



The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



e-newsletter

2012 / VOLUME 142

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JULY, 28TH 2012

Interview with Dr. Ernest Ndukwe on Internet Connectivity in Nigeria.



Engr. Ernest Ndukwe

Dr Ernest Ndukwe is a professional Telecommunications Engineer, Corporate Executive and Public Servant with over 36 years of international experience in the telecommunications industry and in corporate management, majority of which have been in top management positions in private multi-national companies and in government. He is a graduate of the University of Ife and an alumnus of the Lagos Business School, a Fellow of the Nigerian Society of Engineers (FNSE), Fellow of the Nigerian Institute of Management (FNIM)

and Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Engineering, FAEng. He was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), by the President in February 2000. Prior to his appointment to head the NCC, Dr Ndukwe had a distinguished career in the private sector which started with employment with Radio Communications Nigeria (RCN) Limited in 1976. In January 1981 he joined GEC Telecommunications as Engineering manager and had a successful career path that culminated in his elevation to the board as Commercial Director in 1988 and Managing Director of the company in 1989. Dr Ndukwe is a past Chairman of the Administrative Council of the African Telecommunications Union and past Chairman of the West African Telecom Regulators Association (WATRA), an organization he helped pioneer. Ndukwe has represented Nigeria at various international events and is a regular resource person at international conferences including International Telecommunications Union (ITU) organised forums and events. He is also a Vice Chairman of Telecom Development Advisory Group (TDAG) of the ITU representing Nigeria. Dr Ndukwe, on special invitation, has served as adviser to a few countries in Africa on Telecom Policy and Regulation. He is author of several papers on Telecommunications Regulation and Sector Policy and a two-time winner of African Regulator of the year award. Currently Dr Ndukwe is executive Chairman of Openmedia Communications Ltd. He is also a part time Faculty of the Lagos Business School where he heads the Centre for Infrastructure Policy, Regulation and Advancement, CIPRA. He also recently served as member of the Presidential National Job Creation Committee.

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Rockson Engineering Donates Coaster Bus To The Nigerian Society of Engineers PH Branch



L-R: Engr. Denis Dania MNSE (NSE PH Branch Chairman), Engr. Prof. H. I. Hart FNSE and Engr. M. D. Derefaka FNSE on receiving the coaster bus at Rockson Engineering premises in Port Harcourt.



NSE PH Branch Mourns Engr. G. C. Egbunefu, FNSE

Engr. G. C. Egbunefu FNSE, died after a brief illness on Sunday 15 July 2012 by 3pm.

Funeral Arrangement

Service of songs: 7th August 2012 by 5.00pm at his RSUST residence.

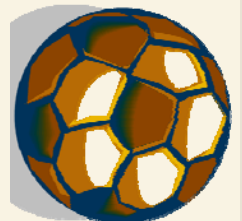
Interment: 10th August 2012 at his home town in Eberi, Omuma L.G.A., Rivers State.



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National Engineering Games

The Nigerian Society of Engineers **National Engineering Games** holds on Friday 14th September, 2012 in Abuja. The Abuja Branch of NSE will be involved in a football competition with another branch in the opening ceremony.



Interview with Dr. Ernest Ndukwe on Internet Connectivity in Nigeria.

E-Newsletter: *Sir, briefly, lets talk about internet connectivity in Nigeria. How do you think we have fared so far, looking at when internet came into Nigeria and where we are today?*


Ndukwe: Quite honestly, I think we have done a lot. A lot has happened since ten years ago as was indicated in the Internet Society conference in Geneva. Nigeria was actually given as one of the examples of locations where internet has blossomed in Africa. 10 years ago, it was like 0.1% of the population then that were connected. Today it is close to 30% of the population that are connected. So really it is a very big leap. What has facilitated that is the widespread of mobile broadband and because we are a wireless country and mobile has grown in leaps and bounds. Most people who have smart phones are internet and also most people who have the dongle that is attached to the computer are internet and broadband ready.

I think I will be speaking the minds of most Nigerians when I say that many people are still expecting substantial improvement in the speed of transmission. Jimmy Wales, the founder of Wikipedia, said that over the mobile phone, that the rate of data in Nigeria is found to be faster than the rate of data in a mobile environment in New York. Which means that there is something to say about that. Of course we expect that to be much higher because we depend on wireless networks for everything we are doing. So while the other countries have very good infrastructure in areas of fixed line infrastructure, which they leverage on to get very high speed broadband, some of them are installing fiber optics to homes and something like that. We still have to do a lot on the wireless platform because those things are not there in terms of fixed infrastructure.

I won't be surprised if Nigeria is the first country in Africa to do 4G services. That will even increase the speed substantially and increase in broadband penetration generally.

E-Newsletter: *Thank you very much..*


The Nigerian Society of Engineers



announces its

NATIONAL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE, EXHIBITION AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

"HARMONY 2012"



Theme:

Strategies
for Promotion of
Sustainable Technology-Based
and **Production-Driven** Economy
in Nigeria

Venue:
KWARA HOTEL, ILORIN

Date:
3rd - 7th December, 2012

NSE PH BRANCH GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26TH JULY 2012 AT THE BRANCH SECRETARIAT



NSE PH Branch held a general meeting on Thursday 26th July 2012 at Engr. Ishmael A. Banigo secretariat. Picture right, is Engr. Senibo Wilkinson George, (Director, Marine Engineering Department, Rivers State Ministry of Transport) making a presentation on The Impact of Maritime Transportation On Climate Change: The Situation In Nigeria.

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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 **N7,500.00** for **Corporate Members** & **N9,500** 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