



WORKFORCE *iCATS*

SKILLING THE NATION'S FUTURE

The official newsletter of Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS)

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From left: YBhg.Dato' CM Vignaesvaran A/L Jeyandran, Chief Executive of Human Resources Development Fund, YB Dato' Sri Richard Riot Jaem, Minister of Human Resources, Mr.Hallman bin Haji Sabri, Executive Director of PPKS and YBhg Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain, Chairman of PPKS

PPKS BAGS HRD AWARD

For the Sarawak Skills Development Centre (PPKS), winning the prestigious Human Resources Development Award 2015 in the Training Provider Category was a feather in its cap – indeed, a significant milestone for PPKS and affirmation of its mission to provide quality training and education in line with national aspirations. The award was presented by Minister of Human Resources YB Dato' Sri Richard Riot Jaem to PPKS Chairman Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain during the Human Resources Development (HRD) Awards Gala Dinner in Kuala Lumpur on 8 December 2015.

Also present on stage during this momentous occasion were Dato' CM Vignaesvaran A/L Jeyandran, Chief Executive of the Human Resources Development Fund, and Mr. Hallman bin Haji Sabri, PPKS Executive Director. The HRD Award is the highest national recognition in human resources development from the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) under the Ministry of Human Resources. For the Training Provider Category, the award recognises outstanding training providers who have consistently delivered quality training programmes to HRDF and non-HRDF registered employers, as well as adopted systematic methods of developing training curricula and programmes.



Winner of HRD Award 2015 (Training Provider Category)

i@PPKS - Innovation, Personal Integrity, Passion, Knowledge, Synergy

SKILLING THE NATION'S FUTURE

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EVENTS & PHOTOS

Aainaa Aqilah Ibrahim

Nur Rapizah Oden

ADMINISTRATION & DISTRIBUTION

Abdul Kudus Lait

Shalizza Fadzellawatty Yahya

PRODUCTION

PPKS Production Sdn. Bhd.



If you have any comments, suggestions or ideas please contact us at:

The Chief Editor, WORKFORCE Newsletter

Corporate Communications Unit

Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak

Jalan Canna, Off Jalan Wan Alwi, Tabuan Jaya

93350 Kuching, Sarawak

We are pleased to release the October to December 2015 issue of WORKFORCE, the quarterly official newsletter of Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak (PPKS). It features updates on events and happenings in PPKS.

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■ Mobile Outreach Programme

PPKS Group of Companies :



i-CATS

AWISAR
ACCREDITED & MEMBER INSTITUTE OF SARAWAK



KUCHING

MUKAH

MIRI





**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
PERSPECTIVE**

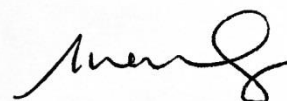
With the new year around the corner, I thought it would be timely to take a moment and look back on 2015, a year filled with many memorable occasions. During the year, we had many opportunities to go the extra mile, to advance the noble cause of service to humanity through our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives. Indeed, we are very much a part of the community, and we are thankful and honoured to be able to contribute towards the betterment of society.

It was also an honour and a privilege for PPKS to be the main organizer of the World TVET Conference in August 2015. The conference was one of the major highlights of the year. My thanks to the many stakeholders for their contributions and support!

Winning the prestigious Human Resources Development Award 2015 (in the Training Provider Category) in December 2015 was a great way to round off the year. The award is an affirmation of our mission to provide quality training and education in line with national aspirations.

For the PPKS Group, Graduation Day/Convocation is always a cause for celebration. It is always heart-warming to witness first-hand, the transformation of our students into world-ready graduates. Nourished by the gentle shower of education, our graduates embrace the future as a world of opportunities!

To all our stakeholders, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you A Very Happy and Productive 2016!



Hallman Haji Sabri
Executive Director
Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak

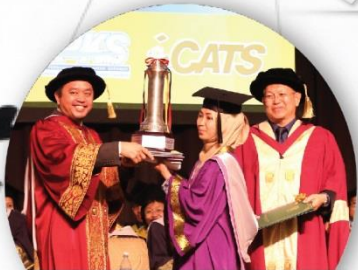


Chairman of PPKS, Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz (second from left) presents the TVET Trophy to Ms. Noryati binti Suhili @ Suhaili

The Sarawak Skills Development Centre (PPKS) and International College of Advanced Technology Sarawak (*i-CATS*) held its 18th convocation ceremony on 8 December 2015 at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCK). The convocation was graced by PPKS Chairman cum *i-CATS* President, Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain. A total of 864 students received their certificates and diplomas. Industry Awards were presented to 23 graduates; true exemplars of the spirit of determination to excel on all fronts.

