

Message from the Chairman

NC Cheung

Welcome to this new issue of Sounding Board. Since I took up the Chairmanship in April this year, our new executive committee members and I have been busy getting us orientated to our new appointments. We have certainly tried our very best to improve our performance and making sure that we will continue to provide better services to our members in the two-year term with the Institute.

In the last two months we visited Taipei and Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) in Tseung Kwan O. We presented ourselves in a Symposium organized jointly by Institute of Transportation and The Acoustic Society in Taiwan. Four papers in the areas of environmental noise mitigations were delivered by HKIOA and it was well received by the government officials and acoustic professionals. In May, over 30 members participated in the visit to the TVB Studio. The Project Manager, Mr. Kelvin Leung in the Engineering Division, welcomed us on the spot. He shared his valuable experience in handling interior acoustics in setting up a major studio environment and gave us a very fruitful guided tour.

In the coming months, we will organize more visits for members to maintain our contacts as well as ourselves up-to-date. I would like to extend my thanks to Ir. Maurice Yeung and Dr. CW Law in making the contacts for the above two visits.

We have submitted our application for the incorporation of HKIOA Ltd. to the Business Registration. KK Iu and I are working on it and expect to be materialized soon.

On the training side, we will continue to have collaboration with VTC to organize courses in acoustics subjects. Details are being discussed. I personally would like to strengthen in the areas of basic training in acoustic practices and would like to organize more training courses for members or other interested people to participate. The Working Group for look at "Noise Planning" matters is still in progress. I will follow up with Dr. KM Li on this issue and report our findings to members.

Please visit our website www.hkioa.org and feel free to contact us.

Message from the Editor

YN Au Yeung



This is the first newsletter since our new Chairman took up the chairmanship and is also the first one that I tried to do the layout. I have to thank Maurice for his past effort in doing the layout of the previous issues of Sounding Board since it has gone electronic and this newsletter was also based on the format developed by him.

In my recent talk with my friend, I realised that he was not aware of the change in Occupational Deafness (Compensation) Ordinance that was effective in 2003. I then got a question that some members might miss out similar information as my friend and it might worth including a corner, whenever appropriate, to remind members of any recent changes or developments in acoustics. A short article on this Ordinance was therefore included in this newsletter. It is hoped that we can serve you better. Your views are always welcome.

The eleventh Annual General Meeting was held on 17th March 2004 at Garden Room D, 2/F, Hotel Nikko in Tsim Sha Tsui with Cocktail reception started at half an hour earlier. About 60 participants including members and guests attended the meeting. The Institute held a spring dinner in the hotel after the meeting.



The chairman, Ir Dr. K.M. Li declared opening of AGM and the proceedings of the 10th AGM was received. The reports by the Chairman and Hon. Treasurer were received and presented to members. The executive committee members, Dr. K.W Cheng, Mr. James Lo and Ir. Tom Ho retired. Ir Dr. K.M. Li and Ir Dr. C.M. Mak completed the terms of service as Chairman and Hon. Secretary respectively. Ir N.C. Cheung was elected as new Chairman. Ir Tom Ho, Mr. Y.T. Tang, Dr. C.W. Law and Dr. Chong Fan were elected as new Executive Committee Members.



This year, it is our honour to have Prof. C.S. Poon, Department of Civil and Structural Engineering of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, to give a talk. He is also the chairman of the Environmental Division of HKIE. He shared with members many of his experience on construction waste.

At the end of the meeting, certificates were presented to graduates of the Professional Diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control. The professional diploma course is jointly organised by IVE (Chai Wan) and HKIOA.

Report on "Noise Barrier Design and Application in Taiwan and Hong Kong" Symposium

Maurice Yeung & KK Iu

On 28 May 2004, a team of 4 comprised NC Cheung (the Chairman of the HKIOA), KK Iu, Maurice Yeung and Bunny Tsang representing the HKIOA to attend the "Noise Barrier Design and Application in Taiwan and Hong Kong" Symposium (the Symposium) held in Taipei. The Symposium was organised by Taiwan Acoustical Society and Institute of Transportation, Ministry of Transportation and Communications.



There were about 130 participants. The majority came from government departments, public utility companies, public transportation companies, rail operators etc. 12 papers relating to laws and regulations pertaining to controlling of traffic noise and adoption of barriers, detail design of barriers absorption materials, noise barriers and enclosure design, effectiveness of noise wall in controlling rail noise including the upcoming high speed train from Kaohsiung to Taipei were presented.

Among these papers, the following 4 papers were submitted by members of the HKIOA:

- "The design and construction of noise barriers in Hong Kong" (by NC Cheung)
- "An overview of noise barrier design and effectiveness" (by Maurice Yeung and Dr KMLi)
- "Comparisons between louvered and round holes type absorptive noise barriers" (by KK Iu)
- "Lighting requirement and engineering design of noise enclosure" (by NC Cheung)



An one-hour open forum was then scheduled to enable further exchanges of information.

