



MINISTRY OF INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF STANDARDS MALAYSIA

OPENING ADDRESS

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DEPARTMENT OF STANDARDS MALAYSIA
MINISTRY OF INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

**THE 11th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADVANCES IN
STEEL STRUCTURES (ICASS' 2023)**

07 DECEMBER 2023

KUCHING, SARAWAK

Ir. Prof. Lau Hieng Ho

Swinburne Sarawak Pro-Vice Chancellor and CEO

Chair Professor Emeritus SL Chan

NIDA Technology Co, Ltd.

Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Dr Daniel Looi

Chairman for NSC 04/TC 21/WG 7 - Design of fastenings for use in concrete

Honoured speakers and participants

Ladies and gentlemen

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh, Salam sejahtera and good morning to all of you.

1. Firstly, I would like to welcome all speakers and participants to the *11th International Conference on Advances in Steel Structures (ICASS' 2023)* in this beautiful city of Kuching, Sarawak.
2. A warm welcome or 'Selamat Datang' to Prof. SL Chan, the founder of the ICASS conference series, for selecting Sarawak, Malaysia for this international conference. I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to Prof. Lau and Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong Institute of Steel Construction and Malaysia Cold-Formed Steel Institute for the effort you have put forth in hosting and organising this international

conference. My special thank you goes to ICASS Partners namely Sarawak Convention Bureau, Department of Standards Malaysia, The Institution of Engineers Malaysia, Sarawak Branch and CSETD, and The Hongkong Institution of Engineers, for the continuous support, and of course to the keynote speakers, organising committee, sponsors, supporting partners, participants and everyone who have involved in making this event a reality today.

Ladies and gentlemen,

3. The Department of Standards Malaysia, is a government agency under the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI). We are the National Standards Body (NSB) responsible for developing and promoting Malaysian Standards (MS) and also as the National Accreditation Body (NAB) responsible for providing accreditation services to conformity assessment bodies.
4. To date, the Department of Standards Malaysia has developed a total of 4717 Malaysian Standards across 26 sectors including the Construction, Building and Civil Engineering Sector or also known as the National Standards Committee (NSC) 04. Under the NSC 04 per se, a total of 394 Malaysian Standards have been developed so far in response to market demand and trends.
5. Compliance to a Malaysian Standards does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligation and is a voluntary in nature. However, compliance to a Malaysian Standard can be made as mandatory if it is referred in an Act or in any technical regulation. To date, a total of 66 Malaysian Standards under the NSC 04 have been made as

mandatory standards to support regulatory agencies in Malaysia in their enforcement activities.

6. As this conference is intended to provide a forum for researchers and professionals to discuss and disseminate recent advances in steel structures including some common topics including steel, stainless steel, aluminium, its connection to steel and fastening to concrete, I would like to update that the Department of Standards Malaysia has successfully published MS EN 1992-4 (2023), Eurocode 2: Design of concrete structures - Part 4: Design of fastenings for use in concrete on 6th June this year. This document can be purchased through our Malaysian Standards Online or popular known as MySOL at <https://mysol.jsm.gov.my/>.
7. My heartiest gratitude to the NSC 04/TC 21/WG 7 Design of fastenings for use in concrete for their excellent contribution to the Nation and their unwavering dedication as drafting committee of MS EN 1992-4 and its National Annex, ensuring the timely publication of a document that is of great benefit to society.
8. The Department of Standards Malaysia has been aggressively promoting standards compliance/ standards utilisation activities through seminars, conferences and workshops among industry players in Malaysia. This is to ensure our local products and services are of quality so that greater market can be accessed and most importantly, without compromising the safety aspect. It is hoped that more events like this will be organised in future and the Department of Standards Malaysia is looking forward to

collaborating with relevant stakeholders to realise such initiative in cultivating quality of life.

Ladies and gentlemen,

9. As we know, The Prime Minister of Malaysia, YAB Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim had launched the **NEW INDUSTRIAL MASTER PLAN 2030 (NIMP 2030)** on 1st September 2023. The NIMP 2030 is the fourth edition of the Industrial Master Plan (IMP). It is all about transforming Malaysia's manufacturing, by ensuring broad-based growth, in line with the MADANI Economy's vision. It will support the realisation of economic reforms. It will revitalise the manufacturing sector to ensure Malaysia remains resilient amidst growing challenges and megatrends. NIMP 2030 aims to make Malaysia's industries stronger and more resilient in the long run by making our economy more complex, connecting local industries together, and getting our industries to play a bigger role in the world market.

Ladies and gentlemen,

10. We hope that this platform will successfully provide insight from international and national perspectives. I wish you a great success in the parallel sessions and hope that you will continue to contribute your expertise in the standardisation as well as the conformance activities.

11. To international participants, I wish you a pleasant stay and please take this opportunity to explore the beautiful city of Kuching, Sarawak. On that note, I declare the official launching of the MS EN 1992-4 (2023).

Thank you.