The following organisations sponsored the awards: Petronas, Sarawak Energy Berhad, Sarawak Foundry & Industries Association, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Brooke Dockyard & Engineering Works, Samling Group of Companies, Normah Medical Specialist Centre and Sarawak Information Systems Sdn. Bhd. (SAINS).





Chairman of PPKS Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz presents the President Trophy to Ms. Nur Hadilah binti Nizam (centre)



"Just Remember, You Can't Climb The Ladder Of Success With Your Hands In Your Pockets."

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

Commencement Speech, University of Southern California, 2009



PPKS GROUP OF COM



Visit by Institute of Technical Education, Singapore
2 Oct 2015



World TVET Conference 2015 Appreciation Dinner
5 Oct 2015



World TVET Conference 2015 Appreciation Dinner
5 Oct 2015



Signing Ceremony with Talent Corporation
Malaysia Berhad 6 Oct 2015



PSMB Verification Visit 8 Oct 2015



PPKS Vocational College Sports Day 9 Oct 2015



PPKS Vocational College Sports Day 9 Oct 2015



PPKS sent staff for training and
attachment to Aachen, Germany
under Meister programme in November 2015

PANIES EVENTS, Q4 2015



Career Talk by SAINS 25 Nov 2015



Meeting with Representative from Federation Training Australia 26 Nov 2015



ISO Meeting 1 Dec 2015



Presentation Skills Course 15 Dec 2015



Visit by Representatives from Victoria State Government 17 Dec 2015



Lecturers attended Basic Counseling Course 17 Dec 2015



Management Council Meeting 17 Dec 2015



Staff Induction Course 22 Dec 2015



MANAGING WITH IMPACT - ADVANCED LEVEL

The “Managing with Impact-Advanced Level” training programme was organised by PPKS at its headquarters (Jalan Canna, Off Jalan Wan Alwi, Tabuan Jaya) from 19 to 23 October 2015. The inaugural batch comprising 28 staff (Line Leaders to Supervisors) from Sarawak Electronics & Supporting Industries Companies Association (SECA) member companies attended the training. According to Mr. Chai Koh Hian, the trainer/facilitator of the programme from PPKS, the focus was on personal effectiveness and presentation skills. This is to ensure participants would be able to present their thoughts or messages across to their subordinates more effectively so that organisation or departmental objectives set earlier could be achieved. Five participants were crowned winners of the Individual Presentation competition.

Puan Asnah Sabag of TOKO emerged as the Champion, with Mr. Henry Megong from X-FAB and Mr. Rocky from HGST winning second and third place respectively. Mr. Cranston Mason from Taiyo Yuden and Mr. George Roland from HGST took fourth and fifth place respectively. The Chairman of SECA HR Committee, Puan Nora Ibrahim from TOKO presented the prizes.



Puan Asnah, (left) the Champion of the Individual Presentation Competition with Puan Nora (centre) & Mr. Chai Koh Hian (right)



Teamwork : Designing a Cup Holder



Dropping the Ball challenge



Group discussion



Winner of 'Helium Stick' competition together with Puan Nora Ibrahim (3rd from right), Mr. Chai Koh Hian (2nd from right) and Mr. Jamaludin (1st from right)



Managing with Impact - Advanced Level Training in progress



Group photo session with The Chairman of SECA Human Resource Committee

CORPORATE BREAKAWAY - TEAM BUILDING EXPERIENCE

INDUSTRIES
TRAINING



Group photo session



Bonding ball



total of 44 staff from One Medicare Sdn Bhd attended a two-day Corporate Breakaway - Team Building Experience programme organised by PPKS on 10 and 11 October 2015.



Mr. Joseph KC Tan presenting his magic of attention.



Morning exercise for all

Held at the Borneo Highlands Resort, the facilitator Mr. Joseph KC Tan brought out the best in the participants through various exciting team building activities. The objective and expected outcome of this programme was to ensure participants could develop and maintain good team spirit by practising trust, respect, developing listening skills, and practising team importance over individual interest.

