

Evening Talk on “Introducing a Reliability Mindset”

by **Ir. Mah Soo**

THE EETD organised an evening talk entitled “Introducing a reliability mindset” at Wisma IEM C&S Lecture Hall A on 9 February 2010. The evening talk was made possible with the help of Ir. Lam Sing Yew during Mr. Jim Wardhaugh’s visit to Malaysia.



Mr. Wardhaugh showing the book which he donated to Ir. Lam and Ir. Mah Soo

Mr. Wardhaugh’s opening presentation slide, which struck an uncanny note with the audience, began by introducing process plants as money machines, high availability as reliability business venture and reliability is not mathematics but a mindset.

He stressed the importance of using the right equipment for the intended purpose starting from the initial design, procurement, installation and commissioning stages followed by operating and maintaining them well.

He then introduced the various risk-based techniques to focus on reliability to produce the consequential results in addressing safety and environmental, availability, quality and costs concerns. He focused on the solving of failures that have occurred with the Root Cause Analysis (RCA) concepts to eliminate future failures.

He cited examples from his vast experience in the petrochemical industry to demonstrate the difference in the performance characteristics of various plants which focused on repair or reliability culture. This was followed by the introduction of the Reliability Centered Maintenance (RCM) concepts to focus on putting effort where it mattered. He touched on the risk-based ‘criticality’ approach of mapping the probability to the impact of the attendant consequences with a brief description of the seven steps methodology to determine the root cause of incidents and to verify which category of the physical, human or latent root classifications that they could be grouped.

He then focused on the aforementioned applications to the electrical systems of switchgear, motors and diesel generators with a roadmap towards better reliability performance from process, equipment and human reliability in translating into achieving business goals.

Mr. Wardhaugh has published numerous books and was kind enough to donate one of his books, *100 Years of Maintenance & Reliability: Practical Lessons from Three Lifetimes at Process Plants* by Vee Narsayan, Jim Wardhaugh, Mahen Das to the IEM’s library for the benefit of its members.

The talk ended with an actively participated Q&A session and the presentation of a certificate as well as token of appreciation to Mr. Wardhaugh. ■



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