been a pump that can deliver the expected performance close to the Best Efficiency Point (BEP).

Concluding Remarks

Ultimately he summarized his speech as “It is amply shown above that our plumbers make significant decisions in water management. Due to lack of relevant education, most of these decisions have been observed to be flawed. This underscored the fact that the sufficient effort has to be deployed to provide widespread opportunities for plumbers to access such education.”

The Pump Division of Richard Pieris & Company PLC would be pleased to contribute to such effort.

Event Organized by ACESL-No-02

ACESL organized the first CPD program in Year 2019 for the Consultancy staff on 11th May 2019 from 9.30 AM to 4.30 PM at Silk Route Malabe under the title “Contractual Letter Writing”.

The audience was the practicing Consulting Engineers & Senior Engineers working in Government Sector.

The details of the Workshop are as follows:

Resource Persons:

1. Eng. G H Lawrence, BSc Eng., C Eng, FIE(SL), LLB – Attorney-at-law



The event was held on the 12 July 2019 at Silk Route Restaurant, Malabe.



Token of Appreciation to Eng. Bandula Amarasekara



President Eng. (Mrs) Kamala Gunawardena welcome the Gathering



When the workshop is in progress



Event Organized by ACESL-No-04



Event Organized by ACESL-No-03

Field Visit

Field visit was arranged Outer Circular Highway Project-Phase III, Kadawatha – Kerawalapitiya Section on the 6th April 2019.



Participants for the field visit

The third event of the year organized by the association was the Evening lecture under the title of "Professional Indemnity Insurance" and followed by a Gathering.



Welcome presentation before field visit



Construction is in progress



Formwork arrangement for viaduct beam

Future Events Organized by ACESL

1. Personal Income Tax [Evening lecture]
2. Field Visit ii [Broadlands Hydropower Project]

Edited by:

Eng P Dhammika Dharmaratne
E-mail: acesl.editor@gmail.com

Published by:

The Association of Consulting Engineers,
Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau,
No. 415,
Buddhaloka Mawatha,
Colombo 07,
Sri Lanka.

President :

Eng. (Ms.) Kamala Gunawardena
E-mail: acesl.president@gmail.com

Hon. Secretary:

Eng. A W Gamage
E-mail: acesl.secretary@gmail.com