



The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



e-newsletter

2010 / VOLUME 92

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OCTOBER, 9TH 2010

Interview with Engr. Umar Bindir FNSE on Technology Acquisition and Promotion

Engr. Dr. Umar Birnir, is currently the Director General of the National Office of Technology Acquisition and Promotion with headquarter in Abuja, and zonal office in Lagos. It is a parastatal of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology.

E-Newsletter: *Could you tell us what the Technology Acquisition and Promotion Office is all about?*

Engr. Umar: Well, you see, this is a national office that has been mandated by law to monitor the inflow of intangible technologies into Nigeria. What I mean by that is you know, all these power projects that you get foreign companies and foreign consultants to come and work in Nigeria. The strategy really, is that we see the quantum of technology that Nigeria is consuming and then we strategize on how we domesticate and transfer certain technologies; so while we work with these companies, looking at what they are consuming, we also work with the Universities, research institutions, professional bodies to ensure that Nigeria is involving a viable, critical mass of Engineers, scientists, medical personnel and so on so that we can be able to gradually in simple language take over as it were.

E-Newsletter: *Ok. What advice do you have for Nigerians and the Engineering family as regards technology acquisition and promotion?*

Engr. Umar: Well, you see, we have had our political leaders. Literary, calling us and to say that this country has to be one of the top twenty economies come 2020; this is in the next ten years. Now to be among the top twenty economies, Nigerian universities must be very good in terms of acquiring technology, the Engineers must be very good in the provision of physical and social infrastructure. We have to literally be very good in science and technology, this is what it means; so the call to Nigerians is that we must understand that unless we strategize to create a critical mass



Engr. Umar Bindir FNSE

of highly skilled manpower in these science and technology areas, we are not going to meet the 2020 target. To do that we now have to work very hard and trust this country; running out of this country to go abroad is not the answer. If we go abroad and we acquire the knowledge, we must come back and empower the system to actually grow higher. This is the message; so what you see here for example you see so many Engineers, but we are talking about challenges of lack of technology, lack of infrastructure. It means that we have accepted that we are weak, so in order to overcome that, we have to change gear, to completely change the gear box; we have to make sure that our training strategies are very specific, our undergraduate and graduate studies in our universities and research institutes have to be strategic, our researches in the research institutes have to be strategic, we have to also join the league of countries whereby we are doing high level of technology. This is the general message. If we don't do this, then we cannot answer the call as technical people to our political leaders.

E-Newsletter: *Alright, thank you very much sir, we are very grateful for the short time you gave us to interview you; we believe that when next we call on you at a very short notice, you will grant us the opportunity to interview you.*

Engr. Umar: No problem, verbally or electronically, I am always for you.

E-Newsletter: *Alright, thank you very much sir.*



Engr. Otueneh & Engr. Umar

NSE PH Branch Annual General Meeting/Election of Executive Committee for 2011

Despite the heavy rain fall, the Annual General Meeting /Election of Executive Committee for 2011 of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch was held on Thursday September 30 2010 at Engr. Ishmael A. Banigo Secretariat, Water Works Yard, #3 Bernard Carr Street, Port Harcourt by 5.00pm. During the AGM there was a Technical Presentation by Engr. Chris Ahiakwo who delivered a paper on Renewable Energy. At the end of the AGM the following engineers were elected to pilot the affairs of the branch in 2011.

Engr. A. H. Igoni MNSE – Chairman
Engr. Denis Dania MNSE—Vice Chairman
Engr. Goodluck Ikenyiri MNSE – Secretary
Engr. Abinye Jaja – Asst. Secretary
Engr. Emmanuel Idoniboye MNSE—Treasurer

Engr. Humphrey Amadi MNSE – Membership Secretary
Engr. Edward Orupabo MNSE – Welfare Secretary
Engr. Otunte John Otueneh MNSE— Publicity Secretary
Engr. Mrs. C. Ohagwa MNSE—Financial Secretary
Engr. Precious Bobmanuel MNSE— Technical Secretary
Engr. Charles Ebitei MNSE— Asst. Technical Secretary
Engr. Gibson Belief JP, MNSE – Internal Auditor.



