

Event Report: Three Mechanical Engineering Lecturers Participate in Technical Talk on “Design & Detailing of Slabs with Welded Steel Fabric (mesh) complying with MS145 Reinforcing Steel and MS146 Steel Bars for Reinforcement of Concrete

By Lim Hooi Peng

The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM) organized a technical talk on design and detailing of slabs with welded steel fabric in relation to compliance with CIDB Akta 520 on 27th February 2016 at the Grand Paragon Hotel, Johor Bahru. This talk was presented by Southern Steel Mesh Sdn. Bhd. (SSM), a leading steel fabric manufacturer in the country with its production plants strategically located in Klang, Prai and Tanjung Langsat. SSM fabric is now widely used in the construction industry throughout Malaysia and Singapore.

The talk started with video presentation by Southern Steel Group followed by the first section sharing by Ir. Yap Kong Lim. He is currently the Technical Manager in SSM. He graduated from National University of Singapore and has more than 15 years of working experience in the mesh industries. He covered the history and the basics of steel mesh including the properties, standards and fabric references. The technical advantages shown by the product has successfully drawn attention of the participants.





The talk was attended by 75 participants from companies and academia. As technological development sweeps rapidly through the industries, it is critical that the products meet the highest demands of quality and performance. Therefore, targets of IEM is to provide a platform for related industries to share their latest findings for continuous quality improvement. Second section was delivered by Mr. Ong Kok Keong on how the company optimizes a construction by using pre-fabrication. The topics covered are found to be related to the subjects taught in Programme Mechanical Engineering Materials. The reinforcing steel bar was formed by melting the steel scraps which are recyclable. Followed by the process of hot rolled and heat treatment to enhance the mechanical properties of the materials. Alloying process is an alternative to improve the ductility and durability of the steel bar.



Three lecturers from Mechanical Engineering Department have attended the technical talk. They are Graduate Engineer registered under IEM, namely Engr. Lim Hooi Peng, Engr. Maisarawani binti Spahat and Engr. Siti Rahaida binti Abdullah. A discussion of possible research and collaboration activities has been carried out between Polytechnic and Southern Steel Group where it provides a green light for lecturer attachment programme and student industrial training in future.

