



The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



e-newsletter

2014 / VOLUME 238

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NOVEMBER 29, 2014

Interview with Engr. Dr. Mrs. Edith Y. Ishidi, FNSE, on Polymer Engineering

Engr. Dr. Mrs Edith Yohanna Ishidi, FNSE, is a Polymer Engineer and a past Chairman of NSE Zaria Branch.

E-Newsletter: Madam, what can you tell us about Polymer Engineering?

Mrs. Ishidi: When you say Polymer, it is so broad; you have the chemistry of polymer, general sense of polymer and Polymer Engineering which is my area. When you talk about the Engineering of Polymer, you are talking about the design and fabrication using polymer as an engineering material. Polymer is so unique that it is a kind of material that has very broad properties. It is not like our conventional engineering materials that have monolithic characteristics. Polymer is something you can be modified to suit different purposes. The automobile and aircraft industries etc, are engulfed into polymer materials. In the past looking at aircrafts, you will find out that the number of people it can lift at a time was less compare to the present. This credit or improvement is as a result of the properties that are inherent in polymer material. It is a light weight material that has both mechanical and other required properties that are quite related to the materials used in automobile and aircraft.



Dr. Mrs. Edith Ishidi

E-Newsletter: Do you think that there are enough women practicing Polymer Engineering?

Mrs. Ishidi: The answer is categorically no. Engineering generally have very few number of women, that is just the truth. I

remember the time during my first degree, we were just 15 women in engineering in the entire school out of 800 students. Now looking at polymer, as one aspect of engineering, how many women will be in the class room, obviously we were quiet few. This is not too far from the fact that most often people think engineering is a very difficult course which personally I told them it is not. I don't believe there is any subject or discipline that is difficult to go through. It all depends on interest. When I was the Chairman of NSE Zaria Branch, I made deliberate effort to ensure that the younger people especially the ones in secondary school understand that mathematics is the simplest subject because it does not change. My general counsel to the very young ones each time I meet them is to put their interest in it and they will learn. I was able to put up some programs to encourage the young once in secondary schools; we setup a debate, science quiz and all that just to bring them together to talk to them. Also we did career talks. We also used that avenue to let them know that the so-called difficulties you have in mathematics is not true, it's a mere deceit by people who are not really informed. I will like to say that the number of women in polymer Engineering is not encouraging but I so much believe that with time more will come in. I have three girls and out of these three, two are already in engineering not just engineering, they are so engulfed in polymer, even the little one that is seven years will tell you about polymer.

E-Newsletter: Thank you madam.

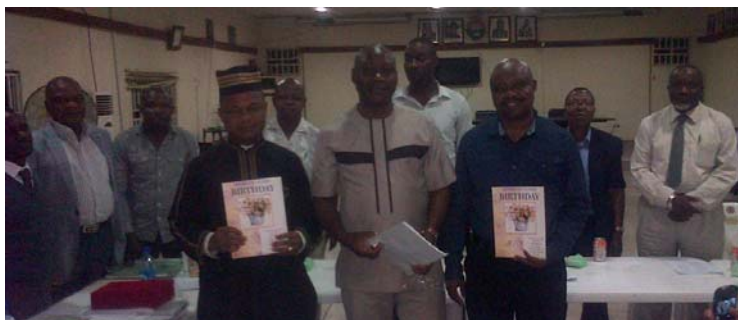


Moment of the unveiling Cars at the Innoson factory in Nnewi on Saturday 29 November 2014. The moment is important because it represents the first set of made in Nigeria cars containing 70% of local content. Some personalities that were at the ceremony are: The President of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Engr. Ademola Isaac Olorunfemi FNSE, with delegation from NSE, the President of Manufacturers Association of Nigeria and delegation from MAN, the president of NACCIMA, the Deputy Governor of Anambra State, the former Governor of Anambra State, Mr. Peter Obi, the Minister of Industry Trade and Investment, Dr. Olusegun Aganga, The Managing Director of the Bank of Industry. The dignitaries in the picture above are: L-R: Dr. Aganga, Mr Chukwumeka Innocent (CEO Innoson Group), Deputy Governor of Anambra and former Governor of Anambra State, Mr. Peter Obi



Photo Left: NSE Port Harcourt Branch Chairman Engr. Kombo Theophilus-Johnson, FNSE (left), presiding over the Branch General Meeting/Technical Evening held on Thursday 27th November 2014 at the Branch secretariat. **Photo Right:** Engr. Chief O. O. Oruye, FNSE, making a technical presentation titled 'Electricity in Nigeria: What Hope For Our Industries?'

Cross section of participants at the Association for Consulting Engineering in Nigeria (ACEN) 36th Annual Conference with the theme: "Consulting Beyond Public Infrastructures—Opportunities in Oil & Gas, Power & Telecomms" held on Tuesday 18th November 2014, at Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Ikeja, Lagos.



NSE PH Branch Membership Committee monthly meeting held on Tuesday 18 November, 2014 at NSE PH Branch secretariat.



WECSI 2014 (Team 4) of YEFON Project Challenge winners.



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NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!

All members of NSE Port Harcourt Branch should pay their Annual Branch Dues of N5000 for Corporate Members and N7,500 for Fellows to UBA Account No. 1000183629 (Port Harcourt Main Branch). Also pay National Annual Subscription of N9,000.00 for Corporate Members & N11,500 for Fellows directly to First Bank Account No. 2020502052 & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation. All payments should be made into the bank accounts.