Technical Seminar: International Acoustical Standards and Measurements

Dr Chong Fan

On 14 April 2004 evening, the HKIOA had hosted a seminar focusing on sound level meter, its calibration and acoustical standards.



We had the honour inviting Dr. George S. K. Wong as the speaker in that evening. He is the Principal Research Officer and the Program Leader responsible for acoustical standards at the Institute for National Measurement Standards, National Research Council of Canada. He is actively involved in acoustical standards activities with international and national organizations. Dr Wong gave us some very updated information on the trend of international acoustical standards of microphone in the world, and shown us different sensitive requirements based on different international standards. He had also shown us a new type of transducer calibrator from his research.

More than 20 members and students attended the seminar. Questions concerning microphone sensitivity and calibrator had been asked. No doubt we have found the evening informative and interesting.



Professional Diploma Course in Acoustics & Noise Control (2004/2005)

Dr Chong Fan

The PD Course in Acoustics & Noise Control (2004/2005) is opened for application now. It is awarded by HKIOA with IVE (Chai Wan) being responsible for its operation.

This ten month part-time course is tutored distance learning which means participants will learn by studying a set of learning materials, and will be given academic support through a schedule of tutorial contacts and laboratory work. Skills of using instruments for measuring and analyzing sound signals, knowledge of the measurement and testing procedures together with proficiency in operating relevant computer simulation programs can be acquired.

The course includes some modules as Principles of Acoustics & Noise Measurement, Transportation Noise & Assessment, Construction & Industrial Noise, and Noise Control Engineering.

It is the first qualification awarded by a local professional body in the field of noise control. The deadline of application is 21 August 2004. For further information and application, please call Miss Pico Ng on 2595 8210.



Occupational Deafness (Compensation) (Amendment) Ordinance 2003

YN Au Yeung

Improvements have been introduced to the Occupational Deafness Compensation Scheme upon the commencement of the captioned Ordinance in May 2003. Examples of improvement include: upward adjustment of the minimum and maximum levels of compensation; upward revision of the percentage of permanent incapacity; and reimbursement of expenses incurred related to hearing assistive devices. Besides, employees of four newly specified noisy occupations are eligible for compensation: slaughterhouse employees; mahjong parlour workers employed to play mahjong as the main duty; bartenders and waiters working near the dancing area in discotheques; and disc jockeys working in discotheques. Details of the amendment can be obtained from the web site of the Labour Department of HKSAR.

HKIOA Executive Committee 2004 – 2005



Chairman

Ir N C CHEUNG
Maunsell Consultants Asia Ltd
Tel : 3105 8686, Fax : 2691 2649
Email : nc.cheung@maunsell.com.hk



Honorary Secretary

Mr Martin CHAN
ANVISION Technologies
Tel : 92622605, Fax : 83437024
Email : anvision@netvigator.com



Honorary Treasurer

Ir Tom HO
S & V Instruments Co., Ltd.
Tel : 28339987, Fax : 28339913
Email : tomho@svsamford.com



Immediate Past Chairman

Ir Dr K M LI
ME, PolyU
Tel : 27667935, Fax : 23654703
Email : mmkli@polyu.edu.hk



Chairman, Membership SC

Ir Dr Westwood HONG
Westwood Hong & Associates
Tel : 28382738, Fax : 25916189
Email : westwoodhong@wha.com.hk



Chairman, Publication SC

Ir Y N AU YEUNG
IVE (TY)
Tel : 24368762, Fax : 24361707
Email : yiuam@vtc.edu.hk



Special Duties

Ir Dr C M MAK
BSE, PolyU
Tel : 27665856, Fax : 27657198
Email : becmmak@polyu.edu.hk



Chairman, Education SC

Dr Fan CHONG
Acoustics and Air Testing Lab. Co. Ltd
Tel : 26683423, Fax : 26686946
Email : fchong@aa-lab.com



Chairman, Information Technology SC

Mr Y T TANG
Maunsell Env Management Consultants Ltd.
Tel : 28931551, Fax : 28910305
Email : yt.tang@maunsell.com.hk



Chairman, Activities SC

Dr C W LAW
Environmental Protection Department
Tel : 25946580, Fax : 28024511
Email : cwlaw@epd.gov.hk



Adviser

External Liaison
Ir Maurice K L YEUNG
Environmental Protection Department
Tel : 28351293, Fax : 25910558
Email : mklyeung@epd.gov.hk



Chairman, Indoor Acoustics SC

Ir Alvin LEUNG
IAC
Tel : 28633555, Fax : 25291961
Email : iachk@netvigator.com



Adviser

Institution Advancement & Discipline
Ir K K IU
NAP Acoustics
Tel : 28662886, Fax : 28663777
Email : kkiu@napafe.com.hk

The contents of articles published in this Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views and opinion of the Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics. Sounding Bound is an official journal of the Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics.