

MEDIA RELEASE

FIRST SINGAPORE CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTIVITY WEEK AIMS AT ENTRENCHING PRODUCTIVITY CULTURE

1. The Building and Construction Authority today launched its inaugural Singapore Construction Productivity Week as part of the industry-wide campaign to promote productivity. The week-long campaign starting from 25 to 29 April 2011 promises to be one where expertise is shared, ideas are exchanged, partnerships are strengthened and industry awareness is heightened to stimulate a productivity culture among industry stakeholders.

2. Underlying the success of the construction industry's productivity efforts is the core competence that is residing in the construction personnel. Hence, BCA and the Singapore Contractors Association Limited (SCAL) have joined hands to organise a Skilled Builder competition to raise awareness of the productivity improvement at workers' level. The competition will showcase some of the latest technologies and construction methods that have a significant impact in improving site productivity. About 100 workers from 21 companies will pit their skills in handling equipment such as crane and telescopic handler and in construction methods such as installation of dry walls with mechanical and electrical services and system formwork set-ups.

3. BCA has earlier identified the 3D Building Informational Modelling tool as a way to improve productivity and saving costs by precision planning and reducing wastage of resources and time in the entire construction value chain. An overwhelming 47 teams,

comprising a total of 136 students and professionals, will compete against each other using the three-dimensional building modelling system over a gruelling 24-hour period to unveil Singapore's most skilled BIM users. The results of the Skilled Builder Competition and BIM Competition will be revealed at the opening of the Build Smart Conference on Wednesday.

4. The 2-day Conference will be held at the Singapore Expo, where international and local speakers would be sharing with participants on how advanced technologies and innovative construction methods could lead to productivity improvements. Alongside the conference is the BuildTech Asia Exhibition, which showcases the latest construction-related technologies and products, at the Singapore Expo from Wednesday to Friday. At the end of the week-long campaign, there will be site tours to projects that have implemented or are in the process of using highly productive construction methods and technologies.

5. BCA and MND have also earlier introduced the Construction Productivity Roadmap as a comprehensive and holistic plan to tackle the challenge of lifting the construction sector's productivity in the long-term. One of the key thrusts of the Roadmap is to incentivise firms to adopt technology and build capability, and the incentive schemes under the \$250 million Construction Productivity and Capability Fund were recently enhanced with greater funding support and coverage. To date, more than 500 firms in the construction industry have benefitted from the Fund and close to \$9 million has been committed.

6. "This critical stage of implementing the Roadmap has to be a collaborative effort between the industry and the government," says BCA CEO, Dr John Keung. "I would like to encourage small and medium sized construction businesses to act now to take advantage of the incentive schemes under the Construction Productivity and Capability Fund to improve their productivity."

Annex A – Summary of Events in the Singapore Construction Productivity Week

Year 2011	Mon (25 Apr)	Tue (26 Apr)	Wed (27 Apr)	Thu (28 Apr)	Fri (29 Apr)
Event	Launch of Singapore Construction Productivity Week Start of Skilled Builder and BIM Competition	Continuation of Skilled Builder and BIM Competition	Opening of Build Smart Conference & BuildTech Asia 2011 Exhibition	Day 2 of Build Smart Conference BuildTech Asia 2011 Exhibition	Half-day Build Smart Site Tours BuildTech Asia 2011 Exhibition
Venue	BCA Academy	BCA Academy	Singapore Expo	Singapore Expo	Singapore Expo

Annex B – Summary of Skilled Builder and BIM Competitions

1. Telescopic Handler Operations



- Competitors are required to maneuver the telescopic handler in accordance to the circuit drawing provided and perform predetermined operations smoothly and safely. Competitors will be expected to transport items such as beams and barrels while tackling challenging courses.
- Competitors will have to demonstrate the following skills:
 1. Smooth maneuvering of telescopic handler
 2. Efficient handling of handler in tight or difficult positions
 3. Familiarity of telescopic handler lifting controls
 4. Fast and safe operation of telescopic handler
- The top 2 operators will be awarded champion and runner- up respectively. The competition will test them in all elements of skills involved in telescopic handler operations.

2. System Formwork Installation



- The 4-men teams are expected to be able to comprehend drawings, effectively plan their time, demonstrate competence with tools, observe safety and keep work stations clean and tidy. Participants will be judged on their understanding of the drawings and producing quality system formwork while adhering to a strict timeframe
- Competitors will have to demonstrate the following skills:
 1. Measuring and marking out
 2. Planning and setting out work
 3. Working from detailed drawings to erect formwork
 4. Working with a range of materials and tools
 5. Erect with both vertical and horizontal forms
- The top 2 teams will be awarded champion and runner -up respectively. The competition will test them in all elements of skills involved in system formwork erection.