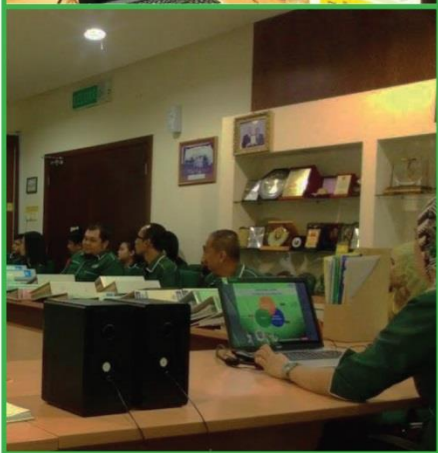
STAR RATING AUDIT (TVET)

On 22 October 2015, Sarawak Skills Development Centre (PPKS) welcomed a group of assessors from the Department of Skills Development Malaysia (DSD). The group comprised three assessors, namely Mr Yazid (Team Leader), Mr. Mohd Liza and Mr. Mohd Nizam.

The session began with a speech by PPKS Executive Director, Mr. Hallman bin Haji Sabri. He welcomed the Panel of Assessors and presented an overview of the latest

developments and future direction of PPKS. This was followed by a presentation on PPKS by Deputy Executive Director of Corporate Services, Madam Norashikin bt Dahlan, on the newly-introduced programmes.

Following the rigorous audit, PPKS received a thumbs up from the assessors. Well done, PPKS!



Star Rating Audit : Thumbs up for PPKS!



SPREADING EARLY CHRISTMAS CHEER



ONE FOR THE CAMERA : CFO, Bursary Department Staff, care-keepers and the happy children of Salvation Army Boys' Home



Mr. Mohd Asri handing out Christmas gifts to the boys accompanied by Ms. Rose Chieng, Acting Student Financial Services Manager, PPKS

On 18 December 2015, 22 staff, led by PPKS Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Mr. Mohd Asri bin Abdullah visited the Salvation Army Boys' Home at Jalan Ban Hock, Kuching to spread early Christmas cheer!

Echoing the joyous Yuletide mood, the children from the Salvation Army Boys' Home received gifts courtesy of the PPKS Bursary Department.

The highlight of the visit was when the whole room sang Christmas songs at the top of their lungs! PPKS, under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, is committed to making a difference in society.





SUCCESS STORIES

“The programme has equipped and prepared us incredibly well to pursue and excel in a nursing career”

Nur Atiqah bt Ariffin
Staff Nurse, Renal Life Dialysis Centre



When I first heard about *i-CATS* it was back during my high school years and its exciting programmes intrigued me most. It is the reason why I chose *i-CATS* in the very first place.

As far as I am concerned, I have always dreamed of becoming a nurse. It is part of my ambition to lend a helping hand and comfort those in need.

I must say that I am grateful to have been taught and trained by highly-experienced lecturers and tutors. Since our subjects are industry-oriented, I merely think that the programme has equipped and prepared us incredibly well to pursue a career in nursing.

To consider myself successful is a huge thing. I still have a lot to learn; in fact, learning is a perpetual process. I need to hone my skills, and acquire as much knowledge and experience as possible.

During classes, I paid attention, asked many questions and formed discussion groups with my classmates to exchange ideas.

Personally, for me as a student, we need to have strategies and plan our studies accordingly. To stand out, one must have a combination of good grades, competencies and hands-on experience.

