

Headline	Heat is on for energy-efficient solutions		
MediaTitle	The Star		
Date	17 May 2016	Language	English
Circulation	338,368	Readership	1,032,000
Section	Metro	Page No	21
ArticleSize	631 cm ²	Journalist	Jessie Lim
PR Value	RM 95,268		



Heat is on for energy-efficient solutions

Mechanical and electrical engineering players set to address pertinent issues at upcoming show



story by
JESSIE LIM

lym.jessie@thestar.com.my

MALAYSIA's electricity is primarily generated from burning fossil fuel such as oil, coal and natural gas. But these are finite resources, and with demand for electricity on the rise, there's a need to seek alternative power sources and improve energy efficiency.

This is the main theme of the Asean Mechanical & Electrical Show 2016 from May 23 to 25 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.

As we move towards enhancing the use of renewable energy resources, key players in the mechanical and electrical engineering (M&E) industry will have to address these issues and look for solutions.

The biennial show combines three top events: Tenaga Expo & Forum 2016 power and electrical industry show, Green Energy Asia 2016 – green technology and renewable energy show and Revac 2016 – refrigeration, ventilation, and air-conditioning show.

United Business Media (UBM) Asia managing director (Asean business) M. Gandhi revealed that the power and electrical industry show would not only focus on energy production, but also highlight the importance of energy efficiency.

"It is becoming extremely important, especially with the heatwave now. Everyone is complaining that they are paying too much to Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB), but it's actually because of the El Nino effect.

"For that reason, M&E engineers need to find solutions to design buildings that use less energy through lighting, lifts and air-conditioning, to name a few.

"We're looking at improving building automation to save energy. The building has an automatic centralised system that controls everything including the building's heating, ventilation, air conditioning and lighting," said Gandhi.

The Electrical and Electronics Association of Malaysia (TEEAM) president Chew Shee Fuee pointed out that people would continue to consume a lot of energy.

"We need to use less energy yet maintain similar capacity at the same time.

"There are many ways to mitigate the usage of energy, including using renewable sources like water and solar. Through this exhibition, we want people to be aware of the methods and ways they can save Earth and contribute to sustainable living," said Chew.

Even though technology has advanced, they have not been widely implemented

because of several factors, including awareness and cost.

Chiew cited the act of buying a normal air-conditioner because it is cheaper than an inverter model.

"But if you do the math, in the long term, you'll end up having to pay more."

TEEAM is a representative body of the electrical and electronics industries in Malaysia which works closely with government departments, statutory bodies and the private sector.

Gandhi said one of the biggest challenges faced is storage.

"Energy is produced but unless you use it immediately, it disappears.

"Solar photovoltaic (PV) panels are often installed to harness energy from the sun. Similar to a powerbank, what if energy can also be stored so people are able to use it at night or on a rainy day?

"Hence, we can reduce or control the usage of energy, pay less in bills and conserve the environment.

"The problem that we are facing now is the ability to store energy cheaply," he said.

Also participating in the exhibition is Jumbohan Marketing Sdn Bhd, an industrial supplier for standby power supply backup equipment, providing services to clients such as TNB and the oil and gas sector.

Jumbohan chief executive officer Johan Siew said the cost of batteries was high because it was the only immediate form of energy storage and generation.

"The industry is now trying to downsize the carbon footprint which is why they came up with the lithium battery as its footprint is small, yet it is able to store a higher capacity," he said.

Siew added that for a utilities producer to cater to high demand during the day, when a lot of people use energy, solar and energy storage would be ideal.

"It is not cost-efficient to build a power plant just to cater to high demand at certain times," shared Siew.

As more and more electronic devices are used and power consumption goes up, safety is another issue that will become more important.

Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM) Electrical Engineering Technical Division chairman Yau Chau Fong added that to address issues on electrical safety including lightning strikes and mobile phone charging, they had invited the Energy Commission to give an overview of the latest electricity regulations.

"Through this talk, the public will be aware of the things they need to comply with as well as understand why such incidences

occur. IEM will also equip visitors with the latest regulations including household electrical standards and codes of practice for elec-

Headline	Heat is on for energy-efficient solutions		
MediaTitle	The Star		
Date	17 May 2016	Language	English
Circulation	338,368	Readership	1,032,000
Section	Metro	Page No	21
ArticleSize	631 cm ²	Journalist	Jessie Lim
PR Value	RM 95,268		

trical installation in buildings,” he added.

IEM and its divisions will also be organising a technical seminar on energy efficiency and renewable energy which will be conducted by speakers who are leaders in the industry.

The sixth edition of Asean M&E Show 2016 will host over 380 exhibitors from more than 23 countries and is expected to draw some 10,500 trade visitors from 15 countries.

The exhibition will showcase emerging, innovative and world-class technologies, products and services to industry manufacturers, suppliers and vendors.



(From left) UBM (M) Sdn Bhd senior sales executive Mohd Ridzuan Husin, Jumbohan Marketing Sdn Bhd marketing and business development manager Magdalena Ognenoska, UBM Asean Business Development director Eliane Van Doorn, Siew, Yau, Gandhi, Chew and UBM (M) Sdn Bhd senior project manager Jo Teh at the interview with the media on the Asean M&E Show 2016.