

BEC E-NEWSLETTER

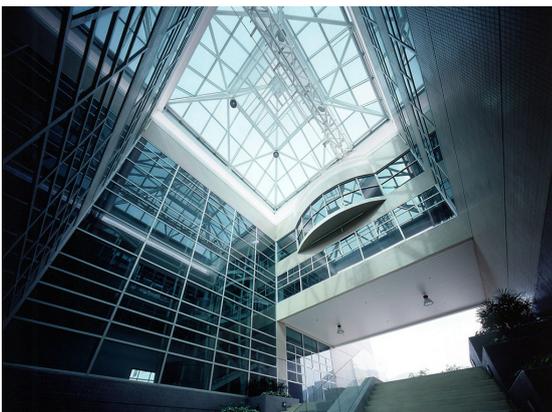
Connecting · Nurturing · Creating for a Sustainable Environment

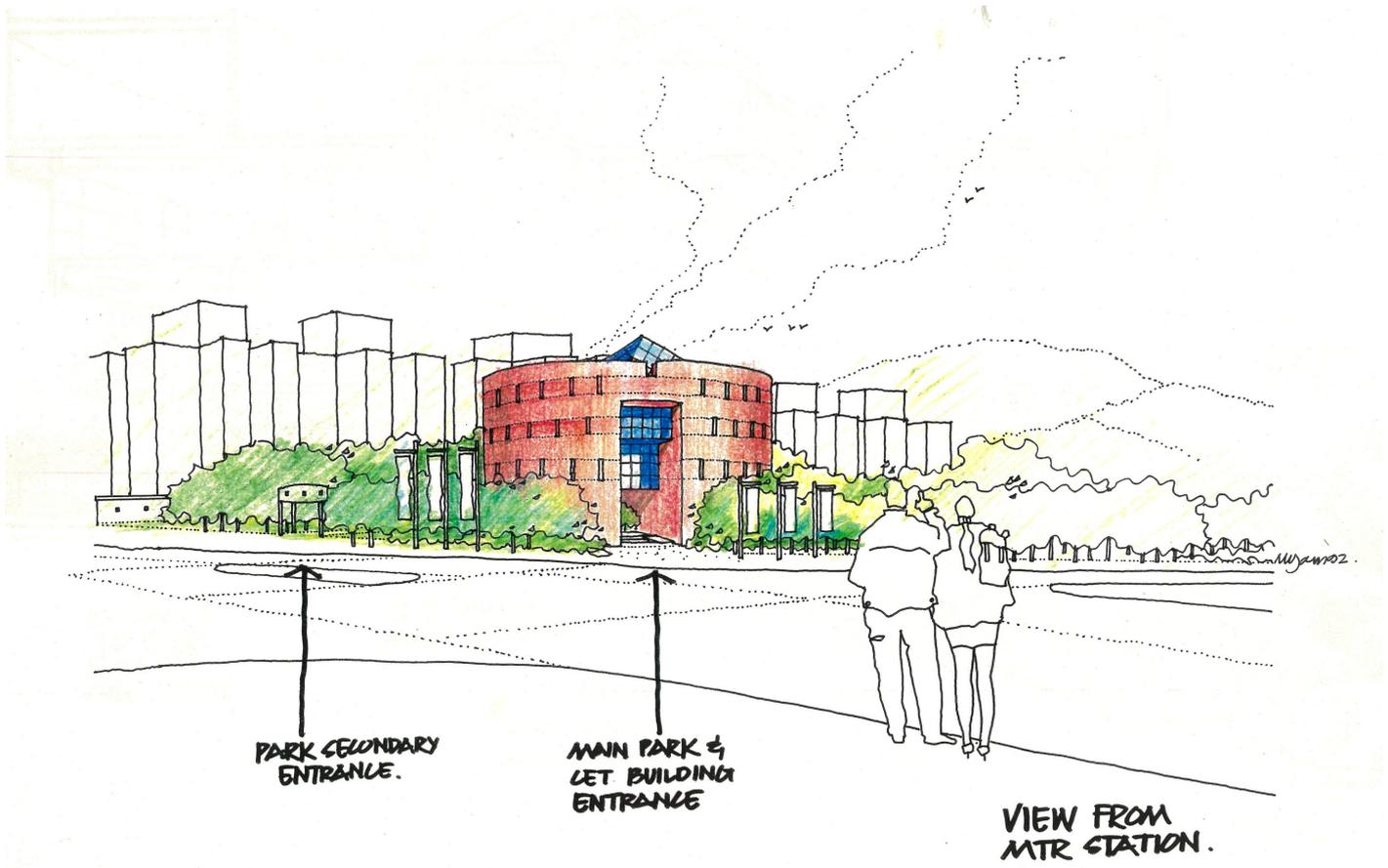


THE UNTOLD STORY OF BEC BUILDING

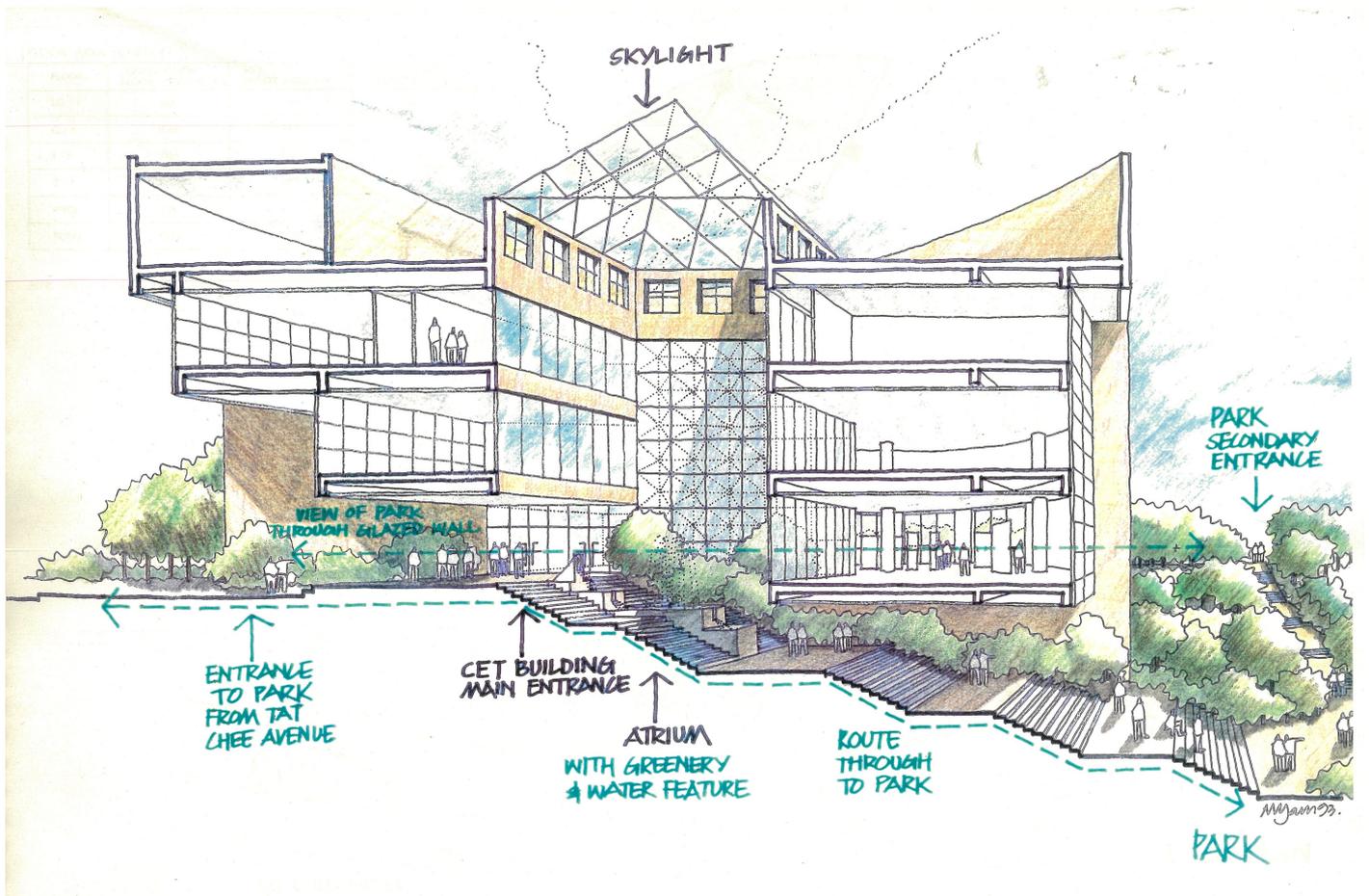
Business Environment Council celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. The first time you step in the BEC building, it's cosy, welcoming and contemporary. Let's take this exclusive opportunity to unwind some key historical materials and discover BEC's sustainability journey since the early history of its building.

