

FACULTY ALUMNI SUCCEEDED IN COMPETING IN THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

This is the response to the challenge whereby the government encouraged local professionals to venture in business. He was an experienced civil engineer and was determined to setup his own company. He resigned from his previous job and he established the SABA Consultant Sdn Bhd. His main aim is to respond to the challenge as laid out by the government to see more bumiputra professionals involve in business.

Dato' Ir. Haji Mohd Isa bin Sarman was a former graduate from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia who graduated in the year 1977. He formed the SABA Consult on 20th February 1984 as a privately owned company that carry out works in the field of civil engineering and structural consultation. The word SABA originates from the Malay words and in civil engineering term means; Structural (Struktur), Civil (Awam) and Water Supply (Bekalan Air). The motto of the company is Obedient (Setia), Trustworthy (Amanah), Cooperation (Bekerjasama) and Fairness (Adil) and it has become the basis for him and the staff of SABA Consultant to run the job and responsibilities.

Now, after 20 years in operation, the privately owned company SABA Consult is to generate strength to face the era of globalization challenges. Dato' Ir. Hj. Mohd Isa Bin Sarman started his career in Perbadanan Kemajuan Ekonomi Negeri Johor (PKENJ) as a civil engineer and later becomes the Sectional Engineering manager. Even though he was involved in project management, he was appointed as a Director of PKENJ subsidiary company that gave him the early exposure in business

By January 1983, he joined Jurutera Perunding Kemajuan Sdn. Bhd as an executive director. Among the big projects he supervised were the bridge spanning



*The founder of SABA Consultant Sdn Bhd :
Dato' Ir. Haji Mohd Isa bin Sarman*

the perak river in Kampung Gajah, rehabilitation of Sungai Buloh Batu 3 Shah Alam and housing scheme in Klang. Together with Ir. Haji Noor Razman bin Abdul Razak, he formed the SABA Consultant Sdn Bhd and it was registered in June 2005. Dato' Ir. Haji Mohd Isa is also a "Fellow" in the Institution of Engineers Malaysia and also a member of Board of Engineers Malaysia. He was awarded the Darjah Dato' Paduka Tuanku Jaafar (DPTJ) in the year 2008.

Among the services rendered by SABA Consultant.

- Civil Engineering and Structural services
- Detailed design Civil Engineering and Structural works for roads, bridges, airports, housing, institutions, complex and industrial buildings and services to architects.
- Public health engineering inclusive of water supply, sewerage and drainage. Foundation engineering and geotechnical.
- Project management and supervision
- Planning for Civil engineering and structural for the development of new township, town center, housing scheme, industrial areas and area development. Preparation of tender documents, tender evaluation.
- Project supervision.
- Advising the client and the preparation of the project development working paper
- Independent assessor for engineering works for clients who needed second opinion for works carried out by nominated consultants
- Forensic services for problematic structural design
- Project management services.

Contribution to society

Dato' Ir. Haji Mohd Isa's philosophy is that success and profit should be shared and distributed for the progress of the race, religion and nation. For him, human capital is the most important element in the formation of a progressive society in terms of knowledge and spiritual.

On that note, he formed the Institut Tahfiz SABA on 17th October 1996, which is a non-profitable private institution. Approval for the institution was given by the Religious Department (JAIS). The institute offers higher education in the field of Tahfiz Al-Quran and Al-Qiraat in accordance with the curriculum and education scheme under the Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia

He also hoped that the students will always use their effort to understand the foundation (basic) in engineering because it is important to the practitioners and to the real world. He also noticed that there were many softwares that are used in engineering but the students rarely refer to the foundation (basic) in civil engineering. And that this matter is rampant with new engineers. He added that the students should have interest in reading especially the magazines that are related to the Civil Engineering knowledge. Wide reading will enable the students to understand the knowledge better and be able to put forward their innovative and creative ideas.

As humans, we need to balance the needs of the world and the goodness of the afterlife. The responsibilities of being a member of the family and society need to be implemented in order for us to live a happy life in this world and the hereafter. He also advised the would be graduates to abstain from corruption. He quoted the words from the late Tan Sri Aminuddin Abd Wahid, "Even though a cup of coffee or a stick of cigarette, we need to should not accept from it". That is the advice/motto to which he holds until now.

First impression is very important. The students are advised to take care of their appearance especially when dealing with official matters. Self image and the organization they represent should be given due care so as to enable their opinion and views to be heard and their presence felt. The communication skills especially in speaking the English language need to be strengthened during their studies. He added that without the English language, the graduate will not be able to move further.

He hoped that the UTM Alumni will unite as a strong and reliable group. Strong networking will enhance cooperation amongst the group. This will allow the faculty to produce reliable and authoritative professional engineers.

Successful projects by SABA Consultant

- **Projek Akademi Seni Kebangsaan di Bandar Kuala Lumpur**
- **Grandstand MPSJ di USJ 5 Subang Jaya Mukim dan daerah Petaling**
- **Ibu pejabat Bank Simpanan Nasional di jalan Ampang, KL**



Objectives of the Formation

- To fulfil the responsibilities of fardhu kifayah
- To produce skill hafiz/hafizah who are well versed with Al-Quran in the related field
- To maintain the sanctity and truth of Al-Quran from the effort of opposers.
- To plant 'roh tarbiyah islamiah' through 'manhaj' Al-Quran
- To prepare the manpower for the institutions
- To follow the teachings of Al-Quran and As-Sunnah



Dato' Ir. Mohd Isa receiving scroll from Almarhum Sultan Iskandar, The Chancellor in 1977