



# The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



e-newsletter

2009 / VOLUME 55

website: [www.nseph.org](http://www.nseph.org)

e-mail: [info@nseph.org](mailto:info@nseph.org)

4TH JULY, 2009

## NSE PH BRANCH E-NEWSLETTER IS 2

The 55<sup>th</sup> edition of our e-newsletter marks a two-year uninterrupted production bi-weekly. A flashback on the contents of most of the editions centered on expressions of some of our senior engineers' opinion on problems of sustainability and maintenance of infrastructures, policies as they affect not only the economy, but also standards of living of the citizenry. These expressions of opinions were obtained by interactions with very senior members of not only the engineering discipline but other professions like hydrogeology, etc. We use this medium to express our gratitude to all these seasoned professionals. Engineering personnel and professional development, engineering education/training, research and development, power supply and distribution water, safety & environment and many more have been considered since 2007. The vision 20:2020 and the realization and actualization of the Seven Point Agenda of the present administration featured prominently in these editions under review. It was conspicuously highlighted that corruption among some administrators of the three tiers of government has brought about failures and drawbacks in sustainability and maintainability of our infrastructures and good policies. It becomes imperative therefore for all stakeholders of economy, infrastructures, education, training and development to view this ugly monster, corruption with the seriousness it deserves. Ethics and morality are virtues that can enhance performance and reliability of policies and programs. It is our earnest desire that our faith in GOD ALMIGHTY and application of God's virtues in our everyday living that can cause us to maintain professional integrity which will help us move this country forward. Presently this administration is emphasizing on rebranding while corruption is still thriving. Professionals in position of trust and all professionals should rise up to the challenges of sustainability and maintainability of our infrastructures and policies.



ENGR. DR. A.A. UJILE

### TO THE ENGINEERING PERSONNEL

(Engineers, Technologists, Technicians and Craftsmen)

This is to invite you to attend the COREN 18<sup>th</sup> Engineering Assembly scheduled to hold from Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2009 at the International Conference Centre, Abuja. Towards this end, I would also like to inform you about the following:

### ENABLING LAW

The COREN Act provides that the Council shall promote and update practitioners of the engineering profession through continuing education.

### THE RATIONALE OF THE LAW

Continuing Education will require engineering personnel (i.e. Engineers, Engineering Technologists, Engineering Technicians, Engineering Craftsmen) and Engineering Consulting Firms to keep abreast with modern trends in Engineering by attending approved Seminars/Workshops/Conferences/Lectures and courses and subscribing to reputable engineering journals. The COREN ENGINEERING ASSEMBLY is designed to satisfy, in part, this requirement. Attendance at the Assembly, presentation of paper or participation in discussions attract appropriate scores required for remaining on the Register.

### OBLIGATION OF YOUR EMPLOYERS

As a registered engineering personnel, your employer is expected to sponsor you to the forthcoming Engineering Assembly to improve your standard of practice to the advantage of the Organisation. Moreover, it will become illegal for you to remain in its employment if your name is struck off the Register.

### REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee is N15,000.00 for Engineering and Engineering Technologists for pre-registration on or before 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 or N20,000.00 after 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 and N7,500.00 flat for Engineering Technicians and Craftsmen.

### TO THE EMPLOYER

The 18<sup>th</sup> Engineering Assembly of the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria, COREN, is scheduled to hold at the International Conference Centre, Abuja on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2009. The Engineering Assembly is organized by COREN as an Annual Conference of all Engineering personnel (**Engineers, Technologists, Technicians and Craftsmen**) where they meet to interact professionally, discuss problems of engineering and ways to move the practice of the profession forward. It is mandatory therefore for all engineering personnel to attend.

Employers are expected to ensure that their engineering personnel update themselves by sponsoring them to the Engineering Assembly. As many engineering personnel as possible should be nominated and sponsored to attend the Assembly.

We look forward to seeing your Engineering personnel at the 18<sup>th</sup> Engineering Assembly..

Registrar.

**COUNCIL FOR THE REGULATION OF ENGINEERING IN NIGERIA** **COREN**

Announces the  
**18<sup>th</sup> ENGINEERING ASSEMBLY IN Abuja**

**THEME**  
**Engineering Education and Training - Key to Infrastructural Development.**

**VENUE:**  
International Conference Centre, Abuja

**DATES:**  
Tuesday 11th - Wednesday 12th August, 2009

**Registration**  
**Engineers & Technologists**  
N15,000.00 Pre - Registration (on or before 24th July, 2009)  
N20,000.00 (after 24th July, 2009)  
**Technicians & Craftsmen**  
N7,500.00 FLAT

Payment should be made into COREN Account at ZENITH BANK, Account No. 6012006602 and the bank teller presented thereafter for receipt. Payment could also be made at the COREN Headquarters or the Zonal Offices nationwide or at the venue from 10am from Monday, 10th August, 2009.