BEC Building, formally known as Jockey Club Environmental Building ("JCEB"), is a distinctive icon of BEC. The cylindrical building, inspired by the traditional Hakka Tulou, has been standing in the tranquil district since 1996, but little is known about the early days of this precious asset of BEC.





The planning stage of JCEB can be traced back to 1993, when the Centre for Environmental Technology (later became BEC) received the concept sketches, floor plans and section drawings of the proposed building from the architect.



According to a SCMP article in June 1995, JCEB is a building “dedicated to increasing awareness among business and industry of the importance, necessity and benefits of environmental management.” It is literally the first building of its kind in Hong Kong where environmental considerations were applied as principal factor in design, construction and operation. For instance, hardwood was not used for the site hoarding and the composite hoarding panel alternatives were subsequently re-used as office partitions. In terms of design, an exterior done in earth tone would blend the building perfectly with neighbourhood. Parking lots at the building were also minimised to encourage visitors to make use of public transport when visiting the building.

SCMP MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1995
ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE

\$50m building puts message across Green centre leads the way

THE Centre of Environmental Technology is practising what it preaches in the design and construction of its \$50-million permanent home.

Among the building's environmentally-friendly features will be an energy-efficient round shape and an exterior done in earth tones to blend in with the park site that surrounds it.

The fencing around the building construction site is made of composite materials that will eventually be re-used inside the centre.

“We want the centre to be a showcase and that means both the building itself and the contents,” Craig Branting, the centre's general manager, said.

The four-year-old non-profit organisation generates, markets and implements environmental projects to help polluting industries clean up.

It is located on the City University of Hong Kong campus. Its 40,000-square-foot, three-storey permanent home is already under construction nearby at Tat Chee Avenue and To Yuen Street.

The centre will showcase the latest in environmental

technology and pollution-control equipment while offering a 200-seat auditorium, conference rooms and an environmental database service.

The building is wrapped around an atrium where a giant skylight will cut down on electricity bills.

The building site was donated by the Government. Construction is being funded by donations from the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club, Hongkong Bank and Swire Group.

The centre's five environmental consultants and three administrators hope to move into their new premises by next spring.

“I think it will put us on

the map as a business and industry support group,” Mr Branting said of the centre.

“By occupying a building that is dedicated to increasing awareness among business and industry of the importance, necessity and benefits of environmental management, we will have launched the only dedicated environment centre in the territory.”

The building is only one of the centre's projects.

In October, it launched an environmental information hotline and several hundred industrial callers have already telephoned for free consultations.

Centre staff answer queries on the spot in Cantonese, Mandarin or English. They also provide up to two hours research work for each caller and, if requested, do further work for a fee.

The centre, working with the Hong Kong Productivity Council, recently created the *Guide to Environmental Technology and Services Available in Hong Kong*.

The guidebook was released in March and offers practical advice on how to choose appropriate equipment and services.

