



Kingdom of the Netherlands

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Media Release

Mutual Recognition for Chartered Engineers in Singapore and the Netherlands

Arrangement will enhance talent flow, professional opportunities and collaboration in engineering

The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES) today signed a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with The Royal Netherlands Society of Engineers (KIVI) to promote the mutual recognition of Chartered Engineers. The signing took place at the “Building Sustainable and Resilient Cities in Asia” Forum organised by IES and The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Singapore.

Dr. Koh Poh Koon, Senior Minister of State for Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) graced the event as Guest-of-Honour and Her Excellency Ambassador Ms. Margriet Vonno, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Singapore attended as Special Guest.

With the agreement, Chartered Engineers from Singapore can gain professional recognition of their qualifications and expertise when they practice in the Netherlands and vice versa. This will help engineers hone their practice overseas and acquire valuable experience. The increased mobility of engineers will also provide the industry with greater access to engineering expertise.

The MRA is a milestone in IES’ efforts to advance the professional standing of local engineers globally. IES launched the Chartered Engineer (Singapore) Registry in 2013, to

provide professional recognition to qualified engineers across all sectors, including those from fields that do not require them to be registered as Professional Engineers.

Since then, the programme has registered a total of 294 Chartered Engineers in seven different branches of engineering supporting Singapore's economic growth. These are Aerospace, Chemical & Process, Environment & Water, Infrastructure, Port & Marine, Railway & Transportation and Systems.

"IES is excited to sign the MRA with KIVI, one of the world's most esteemed professional engineering associations today. We share common objectives to elevate the status and profile and standing of engineering professionals and raise the overall professional standard of engineering. IES hopes that this agreement will stimulate greater co-operation and exchange in engineering to support our economic and societal growth," said Er. Tan Seng Chuan, IES International Outreach Committee Chairman.

"This Mutual Recognition Agreement is a very important milestone for us, as it takes away barriers and joins together and recognises the best of our engineers both in Singapore and the Netherlands, stimulating cooperation, helping them to find each other," said Micaela dos Ramos CEng, Chief Executive Officer of KIVI.

"Building Sustainable and Resilient Cities in Asia" Forum

The forum provided insights into collaborative water projects by Singapore and the Netherlands, featuring Dr. Rinus Vis of Deltares, Dr. Rozy Harnas of Witteveen+Bos South East Asia, Mr. Vincent Lam of PWNT and Dr. Mark Wong of PUB.

Singapore and the Netherlands share similar challenges as both have limited natural resources, are surrounded by water and susceptible to the impact of climate change. Through the forum, the organisers hoped to promote exchange of multi-disciplinary engineering knowledge and experience to support development of sustainable solutions for cities in Asia.

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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.

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 organises courses, seminars and talks for engineers and IES members to advance the continuous development of engineers.

The Institution maintains close links with professional organisations of engineers regionally and throughout the world. These include organisations in Australia, China, Japan, United Kingdom and the United States. The Institution also represents Singapore in the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organizations (AFEO) and the Federation of Engineering Institutions of Asia and the Pacific (FEIAP) in promoting goodwill and fellowship among all engineers in ASEAN and the Asia-Pacific region.

Through its Engineering Accreditation Board (EAB), IES obtained full signatory status in the Washington Accord (WA) in June 2006. The entry grants IES the authority to represent Singapore, the first country within the ASEAN region which has obtained full signatory status in the WA, to vet education systems under the WA mutual recognition framework.

About the Royal Netherlands Society of Engineers (KIVI)

The Royal Netherlands Society of Engineers (KIVI) was founded in 1847 under protection of His Royal Highness the Prince of Orange. The Royal House still holds the patronage over the society. With over 20,000 members KIVI is the professional association of engineers in the Netherlands. All engineering disciplines are represented. KIVI supports engineers in their professional development and offers its members communities for specific and multidisciplinary knowledge sharing, a platform for addressing social challenges and opportunities to take their career to the next level. Our activities are lectures, debates, symposia, company visits, coaching and more, and take place in conjunction with industry and academia. KIVI developed and executes the Chartered Engineer structure, provides the title of Chartered Engineer and holds the register. KIVI also developed and executes the Online Professional Development tool.

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