

## Joint Media Release

# **BUILDING INDUSTRY SEES INCREASED DEMAND FOR SURVEYORS AND VALUERS**

*BCA and SISV sign Memorandum of Understanding to raise profile of surveyors and valuers in the building and construction industry*

1 There has been an increase in demand for quantity surveyors, land surveyors, valuers and property managers in the recent years due to the rising number of new developments. At the technical level, a shortage of quantity surveyors and land surveyors is being faced by the industry due to the lack of qualified personnel in Singapore. Hence, the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) and the Singapore Institute of Surveyors and Valuers (SISV) joined hands to put in place a number of initiatives to build up and strengthen the pool of building professionals within the industry.

2 To meet the increasing demand for such personnel, the BCA Academy (BCAA) and SISV will be jointly introducing more academic programmes such as diploma, specialist diploma and degree courses to train new professionals and to upgrade the skill sets of existing ones. In addition, BCAA will also be working with SISV to initiate more dialogue sessions with firms in the industry to facilitate discussion on developing such capabilities.

3 To further promote and advance quantity surveying, land surveying, valuation and property management professions in Singapore, BCA and SISV signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the opening ceremony of the 7<sup>th</sup> International Cost Engineering Council World Congress and 14<sup>th</sup> Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors Congress 2010 held at Resorts World Sentosa on 26 July 2010. Under the agreement, the two organisations will share resources, promote educational programmes and jointly create and implement new products and services to drive the local building industry forward. Guest of honour, Dr Amy Khor, Mayor of the South West District and Senior Parliamentary Secretary

of Ministry of Environment and Water Resources & Deputy Government Whip, witnessed the signing of the MOU together with 250 participants from the Asia Pacific region.

4 Commenting on the collaboration, Dr John Keung said, “I’m confident that this new collaboration will help elevate the occupational profile in the built environment. BCA looks forward to working with SISV to develop more programmes to train personnel at the technical and professional level to meet the needs of the industry.”

5 This is the first time the two congresses, the 7<sup>th</sup> International Cost Engineering Council World (ICEC) Congress and the 14<sup>th</sup> Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors (PAQS) Congress 2010, are held concurrently. The congress, organised by SISV, took place from 23 to 27 July and was themed “Sustainable Cost Management: Borderless Innovation”. It provided a platform for international and local Quantity Surveyors and Cost Engineers (QS & CE) to share knowledge and expertise, as well as to promote innovative services that would help enhance and value-add to services rendered to clients.

6 Mr Goh Ngan Hong, President of SISV (QS Division) said, “This conference is a significant milestone for SISV. This is the first time SISV has hosted the ICEC World Congress in addition to the regional PAQS Congress. The congress provided an excellent platform for QS and allied professionals to exchange ideas and views on QS and CE practices in all parts of the world. It was also an excellent platform for the signing of the MOU which mirrors the objective of ICEC and PAQS in promoting the profession of QS and CE.”

7 More information on the 7<sup>th</sup> International Cost Engineering Council World Congress and the 14<sup>th</sup> Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors Congress 2010 can be found at <http://paqs2010.com.sg>.

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## **About BCA**

The Building and Construction Authority (BCA) of Singapore champions the development of an excellent built environment for Singapore.

BCA's mission is to shape a safe, high quality, sustainable and friendly built environment, as these are four key elements where BCA has a significant influence. In doing so, it aims to differentiate Singapore's built environment from those of other cities and contribute to a better quality of life for everyone in Singapore. Hence, its vision is to have "the best built environment for Singapore, our distinctive global city".

Together with its education and research arm, the BCA Academy of the Built Environment, BCA works closely with its industry partners to develop skills and expertise that help shape the best built environment for Singapore.

For more information, visit [www.bca.gov.sg](http://www.bca.gov.sg).

## **About BCA Academy**

The BCA Academy of the Built Environment is the education and research arm of the Building and Construction Authority, Singapore. It is the leading institution in Singapore that provides a comprehensive range of training and education programmes tailored to the needs of the building and construction industry. In support of the national effort to develop Singapore into a green and sustainable city, the BCA Academy is pioneering several initiatives in training and research on renewable energy, green building design and technology, and sustainable development. To enable industry leaders and practitioners to learn from the experience and knowledge of leading experts in this field, the Academy collaborates with global leaders and institutions in running executive courses, academic programmes, seminars and workshops on sustainable development and green buildings.

## **About SISV**

The Singapore Institute of Surveyors and Valuers (SISV) represents local land surveyors, quantity surveyors, valuers, property managers, property consultants and real estate agents at the professional level. Our members actively service the real estate sector and construction industry. They also help shape Singapore's vast built-city environment – from land development design & implementation right through to final issue of strata title.

The Institute comprises 3 divisions: the Land Surveyors, the Quantity Surveyors and the Valuation and General Practice Surveyors.

The Land Surveyors play a crucial role in the proper erection of buildings, especially high-rise construction, and the accurate delineation and identification of vertical and horizontal interests in these buildings.

The Quantity Surveyors are consulted on the economics of cost in the development or redevelopment process.

The Valuers give advice on the values of interests in property upon which all real estate activities are based on. In addition, the Valuation and General Practice Surveyors also comprise real estate

professionals dealing in marketing and agency, management and various forms of consultancy on real estate issues.

The objectives of the Institute are to:

- secure the advancement and facilitate the acquisition of professional knowledge;
- promote the general interests of the profession and to maintain and improve its usefulness for the benefit of the public;
- regulate and improve the standards of professional conduct and practice of its members.

For more information, visit [www.sisv.org.sg](http://www.sisv.org.sg)

### **About ICEC**

The International Cost Engineering Council (ICEC) is a nonpolitical and nonprofit organization which was founded in 1976 with the objective of promoting cooperation between national and multinational cost engineering, quantity surveying and project management organizations worldwide for their mutual wellbeing and that of their individual members.

ICEC member societies are located in more than 40 countries, and have chapters or sections in many additional countries. Through these chapters and sections, ICEC has access to more than 120,000 cost engineers and project managers in over 120 different nations.

For more information, visit [www.icoste.org](http://www.icoste.org)

### **About PAQS**

The Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors (PAQS) is an international association of national organizations representing Quantity Surveyors in the Asia and Western Pacific region.

The Mission of the PAQS is:

- The promotion of the practice of quantity Surveying (QS) in the region.
- The promotion of “best practice” for QS in the region.
- The promotion of dialogue between member organizations.
- Encouragement of regional co-operation in the practice of QS.
- Fostering of research appropriate to the better understanding of building practice in the region.
- Rendering of assistance to members of member organizations working in each other’s countries

For more information, visit [www.paqs.net](http://www.paqs.net)