Engr. A. H. Igoni, MNSE
Chairman, PH Branch

THE ABOLARINS GIVE OUT DAUGHTER IN MARRIAGE On Saturday, 18th of September, 2010, Engr. Deacon & Mrs. Anthony Abolarin, gave out their daughter, former Miss Omowumi Abolarin, in marriage to the Dango Tobys, beginning with a solemn celebration at the Faith Baptist Church, at the old GRA Port Harcourt. The Programme was concluded with an impressive and colourful celebration at the Main Auditorium of the Civic Center in Port Harcourt. Engr. Anthony Abolarin is the Chairman, Nigerian Society of Petroleum Engineers, Member, National Council of the Nigerian Society of Engineers, and the Special Assistant to the Managing Director of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC).



Engr. & Mrs. Anthony Abolarin



The couple

NSE PH BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN PICTURES



NSE PH BRANCH YOUNG ENGINEERS CLUB

The Young Engineers Club of NSE PH Branch held her maiden meeting on Tuesday 28th September 2010 at Engr. Ishmael A. Banigo secretariat. The Vice Chairman of the Branch Engr. Denis Dania *MNSE*, was in attendance to address the members of what is expected of them.



Engr. C. A. Dennar *FNSE* Retires From Active Service

Engr. Chianyidi A. Dennar *FNSE* has retired from Nigerian Agip Oil Company (NAOC) where he was in active service. Until his retirement from NAOC, he was the Manager, Engineering & Construction. While in NAOC, Engr. Chianyidi Dennar was instrumental to the circulation of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch E-Newsletter among the engineers that are working in NAOC. He was and still is very much committed to the course of the E-Newsletter of Port Harcourt Branch. The E-Newsletter team of NSE PH Branch wishes Engr. Chianyidi Dennar *FNSE* a happy retirement life. Thank you Engr. Dennar for your commitment to the course of our dear publication. Engr. Dennar is succeeded by Engr. Gershon Ogbulujah as the new Manager and also to handle the publication in NAOC.



Engr. C. A. Dennar *FNSE*

Nigerian Institution of Civil Engineers (NICE)
 (A division of the Nigerian Society of Engineers)
 Port Harcourt Chapter

cordially invites

to the

ENGR. PROF. Y. O. BEREDUGO
5th ANNUAL LECTURE

Under the distinguished chairmanship of
 His Excellency, Chief (Rtd. Navy Capt)
WALTER FEGHABO-AMAIN
 Former Military Administrator of Ebonyi State & Delta State

October 14, 2010 • 4:00 pm prompt •
 Eastern Garden • Chinese Restaurant • by C.F.C. Bus stop, • Aba Road, PH.

Special Guests of Honour
 Engr. Beniah Ojurn *FNSE, FNICE*
 Former General Chairman, NCE & Immediate Past SPH/ODC
 Chief Emmanuel E. Banigo Ogbulu
 Former Professor of S/E & Tech
 Hon. Otobo Opusiri *ISHA*
 Hon. Amalayan Yousoo *MENHA*

Prof. S. C. Teme
 IGET, RELJET, Port Harcourt,
 Engineer Lecturer

THEME: Flooding Problems in Niger Delta a case study of "Port Harcourt"

Chief Host: Engr. A. Omopeloye *FNSE, FNICE*
 National Chairman NICE

Host: Engr. Dr. Solomon Orumu T. *FNSE, FNICE*
 Chairman NICE, Port Harcourt Chapter
 08037112364

Engr. Theophilus Alagoo *FNSE, FNICE*
 Chairman Organizing Comm.,
 08033332771

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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: 0234-031-0000962 (Port Harcourt Main Branch)**. Also pay **National Annual Subscription of N7,500.00 for Corporate Members & N9,500 for Fellows** directly to **AFRIBANK ACC No. 1420202215613** & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation. All payments should be made at the Bank