



The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



e-newsletter

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website: www.nseph.org

e-mail: info@nseph.org

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Interview with Engr. Adekunle S. Makinde on Electrical Power

Engr. Adekunle S. Makinde is the Chairman of the Nigerian Institution of Electrical & Electronics Engineers (NIEEE) which is a division of the Nigerian Society of Engineers.

E-Newsletter: Sir, what can you tell us about the power situation in the country?

Engr. Makinde: The power situation in this our beautiful country, as far as some of us are concerned is not really what it is expected to be. We are really far behind. We are far from the mark as some of us as professionals and as technocrats have set for ourselves. If we look particularly at the power that is generated right now I am amazed when people say that we should look towards 15,000MW mark. If you go to some states in the United State, some of them are doing over 8,000MW. If you go to some neighbouring countries you will discover that what they have there is much more than what we have right now and more than what we as a nation is targeting. So for me, we really need to get it right. Starting from the generation aspect of it we really need to get it right. We need to set our priority right. Coming to the transmission, if you generate 50,000MW and you do not have the transmission back bone, you do not have the infrastructure on which the power is going to ride to get to the distribution point, you will discover that what you have generated will not there for the people to use. Even the distribution has to be taken care of. Using Lagos as a case study, in quite a number of environment, the power gets to the feeder but does not get to the transformer serving the people. In some case the transformers have issues; in some cases in the over head distribution cables are very old. There are three basic ingredients as far as power is concern and I think



Engr. Adekunle S. Makinde

the nation needs to get it right particularly in each of these basic ingredients. These are: generation, transmission and distribution.

E-Newsletter: Talking about electricity power getting to the people, do you think the people conserve the electricity power that gets to them?

Engr. Makinde: Let me confess this to you. This is one other area I feel that many of us do not manage the little power we get. For example, you see streets where when there is power supply how people will rejoice, good but when there is outage the people there won't be happy. That is understandable but now at the same time you discover that when you are passing through streets in the morning, in the afternoon and in the evening you will see electric bulbs that are on. Apart from that, you also discover that many of us are still using incandescent bulbs when there are lots of energy efficient bulbs. This is where I feel that the issue of metering, appropriate metering of what we use actually comes in. If people are actually made to pay for exactly what they consume, I feel very strongly that people will be conscious. They will know that they must power off their appliances when they are not in use. I know about some neighboring countries where it is against the law you to leave your power on during the day. I know of neighboring African countries were you do not put on your light until certain hours of the day. Here we just waste even the little that we have and when you calculate those wastages on monthly basis you discovered that those wastages will be enough to serve a whole community.

E-Newsletter: The NIEEE will host (ICEPT) International Conference & Exhibition on Power & Telecommunications in the coming months, how will that address this issue of energy efficiency?

NSE Council Meeting held on Thursday 14th March 2013 at Rock View Hotel, Abuja



L-R: Deputy President of NSE Engr. Ademola Olorunfemi FNSE, President of NSE Engr. M. B. Shehu FNSE & the Executive Secretary of NSE Engr. A. K. Amshi FNSE



Interview with Engr. Adekunle S. Makinde on Electrical Power

Engr. Makinde: Thank you so much. The Nigerian Institution of Electrical/Electronics Engineers holds a yearly International Conference which we actually call International Conference and Exhibition on Power and Telecommunications. Right now we are in the 9th edition and this year's edition will hold from 7th-11th October, 2013. The two last editions were held in the city of Warri and despite the fear that some people entertained, we had a wonderful time at that location. This time around we are moving to the south eastern state of Anambra, particularly talking about the city of Onitsha. We are going to the GRA part of Onitsha. When we talk about international conference and exhibition on power and

telecommunications, I can tell you that it can only get better and better because this is an avenue, this is a forum where we have people in the academia come around and they rob minds with the people that are in the industry and people in government. We even have concurrent sessions for students. At the end of the 4-5 days brain storming together we will have a document which we call a communiqué which we always make available to the public. This kind of forum is also an avenue for people to network probably about their business, their research work, etc. People in the academia are always at an advantage because our proceedings are always published in both soft and hard copies and it is also on the internet. So

ICEET is as very powerful forum for electrical engineers, telecoms, ICT, instrumentation, controls and elite engineers to come together to brainstorm. There are occasions where people from

Federal Inland Revenue Service are were part of our conferences because it is not only for engineers, even people that are outside engineering fields are welcome because they can always come around and make meaningful contributions as well.

E-Newsletter: *Thank you sir.*

NOTICE!!!

The Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch “General Meeting/Technical Evening”

Venue: Engr. Ishmael A. Banigo secretariat, Water Works Yard, #3 Bernard Carr Street, Port Harcourt.

Date: Thursday, 28th March 2013

Time: 5.00pm

NSE Council Meeting held on Thursday 14th March 2013 in Abuja



3-Day Refresher Course held at NSE PH Branch Secretariat for Prospective Candidates, 20-22 March



Engr. Denis Dania delivering a lecture on Cost Engineering



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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: 1000183629 (Port Harcourt Main Branch)**. Also pay **National Annual Subscription** of N9,000.00 for **Corporate Members** & N11,000 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