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An Interview with Engr. Bayo Adeola on Association of Consulting Engineers in Nigeria

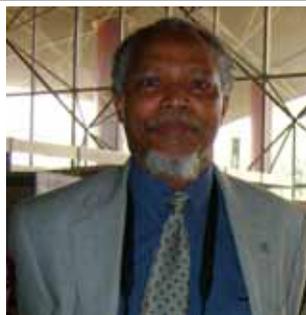
Engr. Bayo Adeola is the immediate past chairman of Association of Consulting Engineers in Nigeria (ACEN).

E-Newsletter: How has the Association of Consulting Engineers affected engineering practice in Nigeria?

Engr. Bayo: It has tried to provide a forum for the consulting group, which is essentially, what we might call the intellectual group. You know, in engineering, there are the Academics who are the university lecturers. There are the designers and intellectuals; who are the designers-consultants and then there are the doers who are the contractors who do things basically on site and then there are the craftsmen. ACEN have tried to provide a forum for all consulting engineers, to address consulting engineers' individually, to influence it, to regulate it, to give a common round forum that's what we are trying to do. I think we've done it averagely well.

E-Newsletter: For individuals that are not in ACEN but are into consulting, how does ACEN get to check them?

Engr. Bayo: The idea or the objective is that every consultant should be a member of ACEN. Today it is member firms that are in ACEN, not individuals. Individuals are registered by COREN, by NSE, but once they form firms, they should join ACEN. Today we think we have less than 40% of all the consultants in Nigeria, which is small. It means that there are people outside us. By being outside us, they are



Engr. Bayo Adeola

will get stronger and we will be able to get a lot more people into it. Already, COREN said that recommended consulting engineers would only be those that are registered by us.

E-Newsletter: How does ACEN reach out to engineering firms that are not registered with ACEN? How do you get to bring them in?

Engr. Bayo: How do we reach out to them? Most of our events are in the public media. For instance, in our annual general meetings, with conferences which are open not only to our members, we encourage people to participate, extra ordinary general meetings which addresses public issues like building collapse, power in Nigeria, transportation, so that's one. So at every NSE program, we maintain a stand so that anybody who comes to NSE conference usually find an ACEN stand there and at that ACEN stand there are forms. We have a website (www.acen.org.ng), on our website people are encouraged to join. So we use public media,

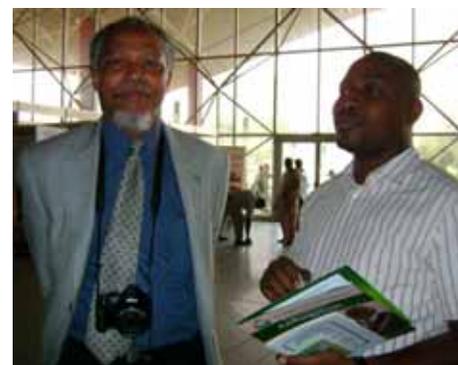
not subject to the same level of regulations and discipline and standard that we try to impose on our members; that is not in the interest of the profession. So we are hoping that as we grow, we

public website and we use conferences to reach out to engineers hopefully that they would embrace us.

E-Newsletter: What advice do you have for engineering firms that are not members of ACEN?

Engr. Bayo: I think that for us to influence industries, we must come together. We must all understand that. I think that's so simple, that unless we come together we will not be able to create a critical mass to be able to influence the industries. You might be enjoying your convenience with the ministers to be able to get a job but to regulate, to create standards, to influence government, to promote consulting engineers in Nigeria, we all need to come together and staying alone won't do it.

E-Newsletter: Thank you very much sir.