3. Drywall Installation



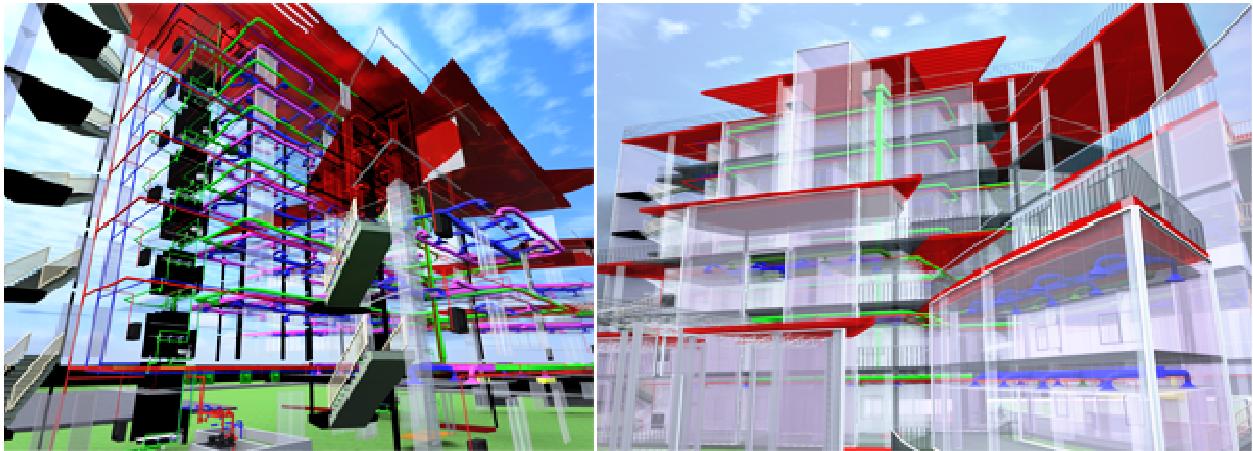
- The 3-men teams will compete in a specific drywall project designed to challenge the team's ability to interpret drawings, measure accurately, install simple M&E services, effectively plan their time, demonstrate competence with tools and use appropriate materials to produce accurate and neat work outputs while adhering to strict timeframe. Participants are to demonstrate observance of safety and good housekeeping habits.
- Competitors will have to demonstrate the following skills:
 1. Measuring and marking out
 2. Planning and setting out work
 3. Working from detailed drawings
 4. Working with a range of drywall materials and tools
- The top 2 teams will be awarded champion and runner- up respectively. The competition will test them in all elements of skills involved in drywall partition and services installation.

4. Crane Operations



- Using the crane operations simulator, competitors are required to complete a series of tasks in a given scenario provided. The scenario will include both simple and complicated maneuvers commonly performed during lifting and will be designed to fully utilise all aspects of crane controls. Completed projects will be assessed by an automated system.
- Competitors will have to demonstrate the following skills:
 1. Ability to lift and hoist load in a safe and stable manner
 2. Perform lifting for the installation of precast panel or structural steel
 3. Observe proper safety procedure
 4. Ability to follow signals given by the virtual signal man
 5. Ability to complete operations within the given time
- The top 2 operators will be awarded champion and runner -up respectively. The competition will test them in all elements of skills involved in crane operations.

5. Building Information Modelling (BIM)



- Teams of two to three persons from the same category will participate in the 2-day Open BIM Competition (total of 24-hours at the BCA Academy). Staff of industry firms or school students and lecturers can form teams to participate. Industry practitioners can also form teams with the school students.
 1. Architecture
 2. C&S Engineering
 3. M&E Engineering
 4. Construction, QS and FM
 5. Student
- Competitors will have to demonstrate the following:
 1. Ability to demonstrate the capability of BIM and as many of its benefits as possible within the stipulated time (e.g. conceptual design, modelling, documentation, simulation/analysis, walkthrough, quantity take-off, clash detection etc)
 2. Creative and innovative use of BIM for better sustainable or buildable design
 3. Presentation style that shows team work and effort
 4. Interoperability across various software platforms (e.g. Modelling to simulation/rendering)