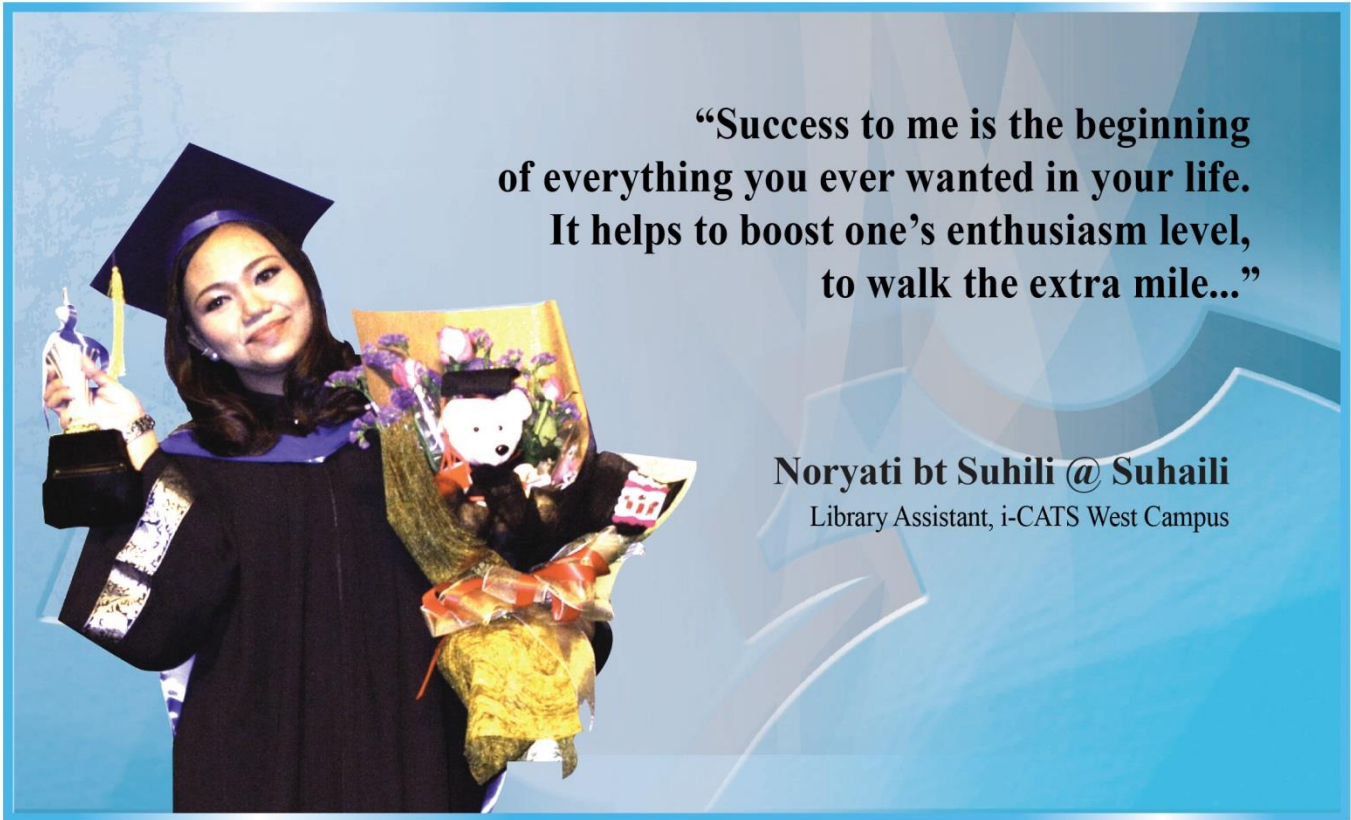
Talking about the whole package, I was involved in co-curricular activities. Students need to have a balance of academic and soft skills.

Lastly about my parents, they are the ones who have changed me. I know they sacrificed many things throughout my three - year diploma programme. And for that reason, I dedicate my “Anugerah Pelajar Cemerlang & Anugerah Industri” to them.

Interview by **Freddie Francis**
Photograph by **Aainaa Aqilah & Nur Rapizah Oden**

SUCCESS STORIES

ALUMNI
COLUMN



“Success to me is the beginning of everything you ever wanted in your life. It helps to boost one’s enthusiasm level, to walk the extra mile...”

Noryati bt Suhili @ Suhaili

Library Assistant, i-CATS West Campus

My Diploma Kemahiran Malaysia (DKM) in Pentadbiran Sistem Maklumat is a full-time programme made up of students from diverse backgrounds coupled with academics in the field of information systems.

Frankly speaking, I am extremely fortunate to have been given the opportunity to study at *i-CATS* over the past three years. Plus, with the immense interest that I have in this field which is practical-oriented, I completed my studies with distinction, CGPA 3.83. Gazillion thanks to my lecturers!

While in college, I had many friends! I also interacted with my lecturers

especially Madam Emma. I respect and value her professional guidance as well as the knowledge that I gained during her lectures.

Also, my utmost thanks to my family members especially my supportive mom, husband and step brother for they have encouraged me to always follow my passions. My mom has been the greatest inspiration, she is my rock and pillar of strength!

Success to me is the beginning of everything you ever wanted in your life. It helps to boost one’s enthusiasm level, to walk the extra mile.

Honestly, I am quite overwhelmed as the recipient of the TVET Trophy and named as the high achiever among all the graduates. I must say that I owe it all to those who have supported me since day one. Your assurance means the world to me.

