

International Conference on Materials Technology & Energy (ICMTE) 2017

reported by



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Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan hitting the gong to launch the International Conference on Materials Technology and Energy (ICMTE) 2017 at Curtin University Malaysia

The International Conference on Materials Technology & Energy 2017 (ICMTE 2017) was held for the first time in Sarawak at Curtin University Malaysia on 21-23 April, 2017. There were over 100 delegates from countries such as Canada, India, China, Indonesia, Singapore, Australia, Germany and Malaysia. They included scholars, researchers, industrial professionals and practitioners in the fields of Materials & Corrosion Engineering, Welding Technology, Green Technology, Health & Safety and Energy.

The three-day conference was jointly organised by The Institution of Engineers Malaysia Miri Branch (IEM-Miri), Institute of Materials Malaysia Miri Regional Chapter (IMM-Miri) and Curtin University Malaysia. The conference was

financially sponsored by Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB) and Sarawak Convention Bureau (SCB), and supported by the Miri City Council (MCC). The conference also enjoyed the honour of Institute of Physics United Kingdom (IOP) as partner publisher for its conference proceedings.

Officiating at ICMTE 2017 was Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan (Second Minister for Resource Planning & Environment and Minister for Industrial & Entrepreneur Development, Trade and Investment, Sarawak). Also present were Datuk Lee Kim Shin (Assistant Minister for Land & Air Transportation and Safety and Assistant Minister for Tourism, Sarawak), Datuk Haji Julaihi bin Haji Narawi (Assistant Minister for Rural Economy – Coastal Areas & Fisheries,



IEM Deputy President Ir. David Lai enjoying the Sarawak cultural dance experience

Sarawak and Assistant Minister for Industrial Development, Investment & Promotion, Sarawak), Datuk Haji Mohd. Naroden bin Haji Majais (Assistant Minister for Resource Planning and Assistant Minister for Entrepreneur Development, Sarawak), Puan Sherrina binti Hassaini (Miri Resident), Datuk Bandar Adam Yii Siew Sang (Miri Mayor), Ir. David Lai Khong Phooi (Deputy President, IEM), Encik Mohd.

Azmi Mohd. Noor (President of Institute of Materials Malaysia), Prof. Clem Kuek (Dean of Research & Development and Director of the Curtin Malaysia Research Institute) and Assoc. Prof. Vincent Lee Chieng Chen (Organising Chairperson of ICMTE 2017).

The 5 international keynote speakers were:

1. Encik Mohd. Azmi Mohd. Noor on the essence of asset integrity management in ageing offshore production facilities.
2. Prof. Rolf Gubner (Professor of Corrosion and Deputy Director, Advanced Learning of Curtin Corrosion Engineering Industry Centre) on the importance of onshore and offshore corrosion management system.
3. Ir. Pau Kiew Huai (CEO of PETRONAS LNG-Malaysia) on the overall view in managing MLNG facilities and the challenges to the Malaysian economy.
4. Mr. Sharbini Suhaili (CEO of Sarawak Energy Berhad) on the advancement and successful transformation of greener and economical Sarawak energy.
5. Mr. Simon Ong (Managing Director of Shell Global Solutions Malaysia) on the continuous global challenges in deepwater exploration and production.

Participants said the conference had provided them with an effective platform for international networking and exchanging of technical ideas, knowledge and information on developments and innovations in the fields of materials engineering, green technology and energy, particularly eco-friendly and long-term sustainable solutions in structures, materials and manufacturing as well as the environment, energy and resources.

ICMTE 2017 created linkages and cooperation between academia and industry. It offered innovative solutions for the materials technology and energy industries in all sectors. In developing countries such as Malaysia, these sectors play an important role in national development and the dissemination of cutting-edge technology and research is important.

The parallel oral presentations covered various key research areas such as materials engineering, welding technology, asset integrity management, corrosion engineering, drilling and production, inspection techniques, shipbuilding, applications in oil and gas, oleochemical, petrochemical, renewable energy, wastewater treatment, produced water treatment, cleaner production technology, petroleum geology and hydro/solar power generation. All accepted full papers at this conference will be published in IOP Conference Series: Materials Science and Engineering.

The three-day conference ended with a one-day trip to Niah National Park. Participants went on a jungle walk, an Iban longhouse tour and visited caves. The park was a major settlement as early as 40,000 years ago. It features one of the world's largest cave entrances, palaeolithic and neolithic burial sites, and iron-age cave paintings. ■