Engr. Bayo & Engr. Otuneh

NSE PH Branch E-Newsletter: 3 Years of Uninterruptible Bi-weekly Publications

The maiden edition of the E-Newsletter of The Nigerian Society of Engineers, Port Harcourt Branch was published on July 5th 2007. The publication has been a team work between the Information Technology/Library Committee and the Publicity Committee of the Branch. The E-Newsletter has consistently been published electronically (pdf format) exactly every two weeks without any of the editions being delayed for a day. It has been much commitment on the side of the two committees that are responsible for the publication. NSE conferences, NSE 50th Anniversary, COREN Assemblies, etc have been published in this publication. These events are published as soon as they are being held. Special Editions are also published right from the venues of the events (Live Coverage) to intimate Engineers and their likes who could not attend the events, either due to work constraints or due to the fact that they are outside the country or any other causes of the happenings at the event. This enables them to be abreast with the happenings at the venue. The publication has richly published interviews the E-Newsletter team had with notable Engineers and non-engineers in Nigeria and even outside Nigeria; it can be recalled that recently the interview with the President of Ghana Institution of Engineers (GhIE), Ing. Andrew Barfour, on the **Collaboration Among Engineers in Africa**, was published in the 74th Edition. The E-Newsletter publication is the trail blazer in disseminating information about engineering activities in Nigeria and some times outside Nigeria among engineers and non engineers in Nigeria and overseas. The E-Newsletter team heartily thank all the personalities that gave us the opportunity to interview them (even at a very short notice) and publish their interviews. We also thank our dear readers for the useful comments and contributions which they have endlessly sent to us. Thank you our dear readers and keep reading NSE PH Branch E-Newsletter.



Engr. Otuneh, Otunte John
Publicity Secretary

Reader's Comment/Contribution

I read with rapt attention the series of edition of the E-newsletter of the NSE PH branch up to the 83rd edition. I must confess what appealed to me most is the interview with Engr. A.A. Rabi, *FNSE* in the 80th edition on why Engineers leave practicing Engineering for greener pastures in Banking sector and other establishment. Sincerely speaking, it is very embarrassing to the Engineering profession and its ethics. It is most dehumanizing and suicidal that after spending five years and above (due to inconsistencies in the Nigerian Universities calendar and other factors) people leave such an interesting profession for jobs in banks in the name of greener pastures. The government have to be overhauled as they are the basic and root cause of it all. Consider that same situation where Engineers entry point into ministries and other government establishment is salary grade level 08, where Geologist of 4, Law of 5 and Medicine of six years programme are salary grade levels 09,10 and 12 respectively. One can rightly conclude that the government is not been fair to Engineering profession. But is that the way out? I will however advise and encourage colleagues and the younger ones in the Profession to go into politics as that will give us the opportunity to correcting these abnormalities in the profession and desist from the so-called greener pastures in the banking sector and other related profession.

Thanks.

From:

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COREN 19th ENGINEERING ASSEMBLY

The Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) **19th Engineering Assembly** will come up on August 3rd and 4th 2010 at the International Conference Center, Abuja. Engineers, Engineering Technologists Engineering Technicians, Engineering Craftsmen and the general public are encouraged to register and attend this noble engineering gathering.

Errata Corrige

In the 83rd Edition of the E-Newsletter, Engr. F. A. Somolu's interview was published. In certain parts of the interview, his name was spelt as Shomolu instead of Somolu. We apologize for this mix up. Secondly, where he talked about enforcement of the local content law, what he suggested was to introduce a "FATAL FLAW" clause in the request for bids or expression of interest. Instead the report talked of "FATAL FLOOR". We also regret this mix up.

Institute of Appraisers & Cost Engineers' 2010 Conference

The Institute of Appraisers & Cost Engineers, a division of The Nigerian Society of Engineers and a member of International Cost Engineering Council held her 2010 Annual National Technical Conference on July 1st 2010 at the Raw



Engr. Otis Anyaeji, *FNSE* (right) & Engr. Chief G. Massari, *FNSE* (left) during the investiture.

Materials Research & Development Council Auditorium, Maitama, Abuja. Lead papers were delivered on Valuation, Cost Engineering and Engineering Economy. Later in the evening at New Chelsea Hotel, Abuja, the investiture of Engr. Chief Giandomenico Massari, *FNSE*, as the new chairman of the institute was celebrated as Engr. Otis Anyaeji, *FNSE*, handed over the baton of office to him during a dinner which was organized by the institute. Also, during the event, Engr. Chief Massari, *FNSE*, received two awards; the first being the **"2010 Merit Award for Exemplary Service"** for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of Engineering Valuation/Cost/Engineering Economy and the growth of the institute, while the second award is the **"Life Membership"** in recognition of his valuable services and moral support to the institute, its formation, principles and purpose. Engr. Otis Anyaeji, *FNSE*, after handing over to Engr. Massari, received the award of **"Fellow of the Institute of Appraisers & Cost Engineers"** (the only Fellow of the institute). Other members of the institute received various awards and new members were inducted.



The high table during the conference at the Raw Materials Research & Development Council Auditorium, Maitama, Abuja



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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