## PLANS TO USE WINDMILLS TO POWER REFINERY

SUNRAY, Texas -- In this windswept corner of the high plains, a big oil refiner is embracing new green technology in order to make more money producing old-fashioned fossil fuels. Valero Energy Corp., which has the capacity to process more crude than any other U.S. refiner, recently installed 33 windmills to supply a refinery here with green electricity to produce gasoline and diesel. Oil refiner Valero Energy is turning to wind energy in an effort to produce traditional fossil-fuels more economically. The marriage is one of convenience, Valero executives say. "We didn't build the wind farm so we could get into the wind-energy business," notes Tom Shetina, the refinery's manager, who expresses awe at the windmills' size. "We built the wind farm so we could support the refinery and run it more economically." The company hopes to lock in fluctuating electricity prices by developing its own source of power, rather than relying on the grid, and to cut the \$1.4-million-a-month electricity bill at the seven-decade-old refinery. The \$115 million wind farm, which will be ready to operate at full capacity in August, will pay for itself in about 10 years at current electricity prices, company officials said. Valero, which is based in San Antonio, does have some environmental motives. It hopes to produce its petroleum-based fuels more cleanly, something it could be forced to do if Congress enacts legislation to curb greenhouse gases. While the wind farm will make the refinery greener, it won't reduce the greenhouse gas emissions spewed by cars and trucks as they burn the fuels that Valero makes.



Valero

Valero's \$115 million Texas wind farm, above, will pay for itself in about 10 years at current electricity prices.

Transportation generates 33% of U.S. carbon emissions, with gasoline accounting for the bulk of them, government data show. Transforming crude oil into fuels accounts for less than 5% of U.S. emissions, according to industry trade groups. Valero is experimenting with alternative fuels -- it bought several ethanol plants earlier this year -- but it and other refiners are betting that Americans will continue to fill their tanks mostly with gasoline and diesel for years to come. And faced with increasing competition from refineries located in lower-cost areas overseas, it wants to make those fuels more cheaply. According to Ken Starcher, director of the Alternative Energy Institute at West Texas A&M University, the cost of electricity from a typical wind farm in the area averages 4.5 cents per kilowatt hour during the project's lifetime, including the initial investment and maintenance. That's about 1.5 cents less than the current utility-company rate, he says. After the Sunray wind farm is completed in August -- and when the wind is blowing -- Valero expects to generate 50 megawatts of electricity an hour, the full load required to run the refinery next door. That should cover the refinery's needs 40% to 45% of the time, it says, an estimate that experts say is reasonable for the area if the wind farm is well managed. Valero says it will also receive tax credits from the project and could potentially sell the renewable-energy certificates from its wind power, which will displace electricity that is mostly generated by burning Wyoming coal. The refinery, which was built here in the 1930s to take advantage of nearby oil wells, happens to be in one of the most desirable wind-power-producing regions in the U.S. Located some 40 miles north of Amarillo, the refinery has few neighbors aside from cattle and prairie dogs, which don't seem to mind the towering white windmills. For the refinery's workers, the new wind farm, with its sleek towers and swooshing sound, is a lesson in contrasts between the old and new energy. It will take only about three local people to operate, compared with the 450 to 1,500 workers required to keep the refinery's noisy labyrinth of tanks and pipelines running in good shape. Newsletter is of the view that our engineers and professionals alike should utilize the South West Monsoon and North East Trade winds available in Nigeria to generate electricity.

## NSE PH PAYS INDUSTRIAL VISIT TO NAOC AT OB/OB



The Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch visited NAOC OB/OB Gas plant on Saturday 16th May 2009 at exactly 1200 hours on industrial visit meeting. The visit provided an opportunity for interactive session with the engineers and prospective members in operations. Speaking on behalf of his colleagues Mr. Isewede Aseuimen expressed disappointment at the

failure of the branch to conduct their presidential interview in 2005, after fulfilling all requested obligations. The branch chairman who shared their feelings of the unfortunate disappointment requested the affected candidates to come to the branch to find a way forward. The team of over 20 engineers was later taken on a guided tour throughout the Gas Plant and the various process were explained to members. The Port Harcourt branch was led by the branch chairman, Engr. Bateim Ogariawo. Other members include; Engr. Denis Dania, the branch secretary, Engr. Richard Ogona, the branch technical secretary, Engr. Goodluck Ikenyiri, the branch treasurer, Engr. Elder Chf. Larry Nyeche, Engr. Brown Ahorka, asst. secretary, Engr. S. Nwanele, Secretary NSEPH Ltd. Board, Miss Joy Ozoemelam.



Inauguration of NIMEchE Student Chapter (Rivers State University of Science and Technology Chapter). The Port Harcourt Chapter NIMEchE inaugurated the RSUST Chapter of the Institution at the lecture theatre of the University campus.

Lagos-NSE resumes graduateship examination. Graduate-ship Exam Committee met on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 at NEC Abuja & concluded arrangement to conduct the exam at the University of Lagos, Faculty of Engineering. The date is 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2009. All candidates (HND) holders) who have outstanding courses & others for Parts 1 & 2 should prepare & expect details from NSE headquarters.

In the next edition of the e-newsletter, we shall publish the interview with Engr. Chianyidi A. Dennar (FNSE) on Mentorship & Professional Development of young engineers.



### POINT ENGINEERING LIMITED

An independent and wholly (100%) Nigerian engineering consultancy company with a strong commitment to proving a POINT for indigenous participation in the Nigerian Oil & Gas and Petrochemical Sector by providing complete; quality assured engineering design, project management and related consultancy services capable of satisfying the most stringent requirements of our clients wherever it is required using the best available technical skills.

### NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!

All members of NSE PH should pay their **annual branch dues of N4000** and **compulsory levy of N5000** towards the Engineer Resource Center to **UBA ACC. NO: 0802080000194 (Port Harcourt main Branch)**. Also pay **National Annual Subscription of N5,500.00** directly to **AFRIBANK ACC No. 1420202215613** & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation. All payments should be made at the Bank