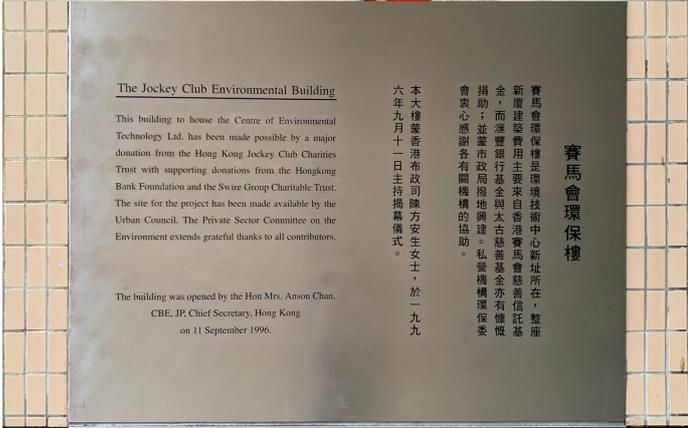
Also in the pipeline is an energy conservation project that will encourage companies to reduce their energy bills and curb pollution.

“Through replacing earlier technology lighting with current technology lighting, you can reduce energy and save money on energy bills,” Mr Branting said.

“What you are doing is reducing the need for power to be generated so it avoids pollution at the power plant.”

Before the service is offered publicly, the centre will release the results of a case study involving a local company.

This will give other companies a chance to study the results and see how the initiative works.



Retrieved from South China Morning Post (1995)

On 11 September 1996, JCEB was officially opened by then Chief Secretary of Hong Kong Mrs Anson Chan. The commemorative plaque at the opening ceremony is now placed at the building entrance.





Certificate of Merit

优异奖项

Jockey Club Environmental Building at Kowloon Tong
designed by Simon Kwan & Associates Ltd.

关善明建筑师事务所有限公司设计，位于九龙塘的赛马会环保楼

Retrieved from HKIA Journal Issue No.16 (1998)

In 1997, JCEB won the Certificate of Merit at the prestigious Hong Kong Institute of Architects (“HKIA”) Annual Awards, being one of the only two awardees that year. This recognition subtly conveyed that Hong Kong should be “more concerned with environmental issues in order that we can work gradually towards sustainable development,” as indicated by distinguished architect, then HKIA President Dr Tao Ho.



Driven by the fame and accolade our building enjoyed at its early stage of opening, BEC continuously upholds its vision and efforts to enhance its environmental performance. For decades, we have introduced and experimented various state-of-the-art green technologies to the building, transforming to a “Green Lab”.

In 2014, BEC Building achieved the Platinum rating of Provisional Assessment under the BEAM Plus Existing Buildings (version 1.2), and became the first commercial building in Hong Kong meeting the highest level of recognition. The building subsequently attained the Platinum rating of Final Assessment in 2017. The roof-top solar panel installation in 2018 and extensive renovation of the Auditorium and Exhibition Hall in 2019 have further lifted BEC Building’s environmental performance.

Looking forward, BEC will continue to advocate a green, healthy living environment and set a robust example of green buildings in Hong Kong through our “Green Lab”.

For three decades, BEC has been at the forefront of promoting environmental excellence by advocating the uptake of clean technologies and practices which reduce waste, conserve resources, prevent pollution and improve corporate environmental and social sustainability. Our “Green Lab” showcases how we apply and support environmental solutions in life.



[Click HERE to learn more about the green features at BEC Building](#)



30 YEARS

of Environmental Excellence



The 2022-23 Budget

BEC welcomes the Government’s proposal in the 2022-23 Budget to support the target of achieving carbon neutrality before 2050 through the following action items:

- Continue to issue green bonds and enhance the Green and Sustainable Finance Grant Scheme;
- Inject \$1.5 billion to the EV-charging at Home Subsidy Scheme; and
- Inject \$200 million into the Green Tech Fund.

In our 30 years of establishment, BEC has been promoting environmental excellence to our members and the wider business sector focusing on climate change, sustainable living environment and circular economy. We actively engage our members on the proposed government strategies, provide constructive feedback and recommendations to the Administration, and participate in public consultations on environment-related topics based on our research and expertise.



