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News Release

The Institution of Engineers, Singapore Makes History with Election of First Woman President

- **President Er. Lee Bee Wah maps out new direction for IES;**
- **IES to engage community and contribute ideas on relevant social issues**

For the first time in the 42-year history of The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES), the national body representing the engineering profession, a woman was elected to be at the helm of the Institution.

Since its foundation in 1966, IES has been headed by male engineers who come from both the academia and the industry (please refer to Appendix 1). The appointment of Engineer Lee Bee Wah, Principal Partner of LBW Consultants LLP, and Member of Parliament for Ang Mo Kio GRC, as President of IES will mark a milestone in the recognition of the role of women engineers in the traditionally male-dominated discipline.

Engineer Lee will be officially inaugurated as the new IES President during the Institution's 42nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 24 May 2008 at Furama RiverFront

Hotel Singapore in Havelock Road. Her appointment will be for a term of two years (Sessions 2008/09 and 2009/10).

Engineer Lee has been actively involved with the affairs of IES since 1986. She served as a committee member in the Graduates and Students Section before being elected in as a Council member from 1996 to 2004 and 2005 to 2007. She served as Vice President from 2000 to 2004 and 2006 to 2007, and was the Deputy President from 2007 to 2008.

Engineer Tan Seng Chuan, current IES President, said: “Bee Wah has proven herself to be a tenacious and capable individual who has great foresight. I have full confidence in her vision for IES and her ability to bring IES to greater heights.”

Engineer Lee Bee Wah, commenting on her impending new role, said: “I am grateful to Seng Chuan and his team for building up IES. What I hope to do is to take the Institution to its next level and engage the community not only on professional matters but also to see areas where we can contribute towards improving the lives of the people.

“People will realise that engineering is a profession that touches their lives everyday. We will embark on various projects and we believe we can make a positive contribution to the profession and the community.”

For more information, please refer to Appendices 1 to 3.

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APPENDIX 1

LIST OF IES PAST PRESIDENTS

COUNCIL SESSION	NAME
1966/67 & 1967/68	Kenneth Gin Ying Doon
1968/69 & 1969/70	Hiew Siew Nam
1970/71 & 1971/72	Low Sue-Leong
1972/73 & 1973/74	A Vijaratnam
1974/75 & 1975/76	Michael Lee Boon Ping
1976/77 & 1977/78	Francis Mak Kai Tye
1978/79 & 1979/80	Tay Sin Yan
1980/81 & 1981/82	Cham Tao Soon
1982/83 & 1983/84	George Fong
1984/85 & 1985/86	Chen Hung
1986/87 & 1987/88	Chua Soo Tian
1988/89 & 1989/90	Tan Swan Beng
1990/91 & 1991/92	Chang Meng Teng
1992/93 & 1993/94	Tan Ee Ping
1994/95 & 1995/96	Su Guaning
1996/97 & 1997/98	Poo Aun Neow
1998/99 & 1999/2000	Ong Ser Huan
2000/01 & 2001/02	Chew Yong Tian
2002/03 & 2003/04	Lock Kai Sang
2004/05 & 2005/06	Foo Say Wei
2006/07 & 2007/08	Tan Seng Chuan

APPENDIX 2

ABOUT ENGINEER LEE BEE WAH (李美花)



Academic Qualifications

- Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) – 1985 from Nanyang Technological University
- Master of Science (Engineering) – 1990 from University of Liverpool, UK

Lee Bee Wah is registered as a Professional Engineer (Singapore) and as a Chartered Engineer (U.K), and is a Fellow Member of the Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES).

Professional Career

- Er. Lee worked in ST Construction Pte Ltd from 1985 to 1994, and in Wing Tai Property Management Pte Ltd from 1994 to 1996.
- She is the Principal Partner of LBW Consultants LLP (established in 1996 as LBW Consultants).
- Lee Bee Wah is the Member of Parliament, Ang Mo Kio GRC and Advisor to Nee Soon South Grassroots Organisations since 6 May 2006.

Service

Er. Lee has also actively contributed towards the development of the engineering profession over the years. These include:

- Board Member, Professional Engineers Board, 1999–2000, 2006–2008
- Deputy President, The Institution of Engineers, Singapore 2007 & Vice President, 2000–2004, 2006–2007
- President, since 1997, NTU Civil & Environmental Engineering Alumni
- Advisory Committee, NTU School of Civil & Structural Engineering, 2000–2004
- Academic Audit Visiting Committee, 1999, NTU
- Advisory Committee, Board of Bachelor of Technology Programmes from 2000 NUS

- Advisory Committee Member on Occupational Safety and Health for the Construction Industry, 2000–2003, Ministry of Manpower
- Economic Review Committee, Construction Working Group 2002
- BCA Quality Assurance Advisory Committee Member 2000–2003

She also contributed to other professions through her involvement as:

- Member, Complaints & Disciplinary Panel 2004–2008, Accounting & Corporate Regulatory Authority
- Member, Inquiry Committee 2002–2004, Public Accountants Board
- Member, Complaints Panel Committee 2001/2002, Singapore Medical Council
- Singapore Mediation Centre Panel of Mediators, since 1998, and Panel of SOP Adjudicators, since 2005

Awards

Over the past 16 years, she has received several awards in recognition of her achievements and contributions in various areas. These include:

- Jubilee Travelling Scholarship from the Institution of Structural Engineers, UK, in 1990
- Study Tour Grant from Japan Society of Civil Engineers, in 2000
- Nanyang Technological University Alumni Service Award 2000
- 13th Rotary–ASME Top Ten Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2001
- Cambodia Royal Government Gold Medal 2006

Family and Hobbies

Er. Lee is married with one daughter, aged 15, and one son, aged 13. Her hobbies are travelling and golfing.

APPENDIX 3

ABOUT THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, SINGAPORE (IES)

The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES) was formally established in July 1966 as the national society of engineers in Singapore. IES is the premier engineering Institution in Singapore and is called upon by the Government to provide feedback on professional engineering matters. Corporate membership of IES signifies recognition of professional engineering experience and accomplishments.

IES is well represented among the faculty members of the major engineering institutions of higher learning in Singapore. Through close collaboration with the local universities and polytechnics, IES organizes courses, seminars and talks for engineers and IES members to advance the continuous development of engineers.

The Institution also maintains close links with professional organizations of engineers regionally and throughout the world. These include organizations in Australia, China, Japan, United Kingdom and the United States. The Institution also represents Singapore in the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (AFEO) in promoting goodwill and fellowship among all engineers in ASEAN.

ABOUT IES ACADEMY (IESA)

IES Academy (IESA), set up on 1 April 2006, fulfills the expanding role of the Continuing Education Centre (CEC), originally established in 1990 to provide training for engineers and the public.

IESA aims to be the leading provider of practical engineering knowledge and lifelong training for engineers and technical personnel in Singapore. With the assistance of the various IES technical committees, it is actively conducting courses, workshops, seminars, and talks for IES members and the public.