



The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



e-newsletter

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Interview with Sir Engr. Sam Nwankwo *FNSE* On Consultancy in Engineering Project Management.

Sir Engr. Sam Nwankwo studied Civil Engineering at the California State University, United States of America. He worked extensively with the Rivers State Ministry of Works in various capacities until he retired as Deputy Director in the ministry 5 years ago. Presently, he is the Managing Director of NSEPH Nig Ltd, an engineering consulting firm.



Sir Engr. Sam Nwankwo *FNSE*

E-Newsletter: *Can you tell us the role of a consultant in engineering project management?*

Engr. Nwankwo: Yes. First of all, what is project management and what is a project? Before we talk about the role of a consultant we need to know what a project is. A project is a mission to create a specific facility or product or service within definite specified scope, time, budget and quality constraints while project management deals with the act of realizing the objectives of achieving the desired goal of a project. Then the consultant is a specialist who is engaged to give advice in a specified or specific area of knowledge. Also a consultant is engaged to give expert advice based on his area of specialization in education and experience in that specific area.

E-Newsletter: *Who is qualified to be a consultant or who can practice as an engineering consultant?*

Engr. Nwankwo: Consultancy is done in virtually every field of endeavour. But an engineering consultant is somebody who should be an engineer. An engineer is somebody who has gone through the courses that are required for him to graduate as an engineer and should have gotten employment with an engineering firm and then has worked and gotten experience in different areas of that specialization so that he can now become an expert in that area. He should have enough knowledge in that area of specialization for him to become a consultant.

E-Newsletter: *What advice do you have for people who seek the services of consultants?*

Engr. Nwankwo: In answering that question we have to know why we seek the services consultants. In a project there is a plan, there is a planned scope of the project, there is a plan that the project should be like this or like that. Some times the planned objective may not be achieved due to certain constraints of time

and resources. In considering the above, it is an expert (consultant) that can make a proper planning. In a company, let's say, the consultant works between the client and the contractor. Most times the client has what is call more of routine jobs to do in the company and when it comes to a project, there is a section that supervises the project. The consultant is in charge or control of the project. You have to control and beam a satellite on the project so that you will achieve the plan and the scope of the project. The consultant must know the scope and have knowledge of a project and the plan. The consultant to a company must be in charge of the planning and the client will be in charge of putting some control to make sure the objective is realized and quality is maintained and the project is delivered on schedule. In terms of engineering projects like road construction, the consultant should be invited at the conceptual stage so that he will be able to follow and plan. These days the consultant takes the responsibility of planning the job or the project. He plans it with the client so that he will know what the scope of the project is. He will also know the planned set up by the contractor to achieve this goal. He will monitor and putt some measures of control to achieve the goal of a project.

So the advice we give to our clients is that they should involve the consultants as early as possible at the conceptual stage and be able to move along with his instructions till the commissioning of the project.

E-Newsletter: *Thank you very much sir.*



Sir Engr. Sam Nwankwo *FNSE* & Engr. Otunte Otuneh





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Port Harcourt Branch

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The E-Newsletter is Now 4 Years

This edition (112th edition) of the E-Newsletter of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch marks the FOURTH YEAR of the publication. The publication has been in e-circulation every two weeks right from when the maiden edition was published on July 5th 2007. The E-Newsletter letter has been a mark in the engineering family in Nigeria and beyond.

Interviews with distinguished engineers and non engineers, engineering activities at the national and branch levels, international engineering activities, NSE AGMs, COREN Assemblies, members welfares, readers contributions etc were the recipe that flavoured the previous editions over the years.

The Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch E-Newsletter is open to continual improvement and this has been achieved over the years.

We thank are esteemed readers for their immense contributions and comments over the years.

We wish our esteemed readers a happy reading in this edition and subsequent editions.

Engr. Otueneh, Otunte John MNSE
Publicity Secretary
The Nigerian Society of Engineers
Port Harcourt Branch

Date: 11th - 15th July 2011

Venue: Prof. T. C. Nwodo E-Library of the Ishmael A. Banigo Secretariat, Water Works Yard, #3 Bernard Carr Street, Port Harcourt.

Time: 9.00am Daily

Register in advance by collecting the form at the Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch secretariat, Water Works Yard, #3 Bernard Carr Street, Port Harcourt. The form can also be download from the branch website www.nseph.org.

Admission will be on first come first served.

For more details please call the Technical Secretary on 08054412655 or send email to precious_bobmanuel@yahoo.com

World Engineers' Convention 4th - 9th September 2011 'WEC 2011' Geneva, Switzerland

Meet engineers, policy-makers, representatives of research and industry from all over the world and discuss one of the biggest challenges of the 21st century, the energy challenge. WEC 2011 will be an unforgettable and most valuable experience both from a professional as well a private perspective. Who ever attends will return with innovative and inspiring ideas for his business as well as new confidence in a future empowered by the engineers of tomorrow's world.

WEC 2011 will unite the know-how and experience of over 2000 experts in Geneva to encourage sustainable use of energy. It will identify future-proof solutions in areas like mobility, urban development, energy conversion &

transport, renewable energy and rational end-use. The program includes benchmark solutions, strategies, concepts and ideas from around the world. World-class key players at the forefront of energy innovation in science and business will present their vision, research and projects.

Main Topics

Education in engineering
Buildings and Megacities
Renewable energy and storage
Mobility and transport
Power Plants and Networks
Rational end use and large consumers

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All members of NSE PH should pay their **Annual Branch Dues** of N4,500 for **Corporate Members** and N6,500 for **Fellows** to **UBA ACC. NO: 0234-031-0000962 (Port Harcourt Main Branch)**. Also pay **National Annual Subscription** of N7,500.00 for **Corporate Members** & N9,500 for **Fellows** directly to **AFRIBANK ACC No. 142022215613** & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation. All payments should be made at the Bank