

CHAMPIONING GREEN CHANGE IN PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT



iProperty.com has joined hands with Malaysia Green Building Confederation to promote green buildings for a sustainable built environment for everyone by transforming the way buildings are planned, designed, constructed, maintained and operated. - **REENA KAUR BHATT**

The three-year partnership was announced at the Malaysia Green Building Confederation's (MGBC) third Annual Dinner and Awards Night 2016 on 4th November 2016.

iProperty.com Malaysia, which is part of the REA Group is the country's main property portal, offering comprehensive property listings, related real-estate, and project marketing services. Arthur Charlaftis, Chief Operating Officer International of REA Group said through the partnership, iProperty.com will work closely with MGBC to provide property buyers and investors alike with information on sustainable living.

"Here in Malaysia, and in fact across Asia, sustainability needs to become an integral part of the property experience. We hope that by encouraging young people to adopt and promote sustainable practices at an early age, they will continue to develop these good habits throughout their adult lives," he said after the signing of the agreement at the dinner.

Charlaftis said it was also timely for relevant parties to come up with a blueprint for developing a sustainable society.



Ir. Ahmad Izdihar Supaat, President of MGBC and Arthur Charlaftis, COO -International of REA Group exchanging the partnership agreement.



(L-R) Prof. Dr. Sian Hock Seng (Head of ELKEN Distribution Centre); Ir. Ahmad Hadri Haris (CEO, Malaysian GreenTech Corporation); Ir. Ahmad Izdihar Supaat; Dato' Khor Chap Jen (President & CEO, S P Setia Group); Nazri Abdul Aziz (Director, Digi Technology Centre); Ir. Mohamad Fadzil Shah (Executive Director, KFM Energy Services Sdn Bhd).

“Together with MGBC, we are well-poised to lead our building industry in embracing responsible measures. These will help realise energy savings, water conservation, a healthier indoor environment, better public connectivity, recycling of valuable resources, and provision of greenery in developments,” he added.

MGBC, on the other hand, is Malaysia’s formal representative member in the World Green Building Council (WorldGBC); and during his opening speech, Ir. Kok Yen Kwan updated the audience present that MGBC was admitted as an ESTABLISHED MEMBER of the WorldGBC during the World Green Building Congress in Hong Kong in October 2015.

He further added, “This is indeed a great achievement for Malaysia’s green building industry as a whole - as MGBC is one of only 28 National GBCs globally to be admitted to this highest grade of membership by the WorldGBC.

We are proud to announce that as to date, we have successfully greened 172 million sq ft of building spaces over a 7-year span; or to put into perspective - the size of approximately 435 Petronas Twin Towers.”

At the annual dinner, MGBC also hosted and organised the MGBC Leadership in Sustainability Awards 2016. Recognition was given to organisations with exemplary leadership in promoting the green agenda, having projects fully completed and awarded final GBI (Green Building Index) certification.

The six main pillars of the GBI Rating Tool are building energy efficiency, indoor environmental quality, sustainable site planning and management, materials and resources, water efficiency and innovation.

There were 2 categories, namely ‘Commercial Project Leadership’ for successful green projects and ‘Business Leadership’ which acknowledges organisations who drives and leads change in the green building industry.

The respective winners are listed below:

COMMERCIAL PROJECT LEADERSHIP

- ELKEN Distribution Centre
- Digi Technology Centre
- Bangunan Perdana Putra

BUSINESS LEADERSHIP

- S P Setia Berhad
- Putrajaya Corporation



Arthur delivering his partnership speech.



Welcoming Address by Ir. Ahmad Izdihar Supaat.



Opening Speech by Ir. Kok Yen Kwan, Organizing Chairman of MGBC’s Annual Dinner and Awards Night 2016.