BUILD GREEN, LIVE SMART

As one of the largest green building events in the region, Singapore hosts the Singapore Green Building Week each year to resounding success, and the 7th edition, held from 1 – 4 September 2015, was no different. Playing host to hundreds of foreign delegates from every segment of the construction value chain, SGBW 2015 will remain on visitors’ minds for a long time.

International Green Building Conference 2015

The anchor event for SGBW 2015, the International Green Building Conference 2015 or IGBC, once again gathered the who’s who in the green building industry, invoking insight and thought into the various trends and issues of the day. Organised by the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) with the Singapore Green Building Council (SGBC) and Reed Exhibitions as strategic partners, IGBC this year was a little different, having an additional day for technical workshops added to the usual three-day programme.

Termed Pre-IGBC, this extra day took place on 1 September 2015 before the formal plenary and topical sessions of IGBC began, consisting of a number of Technical Workshops that touched on a myriad of topics including indoor environmental quality and low energy chilled water distribution systems. The Singapore Lighting Technology and Design Centre (SLTDC) also conducted a workshop focused
on innovation in lighting design, specifically on achieving deep energy savings in lighting.

A Green Mark Refresher Training session was also held for Green Mark specialists on this day, giving Certified Green Mark Managers and Professionals an update on the Green Mark scheme, with Mr Tan Phay Ping, Assistant Technical Coordinator of the SGBC Board, sharing on the importance of choosing green building products and materials.

On the morning of 2 September 2015, IGBC 2015 kicked off in earnest. Officiated by Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) Mr Choi Shing Kwok, the year’s conference began with a major announcement: the launch of Green Mark 2015 version. Into a decade of certifying Singapore’s green buildings, the Green Mark scheme has evolved over the years in response to the changing built environment. As the most consultative Green Mark scheme ever that involved the inputs of more than 100 building and construction practitioners, Green Mark 2015 focuses on climatically responsive design, energy effectiveness, greater focus on health and wellbeing of users, smart technologies and a systematic approach to address embodied carbon and resources.

Throughout the three days of IGBC 2015, SGBC was deeply involved in speaking at or moderating a number of talks and plenary sessions that broached further discussion on green building topics and hot button issues. IGBC 2015 once again cements SGBC and Singapore’s position as a thought leader for international green building.

**BEX ASIA 2015**

Running concurrently with the sessions of IGBC, the Build Eco Xpo Asia 2015 (BEX) was also in full swing during all three days. As the premier trade exhibition for sustainable building materials and solutions, the show attracted more than 11000 visitors and participants who thronged the many booths and pavilions in search of new and innovative solutions for their buildings and projects.
As a Featured Pavilion, SGBC's own exhibition space cut a striking visage across Hall B of the Sands Convention Centre. Revolving around the theme of reusability, SGBC's Pavilion for BEX this year was composed of translucent polypropylene boxes, serving as structural material while also allowing booth occupants to store their items in a neat, organised manner. Furthermore, the boxes are fully reusable and recyclable, and they were put to good use after the exhibition before being recycled at the end of their useful life. The Pavilion design was also accentuated with compressed fascia board, itself made of recycled woodchips and shavings.

The lush carpeting of the Pavilion was generously sponsored by Interface Singapore, a three-tick Singapore Green Building Product (SGBP) certified building material that is sustainably-manufactured and does not require any adhesive for installation. For its emphasis on reusability and sustainability, the SGBC Pavilion won the Green Space Award for Best Pavilion Design at BEX Asia for the second consecutive year.

Within the spacious Pavilion, nine companies with SGBP certified products and solutions set up shop to showcase their unique, proven products. With an emphasis on sustainability, these companies are key players in the industry, offering their stable of highly sustainable products to the people who can best make use of them.

Riding on SGBC's branding and market presence, these companies showcased their certified offerings to tradeshow visitors, who are assured of the products' environmental performance as they have cleared the rigorous assessment process of the SGBP labelling scheme.

“We are happy to be part of the SGBC Pavilion for the past three years,” commented Mr Johnny Low, Regional Sales Manager (Building/LAN) for Nexans Singapore. “The event has allowed us to showcase our products and most importantly, Nexans' commitment towards sustainability. Participating under the SBGC Pavilion with other building related associates has also sent a clear message to the public on the availability of holistic "Green Building Solutions"."
SGBC 6th Anniversary Dinner

SGBC celebrated its 6th Anniversary on the evening of 3 September 2015, where it hosted more than 700 guests and industry representatives at its annual anniversary dinner. Held in the Roselle-Simpor Main Ballroom of Marina Bay Sands, the dinner was graced by Mr Quek See Tiat, Chairman of BCA. Guests also took the opportunity to relax after a hectic day at IGBC/BEX Asia 2015, catching up with associates and making new acquaintances with the many representatives from each segment of the construction value chain.

A main highlight of the evening was the launch of SGBC’s newest publication to share insights and technical applications of certified green building products. Titled SG Green, the new magazine is published twice a year, and showcases products certified by the SGBP labelling scheme. Readers will be able to glean insights and ideas on the various green building products, their applications in projects, as well as on local and regional green product trends.

“We hope that with this new magazine, the industry can be better informed of the numerous green building products and services they can adopt for their projects,” said Mr Chia Ngiang Hong, President of the SGBC. “With this knowledge, building professionals can specify more environmentally-proven products, leading to more quality green buildings and contributing towards our national target of greening 80 percent of our existing building stock by 2030.”
During the Anniversary Dinner, 23 companies also received their SGBP and Singapore Green Building Services (SGBS) certificates. These organisations have successfully cleared the stringent assessment process to be a certified green building product or building-related service. Application of such certified green solutions can contribute to a building project’s eventual rating under the BCA’s Green Mark Scheme, now even more so with the introduction of Green Mark 2015.

To date, more than 700 products and about 50 building-related services have been certified by the SGBP and SGBS labelling schemes.

**Green Living 2015**

As the first consumer lifestyle exhibition focused on sustainability, the Green Living exhibition was conceptualised as the largest sustainability and design show to be organised in Singapore.

Held in the Sands Expo and Convention Centre from 4 to 6 September 2015, it is organised by Reed Exhibitions with BCA, SGBC and the Design Business Chamber Singapore as strategic partners.

With a focus on the eco-conscious consumer, the Green Living exhibition presented a collection of sustainability exhibits in a casual, easy-to-digest manner.

Visitors got to appreciate the elements of a Green Office through a green office exhibit, pledge their efforts to live a sustainable lifestyle and evaluate sustainable options in home furnishing and consumables.

There were also booths offering do-it-yourself eco-solutions for the home, as well as many activities for children to take part in
Mark your calendars for IGBC 2016!

- Click [here](#) to register your interest for IGBC 2016.
- Click [here](#) to see how you can be involved in IGBC 2016.
- Click [here](#) to register your interest to participate in the S.GBC Pavilion for BEX Asia 2016.
- Click [here](#) to explore sponsorship opportunities for S.GBC’s 7th Anniversary Dinner.