



# The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



e-newsletter

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SEPTEMBER, 10TH 2011

## Interview with Mrs. Taiwo Obafemi on COREN Registration

*Mrs. Taiwo Ayola Obafemi, is the Head of Registration Department in the Council for the Registration of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) head office in Abuja.*

**E-Newsletter:** Madam, please tell us about the registration department of COREN.



Mrs. Taiwo Obafemi

**Mrs. Obafemi:** Mostly, we are responsible for the processing of registration of engineering personnel in the country. Also, we deal with engineering consulting firms. Our department also has to do with the issuance of annual licenses and payment for annual dues by engineering personnel and firms. It is a very busy department; in fact we call it the engine room of COREN. That is where engineers are made. If an engineering personnel does not find his or her name in the COREN register, then the person is not qualified legally to practice engineering in Nigeria. Well, our main challenge as far as the job is concerned is:

some engineers; in terms of processing their application do not go through the registration forms before they start completing the forms. We have found out that some of them fill the form in a hurry. In some cases, the information that they should provide are not adequately provided. I usually say that it is Nigerian factor; we do not have reading culture. They can take their time, make photocopy of the forms and take time to fill it and be sure they have done the right thing and then transfer it into the original forms. If this is done, will have less problems. Another area of big challenge is the confirmation we do from the schools. Lots of candidates come complaining "my school has not responded". We have asked all Nigerian universities to give us their graduate lists but not all of them have complied. Some of the schools that have responded had omissions in their lists. We have also discovered in the past those who came with fake certificates. So verification of certificates is very important. Consulting firms too are complying because they can not get jobs now in most government establishments without COREN registration. Their own main challenge may be the ownership structure which COREN insist that the registered engineer must have 55% share.

## World Engineers' Convention 2011.

Theme: "Engineers Power the World - Facing the Global Energy Challenge".  
Geneva, Switzerland. 4th—9th September 2011



The World Engineers Convention was held on 4th—9th September 2011 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Below are NSE PH Branch members that were in attendance:

Engr. Dr. A. H. Igoni (10th from left), Mrs. Rhoda Asinye-Igoni (1st from left), Engr. Bateim Ogariawo (15th from left), Mrs. Ikuraa B. Ogariawo (9th from left), Engr. George B. T. D. (11th from left), Engr. Kombo T. Johnson (4th from left), Engr. Prof. H. I. Hart (17th from left), Engr. Woke Chukwuemeka (12 from left), Engr. Maeba Power (not in pix), Mrs. Okorinama Briggs A. (14th from left), Engr. Mrs. Ademelechi Agnes C. (not in pix), Engr. Mrs. Chinelo Ohagwa (not in pix), Engr. Nyeche Lawrence A. (7th from left), Engr. Egbunefu Gabriel C. (3rd from left), Engr. Basoene J. Benibo (standing back row), Engr. Sam Nwankwo (18th from left), Engr. Alexander I. Nwaigwe (standing back row), Engr. I. Z. S. Akobo (2nd from left), Engr. Austin Bob-Manuel (19th from left), Engr. Thompson T. Isodiki (8th from left), Engr. Fyne Ogolo (6th from left), Mrs Chinyere Sandra Ogolo (5th from left), Engr. Maurice Ephraim (13th from left)

## NSE PH Branch 2011 Annual Lecture!

**Eminent Lecturer:** Engr. Fyne Chima Ogolo FNSE, (NSE PH Branch Chairman 2000 –2001, Immediate Past Executive Secretary, NSE Headquarters, Abuja)

**Topic:** Indigenization of the Nigerian construction industry. A sine qua non for the attainment of Vision 20-2020.

**Date:** 22nd September 2011

**Venue:** Royal Banquet Hall, Hotel Presidential, Port Harcourt.

**Time:** 4.00pm



Engr. Fyne Chima Ogolo FNSE



**NIEEE Port Harcourt Branch Chapter Visits Trans Amadi Gas Turbine**



The Nigerian Institution of Electrical & Electronics Engineers (a division of The Nigerian Society of Engineers) Port Harcourt Branch Chapter members during a technical visit to the Trans Amadi Gas Turbine station. on 31st August 2011. The NIEEE members were led to the gas turbine station by the chairman of the chapter Engr. B. T. D. George FNSE. Also in the NIEE team is Engr. Laud Dangana FNSE, who is a senior member of the institution.

**Interview with Mrs. Taiwo Obafemi**

So you find a lot of them who find themselves in engineering business finding it very difficult to comply with that requirement. That is something that intends to empower the Nigerian engineer. For foreign firms, we have registered quite a number of them. They plead with COREN to concede to their terms, that they can't give the Nigerian engineer the percentage required by COREN. That has been a big challenge for the firms. But COREN is not moved by their plea. We are in to protect and to put regulations that will help us develop as a nation. Other nations of the world have done this. Chinese have done this and now they are reaping the benefit. You cannot do business there without carrying the community along. That is the focus of COREN. For the local content that we are talking about, people should take advantage of what the law has given to them and key into it and then Nigeria can be the dream that each and every one of us have.

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



Engr. Otunte Otuneh & Mrs. Taiwo Obafemi



The Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch Executive Committee members in a meeting held on September 1st 2011 at Engr. Prof. Y. O. Beredugo hall of the newly renovated Engr. Ishmael A. Banigo secretariat. The meeting was chaired by the branch chairman Engr. Dr. A. H. Igoni MNSE (middle back view)



**Institute of Appraisers & Cost Engineers**  
A Division of  
**The Nigerian Society of Engineers**

**Announces its 2011 National Conference**

**Theme:** "Valuation and Cost Engineering Applications in Transportation".

**Date:** 19th—20th September, 2011

**Venue:** Raw Materials, Research & Development Council Auditorium, Aguiyi Ironsi Road, Maitama, Abuja

**Fee:** N20,000.00; N5,000 (Students & Graduates)

**Engr. Ike .L. Iwenofu, Secretary.**  
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**NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!**

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. 1420202215613** & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation. All payments should be made at the Bank