



The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



e-newsletter

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Interview with Dr. Idika Ocha on Telecoms

Dr. Idika Ocha, is the pioneer Director of Digital Bridge Institute, established by the Nigerian Communications Commission. He is the author of "The Making of Nigerian Telecom Industry".

E-Newsletter: *What can you tell us about Telecommunication Industry in Nigeria?*

Dr. Ocha: Well, Nigerian Telecom Industry is known to be the fastest growing telecom market in Africa and also one of the most competitive, if not absolutely most competitive in Africa. It has grown in leaps and bounds.

E-Newsletter: *Are there challenges in the telecoms industry?*

Dr. Ocha: The challenges are there and I guess they are well known.

E-Newsletter: *In what area do you think those challenges can be improved on?*

Dr. Ocha: I guess the most compelling challenge that the industry has been contending with is electricity power supply that powers telecommunication sites across the country. That is one of the greatest challenges that the industry faces. There are also issues of multiple taxation. Various tiers of government demand taxes and levies and there is no end



Dr. Idika Ocha

to it. This is not something you can actually sit down and have a budget for the year and say that I have predetermined my levy and tax obligation to the various tiers of government. Some of the levies imposed on telecoms infrastructures across the country are actually creative levies and there is a feelings that the telecoms mast for example is a tree where money grows and so all these authorizes comes to shake the tree to see how much money will fall from the tree. It is a big challenge for the telecoms industry.

E-Newsletter: *How do you think the telecom industry can improve on service delivery?*

Dr. Ocha: Well, there are three or four different theories to the telecoms problems. There are those who believe that the problems are as a result of network congestion, there is another set of people who believe that sloppy network design should be replaced and there is even the third category of opinion that put the blame on the handsets. There are elements of truth in all these, so we must take them together. Congestion occurs when there is inadequate capacity.

E-Newsletter: *Thank you sir.*



The Executive Committee of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch in a meeting that was held on Thursday 3rd July 2014 at the branch secretariat. The meeting was chaired by the Branch Chairman Engr. Kombo Theophilus-Johnson MNSE.



World Engineering Conference on Sustainable Infrastructure,
2nd - 7th November 2014, Abuja-Nigeria.
Theme: *Development of Sustainable Infrastructure in Africa*
<http://www.wecsi2014.org>





The 3rd Africa Internet Governance Forum with the theme: “Connecting Continents for Enhanced Multi-Stakeholder Internet Governance” was held on Thursday 10—Saturday 12 July 2014 at Nicon Luxury Hotel in Abuja. The forum was declared open by the Nigeria Honourable Minister of Communication Technology Dr. Mrs. Omobola Johnson (9th from right). In attendance were participants and representatives from African countries, North and South America, Europe, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, African Union Commission, Internet Governance Secretariat, Geneva and more.



World Federation of Engineering Organizations
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The Nigeria Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch in partnership with Wider Perspectives Limited and the International Finance Corporation - IFC (The private Sector arm of the World Bank Group) invites you to a 3 days' workshop on “**Effective Management and Finance for Business Growth**”.

The workshop which will focus on the following courses:

Planning and Controlling Work | Becoming a More Effective Manager | Improving Your Selling Skills |
 Assessing Marketing Opportunities | Finance for Non –Finance Personnel

Date: 26-28 August 2014

Venue: Nigeria Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch, #3 Bernard Carr Street, Beside State Library, Port Harcourt.

Time: 9am-4pm daily

Fee: N60,000.00 per participant (This covers workshop materials, International Recognize IFC Certificate, tea break and lunch)

Target Participants

Engineers, Directors and Staff of MDAs, Owners, Managers and Staff of Companies in the public and private Sector.

To register, kindly contact Engr. Promise Jumbo 08037961001, 08091151003, admin@nseph.org or NSE Secretariat

Payment for the workshop should be made into: United Bank for Africa Plc, Account Number: 1000183629

Account Name: NSE PH BRANCH

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NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!

All members of NSE Port Harcourt Branch should pay their Annual Branch Dues of N4,500 for Corporate Members and N6,500 for Fellows to UBA ACC. NO: 1000183629 (Port Harcourt Main Branch). Also pay National Annual Subscription of N9,000.00 for Corporate Members & N11,500 for Fellows directly to Main Street Bank ACC No. 6500374224 & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation. All payments should be made at the Bank