



Dear Members,

August has proven to be a transformative month for the association and there are several updates.

Welcome Marie to the EMAS Team

As the newly appointed permanent staff of EMAS, Ms Marie Loh is responsible for providing clerical and administrative support to ensure that EMAS better serves its members in an effective and efficient manner. With the increased membership and the plans for future growth, the EXCO felt it was timely to pursue a permanent secretary. Her e-mail address is marieloh@emas.org.sg

EMAS has discontinued the contract with the external secretariat, EPC and is currently serving out its 2 months notice. The association's registered address has changed and it will be registered at 16 Jalan Kilang, #02-01, Hoi Hup Building. In addition the association contact number has also been changed to 6876 5496. This will be manned and forwarded to Marie. This transition is expected to be completed over a span of two months.

Getting to know Marie

Marie Loh came from Batu Pahat, in Malaysia awhile ago and has resided now in Singapore for several years. She has been based and has been working in Singapore for 10 years. Her past experience is in HR and therefore she understand the changing needs and is aware of the value employee engagement for the support of a successful business. She is happily married with 2 lovely kids, Renee and Reuben, 2.5 years old and 7 months old respectively. She resides in the West and is enjoying motherhood. She is looking forward to support the association and also hopes to be able to make a difference through the association.

Members Update Session

EMAS intends to embark on a series of Member Update Sessions. The inaugural meeting was held on 24th August at Orchid Country Club. It was an opportunity to share and discuss pertinent EMAS matters.



It was nice to greet all fellow members and for those who missed this opportunity, these were some of the salient points that were mentioned

1. As of Aug 2012, EMAS has 68 members and hope to meet the target of 80 members at the end 2012
2. The EXCO has Co-opted of 1 new EXCO member, Mr Edward Goh from Veolia ES Singapore Industrial Pte Ltd
3. Mr Hans Athaide from BASF will be representing the association for the next term with The Pollution Control Department under NEA for the Hazardous Waster Committee.
4. Mr Milton Ng represents EMAS on the Public Hygiene Council and shared some of the objectives from this council. Milton urged members to look this council up rom NEA website and mentioned that in the future, it is hopes that a link with our website can be done, so as to make this easier to be accessed. He also offered to explain for those who wished to know to contact him in person.
5. The purpose of the upcoming events were identified and shared.
 - i. EMAS AGM (28th Sept / 5th Oct)
 - To understand the workings of the association
 - Follow-up on the recent meeting's action plan with members
 - ii. Golf Social (16th Oct)
 - At Singapore Island Country Club
 - Per Pax: \$400/- plus dinner or \$1400/- per flight
 - iii. EMAS Appreciation Night (14th Dec)
 - Involvement of various government agencies
 - Opportunity to recognise an employee who has performed outstandingly for the year; or is a long serving staff for the EMAS member's company
6. There were two discussion forums and Milton shared that the intent was to ensure that the EXCO were working in line with the direction and needs of members. It was agreed that the focus should be on the two following areas, with 2 sub-committees formed. We are heartened that members have decided to step forward and to be represented in these sub-committees. Those of you who have not attended, can also come forward and register your interest to Marie via e-mail: marieloh@emas.org.sg by the 12th September 2012.
 - i. Discussion on One Sided Contracts and Accreditation of Cleaning Companies
 - ii. Training needs, especially supervisory training skills specialised for the environmental health industry.
7. The developments of the SME-Qiang course on productivity development for companies. Milton explained the objectives and explained that this has been led by NEA and encouraged members to participate. More details have been listed in latter part of the Bulletin.
8. Learning Hub shared with members some new courses on service excellence, like the Disney Learning Journey and proposed a mission trip on learning. Details will be worked with EMAS, so watch this space.



New and improved website and EMAS Facebook presence

Website - <http://www.emas.org.sg/>



With an easy to navigate, user friendly approach, it was re-created to be a platform of source for information as well as provide quick and direct access to past EMAS bulletins and information of future events. The new website will also allow us to regularly update the website without additional costs to EMAS. This will enable opportunities for improved connectivity by linking with member companies.

Do **LIKE** the **EMAS Facebook page** if you are interested in getting regular updates on past events, photographs and announcements of upcoming events. Facebook is a vehicle to help drive the connectivity amongst EMAS members and also to invite members to events in future.

Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Environmental-Management-Association-of-Singapore/147531742036662>



LOO (Let's Observe Ourselves) Awards



(Picture source: <http://onthesamyside.blogspot.sg>)

The Restroom Association (Singapore) or RAS has initiated the LOO Awards to recognise any organisations and individuals in promoting and enhancing the standard of restroom cleanliness. There are three (3) LOO Awards categories: Organisation, Cleaning Industry and Individual. The detailed criteria for nomination can be found at <http://www.toilet.org.sg/looawards.html>

To nominate now go to this weblink: <http://www.toilet.org.sg/looawards1.html>

Invitation to participate in Productivity Course for Cleaning Companies

As you may be aware, NEA in partnership with EMAS is currently rolling out the SME Qiang Productivity Course. As our key stakeholders and partners, we would encourage all EMAS members to participate in this project.

Picture Source: <http://www.sma.sg>

Background on the SME Qiang Course

The National Environment Agency (NEA), in partnership with Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA) and the Environmental Management Association of Singapore (EMAS), has arranged with the Singapore Manufacturers' Association's Centre for Corporate Learning (SMA CCL) and U-Training Centre (UTC) to conduct a productivity course specially tailored for companies in the cleaning industry. This bundled-training course, which includes a productivity improvement project, is based on SMA CCL's "SMA QIANG" course and UTC's Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) module on "Supervise Service Operations". The course is aimed at increasing productivity in cleaning companies and is meant for staff in managerial or senior positions of cleaning companies.



The 1st run of this course on the 14th September 2012 and would require the companies to be registered by end of August.

Clean and Green Week Singapore (CGS)

NEA will be organising their annual Clean and Green Week Singapore (CGS) on 3rd & 4th Nov 2012. Clean & Green Singapore aims to inspire Singaporeans to care for and protect our living environment by adopting an Environmentally-Friendly Lifestyle. Singaporeans can make green practices an integral part of our daily lives. NEA invites all members of EMAS to participate in this event.

To find out more visit their website at <http://www.cgs.sg/>



Picture Source: <http://www.cgs.sg>

A regional newsletter

EMAS is part of FAOPMA, which represents pest management associations within the region. They have just started a newsletter and this is extended to all member associations within the region. Please find attached a copy of this newsletter for your reference.



Picture Source: <http://www.faopma.com>