A technical presentation on “Office Lighting Design” was successfully organised by the IEM Electrical Engineering Technical Division on Friday, 12 December 2003 at 5:30p.m. at IEM Conference Room A, Bangunan Ingenieur, Petaling Jaya.

The presentation attracted 75 participants. The speaker was Mr. Marius Wouters, who is the Senior Application Specialist, Indoor Lighting at Philips Lighting Design And Application Centre (Lidac). He graduated with a degree in physics from Dordrecht Technical High School. He joined Philips in 1977 in the field of fundamental physics research, followed by positions in the development of lamps in the Lighting Division. He has vast experience in the field of lighting design and applications after having worked on numerous indoor and outdoor lighting designs and applications in Europe.

The session commenced with the Session Chairman, Ir. Mah Soo, welcoming all present followed by the introduction of the Speaker, Mr Marius Wouters.

The Speaker started with the introduction of the new European norm for optics for offices, followed by the discussion on new European Standard EN12464-1, which specifies the requirements for lighting systems for indoor workplaces.

The Speaker then touched on the elements of quality and quantity of lighting with special focus on office lighting design with illustrations on task area, direct and reflected glare, colour aspects and the maintenance factor.

He concluded that the new EN12464-1 needs to be studied for harmonisation with the European standards. The aim of lighting design is directed to the human aspects such as visual comfort, visual environment and safety. With the understanding of how to design a good lighting system, one can save costs with better comfort giving a better quality of life, better performance and productivity.

The Question and Answer session was lively and active, with questions on how the new standard compares to the British Standards currently in use, and requests for more elaboration on design in terms of spot and average luminance. The speaker fielded the questions to the satisfaction of the participants.

The Chairman concluded the presentation with a summary of the highlights of the presentation and invited the participants to show their appreciation to the Speaker in the usual manner. He then presented a token of appreciation to the Speaker.

The session concluded with a note of thanks to all the members of the organising committee, the Speaker and Philips Malaysia, and most of all to the participants for making the session a success.