14 February 2022

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**Submission on the Public Consultation for the 2022-2023 Budget
Views from Business Environment Council Limited
商界環保協會有限公司**

Over the last 30 years, Business Environment Council Limited 商界環保協會有限公司 (“BEC”) has played a leading role in advocating the business case for environmental excellence, given the importance of sustainable development to Hong Kong. Our members are committed to actively engage with the HKSAR Government (“the Government”) to help develop a supporting policy framework as well as impactful implementation in respect of environmental protection and sustainability.

Views expressed in this submission are those of BEC, in line with BEC’s Mission and Vision as well as policy position on relevant issues, but may not necessarily be the same as the views of each individual member. BEC is an independent charitable membership organisation comprising over 200 member companies from Hong Kong’s major holding companies to small and medium-sized enterprises.

1. Supporting post-pandemic green recovery

1.1. In face of the ever-evolving COVID-19 outbreak in Hong Kong and around the world, it is acknowledged that the control of the pandemic and economic and social recovery are top priorities on the Government’s policy agenda. BEC reiterates the importance and necessity of delivering a post-pandemic green and resilient recovery, which is vital for tackling the urgent challenges of climate change and many other environmental issues such as the waste crisis and biodiversity loss.

1.2. The Government should consider sustainability as an opportunity to re-fuel the economy after the COVID-19 wake-up call and steer its capital works projects towards net-zero, as well as its economic revitalisation measures along the direction of green and low-carbon transition and sustainable development. As such, the Government must allocate resources to support the implementation of existing environmental plans, investment in innovation and infrastructure, and development of green industries.

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BEC’s submission on Public Consultation for 2022-23 Budget

Read BEC’s past policy submissions

BEC 30th Anniversary Celebration

Venue Hiring **20%** **Special Discount**

Effective period: 1 January 2022 – 30 April 2022

MEMBERS CORNER

Council Members

Airport Authority Hong Kong ("AAHK") has published its inaugural Sustainable Finance Framework ("SFF") and Second Party Opinion in relation to the Sustainable Finance Framework. The SFF sets out how AAHK intends to enter into Sustainable Finance Transactions ("SFTs") to fund expenditure on projects that will deliver environmental and/or social benefits and support AAHK's objective to become the world's greenest airport, which will also further the development of sustainable urban infrastructure in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. A second party opinion has been obtained for SFF with respect to SFF's alignment with the Green Bonds Principles, Green Loan Principles, Social Bond Principles, Social Loan Principles and Sustainability Bond Guidelines.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)

Chinachem Group has been ramping up its sustainability efforts to meet its carbon reduction roadmap. In January, new science-based targets ("SBTs") were officially approved by the Science Based Targets initiative ("SBTi"). It has become Hong Kong's second real estate developer to have completed SBT validation with a 1.5°C-aligned target. The Group is committed to reducing Scope 1 and 2 operational GHG emissions by 51.8% by 2030 from a 2020 base year, while reducing Scope 3 GHG emissions from capital goods, waste generated in operations and downstream leased assets by 20% within the same timeframe.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)

Hang Lung Properties is among the first real estate companies in Asia to have committed to setting both near-term and long-term targets to reach net-zero value chain greenhouse gas emissions by no later than 2050. The targets will be aligned with the SBTi's Net-Zero Standard. With climate resilience being Hang Lung's sustainability priority, this commitment demonstrated the company's efforts in accelerating decarbonisation efforts across all aspects of business and supporting both national and corporate plans for net-zero carbon emissions in both Hong Kong and mainland China.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)

Kerry Properties was honoured as a Platinum Award winner under the Benchmark Award category at The Asset ESG Corporate Awards 2021. Companies are recognised for their outstanding performance in various fields including corporate governance, social and environmental responsibility. The accolade reaffirms Kerry Properties' steadfast commitment to ESG and effort to create shared value with different stakeholders.

Committed to sustainability, **Modern Terminals Limited** has recently received two awards on sustainability – "Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Port & Logistics Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics" in the Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2021, and "Certificate of Excellence (Large Organisations category)" in the Hong Kong Sustainability Award 2020/21.

