



# The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



e-newsletter

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JUNE, 18TH 2011

## Interview with Engr. Denis A. A. Dania MNSE On Mechanical Engineering In The Building Industry. :

Engr. Denis A. A. Dania MNSE, was born in the late sixties. He had his primary education in three primary schools before he went to secondary school. He attended Polytechnic where studied mechanical engineering and had OND. Thereafter he went to the university, where he had his first degree and masters degree in Mechanical and Production Engineering. Engr. Denis is a staff of Federal Ministries of Works and Housing. As a member of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch, he has served as the Publicity Secretary, General Secretary and currently serving as the Vice Chairman of the branch.



Engr. Denis Dania MNSE

**Engr. Denis:** Mechanical engineering in the building industry is a very key area and somehow I am familiar with so many people who are not close to the construction industry. The mechanical engineer in the building industry is the engineer who designs the heat bath systems, the plumbing systems and the sewage systems. As a matter of fact after the architects it is the mechanical engineers that follows and there after the electrical engineers before the structural engineers. The reason for this is that the mechanical engineer starts the process of building construction. For instance, if the mechanical engineers has not done the plumbing installations, the water regulation systems and other passage that follows the system of water supply and all that, the structural engineer has no basis for calculations and design that will support the water supply system and the electrical engineers would not know the power required for some of these water calculative system like water heaters and all that. So definitely after the architect has finished designing it is the mechanical engineer that should follows and thereafter the electrical engineer and structural engineer now do the final design which has to bother on the structure and other details. So basically these are the areas the mechanical engineer comes in. He has to do the heat ventilation and air conditioning systems which is most required for the building industry and also the plumbing design where he calculates the heat losses, total loads and loading capacity of the building in terms of water supply, determining the capacity of water supply for that building and also number of and sizing of piping that is required for that building to have effective water supply and the other areas of sewage system. He has to establish the size and capacity that can accommodate the waste generated by the system and also what type of sewage system that is required depending on the locality. These are the basic facilities that the mechanical engineer accommodates in building construction.

**E-Newsletter:** *What do you have to say about the dearth of mechanical engineering in the building industry?*

**Engr. Denis:** The dearth of mechanical engineering in the building industry is that a lot of people; mechanical engineers are ignorant of the opportunities in the building industry. Many mechanical engineers are

ignorant of it so they go mainly into the oil and gas industry and another factor that is actually responsible for it is that in the universities the mechanical engineering services in the building industries are not taught. So in most cases the knowledge is always acquired outside the university; so the mechanical engineers graduate from the university without any formal knowledge of the building industry and so he feels that there is no place for the mechanical engineers in the building industry. It is after a thorough training or working under consultancy services that the mechanical engineers get to know that there area such opportunities and it is such areas that many mechanical engineers would really embrace because it is one area that offers opportunities of self employment without formally looking for employment elsewhere because in a the building industry you can carry out consultancy services, design and supervision of building projects without having to look for employment in any oil company or any other industries. So it offers a lot of opportunities to the mechanical engineers but unfortunately many mechanical engineers are not aware of it and so they seem to be looking for job everywhere when there are job opportunities. They should actually embrace this sector which will enhance their potentials and create self employment opportunities.

**E-Newsletter:** *What advice do you have for the mechanical engineers to embrace the building industry?*

**Engr. Denis:** The advice I have is for especially the fresh graduates; these days they think of areas where they can make money and many don't seem to lay emphasis on values of what they have acquired as knowledge and this is one of the major problems we have. I will advice that mechanical engineers should try to divert some resources to areas of training and professional development which this sector offers. In doing so they will be able to acquire basic knowledge that would enhance their potentials to act as consultants and also engage in the building industry which will in fact enhance their capacity building. The fresh graduates should associate with some consultancy firms that are engaged in these services and get formal training so that we will have qualified engineers working in the building industry and save some of these hardship and problems we have in the building industry.

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



Engr. Denis Dania MNSE & Engr. Otunte Otuneh



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Port Harcourt Branch

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**Date:** 11th - 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

Register in advance by collecting the form at the NSE PH Branch secretariat. Admission will be on first come first served.  
 For more details call Technical Secretary on 08054412655 or send email to [precious\\_bobmanuel@yahoo.com](mailto:precious_bobmanuel@yahoo.com)

**Former Miss Shirley Mendy Now Mrs. Shirley Jonathan Ogbekhilu**



Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Ogbekhilu

Saturday June 11th 2011 is a memorable day as former Miss Shirley Mendy got married to Mr. Jonathan Ogbekhilu at the Redeemed Christian Church of God “Kingdom Chapel Parish”, Rumuomasi, Port Harcourt. The ceremony was well attended by family members, friends, colleagues and well wishers of the couple.

Mrs. Shirley Jonathan Ogbekhilu (nee Mendy) is a member of the E-Newsletter team of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch.

Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Ogbekhilu, we wish you happy married life.



**Engr. Denis Dania Dedicates Son**

On Sunday May 29th 2011, the Vice Chairman of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch, Engr. Denis A. A. Dania *MNSE* and his wife dedicated their son Master DAMIAN GOODLUCK OSHIOZOKHAI DANIA at Mater Misericordiae Catholic Church, Rumuomasi, Port Harcourt.

Photo left: Engr. & Mrs. Denis Dania (3rd & 4th from left with baby Damian Goodluck O. Dania) with some members of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch during the baby dedication.



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