And finally, to all out there who are still on the lookout on where to go for your tertiary education. *i-CATS* is the Best!

Interview by **Freddie Francis**
Photograph : **Aainaa Aqilah & Nur Rapizah Oden**

AWISAR SPORT CARNIVAL 2015

The annual Sport Carnival was a long anticipated major event at the Automotive and Welding Institute of Sarawak (AWISAR).

256 students took part in the sport carnival. They were divided into four teams, namely Turbo, Supercharged, SMAW and GTAW. Among the games contested were badminton, ping pong, sepak takraw, futsal, carom and darts.

In his opening speech, the General Manager of AWISAR, Mr. Zakri Md. Salleh, congratulated the Students Representative Council (MPP) for successfully organising such a big event.

He expressed hope that the event would provide valuable experience for the students. He further added that AWISAR always encouraged its students to be physically fit and to cultivate positive attitude by participating in co-curricular activities.



The launching ceremony was officiated by Mr. Hallman Haji Sabri, PPKS Executive Director. In his address, he highlighted that interpersonal skills among students could be enhanced through healthy competition particularly in sports. He also urged the students to be disciplined and subscribe to the importance of teamwork. To be competitive in the job market, he advised the students to be extra innovative and hone their leadership skills.



Supercharged team was announced the winner for the best parade category and SMAW team was crowned champion for accumulating the highest points in the entire sporting event.





PPKS / i-CATS MIRI 7TH CONVOCATION CEREMONY

A total of 181 graduates received their certificates and diplomas at the 7th Convocation of the Sarawak Skills Development Centre (PPKS) / International College of Advanced Technology Sarawak (i-CATS) Miri on 1 December 2015.

The convocation was graced by PPKS Chairman, Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain.

26 graduates were conferred the Certificate of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (CEE), 6 received the Higher National Diploma (HND) in Electrical/Electronics Engineering, 4 graduates for the Vocational Training Officer (VTO) programme and 25 for the

Graduate Skills Enhancement Programme (INSEP) - Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health Officer.

For the Sijil Kemahiran Malaysia (SKM) programme, there were 27 graduates from Supervision Office Management, 8 from Graphic Design, 28 from Troubleshooting, Restoration and Maintenance of Electronic Equipment and 31 from Automation Engineering Supervision.

For the Diploma Kemahiran Malaysia (DKM) programmes, 9 graduates were from the Electronic Development course while 27 were from the Mechatronics Technology Assistant course. The Best Student Awards were presented to twelve students.



LECTURERS ATTEND OBE COURSE

To enhance the quality of teaching and learning at PPKS / i-CATS Miri, 31 lecturers attended the Outcome-Based Education (OBE) course.

The 4-day course (8 to 11 October 2015) was conducted by Mr. Mohamed Nadzri Mohd Yusof, a consultant of the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA).

According to Programme and Studies Manager, Madam Ida Kartini Shanat, the course highlighted the importance of “Bloom’s Taxonomy” in teaching, and the importance of measuring learning outcomes.

The lecturers also had the opportunity to learn about constructing high quality exam questions to test the level of understanding of their students on certain topics.



BLOOD DONATION PROGRAMME



PPKS / i-CATS Miri held a blood donation programme on 11 November 2015 with the aim to maintain adequate blood supply for the Miri General Hospital blood bank.

The event, a joint initiative with the Malaysian Red Crescent Society (PBSM) and the Miri General Hospital, garnered tremendous support from PPKS / i-CATS staff and students.

PPKS Miri Student Affairs Officer, Mr. Wan Ishak Wan Hadenan highlighted that the objective of the programme was to raise awareness among the staff and students about the importance of becoming a blood donor.

Plans are underway to make the blood donation drive an annual event.



MOBILE OUTREACH PROGRAMME

On 28 December 2015, PPKS/i-CATS Miri participated in the Mobile Outreach Programme held at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Tinjar, Baram.

The programme was jointly organised by the Regional Office in Beluru, Malaysian Armed Forces (ATM), Jabatan Kemajuan Masyarakat (KEMAS), Jabatan Hal Ehwal Khas (JASA) and the Department of Welfare.

Potential students and their parents were able to obtain information on educational opportunities at PPKS/i-CATS for the January 2016 intake. The event was launched by the Assistant Minister of Public Utilities (Water Supply) and Assistant Minister of Agriculture (Farmers Organization) Sarawak, Datuk Sylvester Entri.