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MEMBERS CORNER

Nine of **HK Electric's** roadside pillar boxes are now dressed up with decarbonisation messages. The new look came from the winning entries of the company's "Decarbonisation Our New Mission" Pillar Box Design Competition. To encourage more people to appreciate these pillar box designs and take actions to cut carbon, a "Decarbonisation Get Set Go" online game has also been launched with attractive prizes. Support decarbonisation by visiting the game website from now till 10 May.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



Corporate Members

AECOM has completed consultancy services for Climate Resilience Study for the Hong Kong International Airport ("HKIA") to understand which climate-related risks were pertinent to fellow BEC Member AAHK, and to identify existing controls and future actions to strengthen HKIA's operational resilience and adaptive capacity to a changing climate. The process enabled AAHK to integrate climate risk management considerations across its organisation. The study outcomes are aligned with the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures ("TCFD"), enabling transparent stakeholder communication showcasing the AAHK's approach and commitments to tackle climate change in the environment with global shift to a low-carbon economy. The project is recently awarded a prestigious accolade from the Climate Change Business Journal ("CCBJ") in the "CCBJ Industry Leadership: Airport Resilience" category.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



In December 2021, **ATAL** was honoured with the esteemed CIC Outstanding Contractor Award 2021. The Group won two major accolades – "Grand Award – Specialist Contractor" and "Professionalisation Award – Specialist Contractor". These recognitions, acclaimed as the "Oscars of Hong Kong's construction industry", have showcased the Group's outstanding performance and contribution to the industry and society, through its commitment to innovation, sustainability, environmental and social responsibilities and talent development to enhance professionalism of the construction industry.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



Reflecting on its sustainability milestones by the end of December 2021, **CN Logistics ("CNL")** has proudly invited 25 global retail client brands to participate in "CNL Green Solutions" to drive sustainable business practices in China and Hong Kong. Partnering with its green enablers and leveraging on its logistics network, the company is thrilled to share that it has recycled a total of 518.55 tonnes of materials used in the logistics supply chain, such as plastic hangers, polybags, cardboard or paper items and others.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



Hactl has been awarded a Platinum rating, the highest level under the BEAM Plus Interiors Version 1.0, for its recent office refurbishment. In use since 1998, the company's office is no longer conducive to modern business. With sustainability firmly in mind, Hactl has transformed the space to an eco-friendly, cultural and aesthetic environment. In addition to energy optimisation, sustainable practices and human-centric design, Hactl joined hands with a local social enterprise to upcycle the terminal's old furniture, discarded pallets and city's abandoned wood into elegant furniture and art installations.

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MEMBERS CORNER

In January, the eco-friendly and innovative third-generation 12 kW smart blade site power solution co-designed by **Huawei** was awarded “Excellent Product Technical Solution” at the Golden Zizhu Award 2021. The power system helps reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions for carriers. Information based services provided by the carrier further accelerate the digital and green transformation of various industries. Granted with this benchmark award, Huawei will continue to innovate and accelerate the construction of green and low-carbon networks to help achieve the carbon neutrality goals.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



In December, **Kumshing** won the prestigious “OSH MVP Award (15 Years Plus)” at the 20th Hong Kong Occupational Safety and Health (“OSH”) Award for participating the Award for 15 years with high achievements. Kumshing’s strong commitment in implementing a high standard of occupational safety, health and wellbeing at work enables the company to stand out in OSH performance among Hong Kong companies.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



With its commitment to shape a better world, **Arup** recently organised the “Envisioning a sustainable Hong Kong” video competition to raise awareness among young people. As part of its 45th anniversary celebration in Hong Kong, the competition aims to empower the younger generation to channel their opinions and play a greater role in driving the city’s sustainable development. It also offered youngsters a precious opportunity to draw up their own blueprint for future Hong Kong and amplify their voices and aspirations through video production.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



In January, **PwC** China and World Economic Forum jointly released an insight report to illustrate how financial institutions can help drive the green development of the Belt and Road Initiative and the low-carbon transition. According to the report, emerging and developing economies face rising demand for energy and mobility as they grow, industrialise and urbanise. Today’s infrastructure investment decisions will lock in emissions trajectories for decades and could make or break the world’s ability to achieve the Paris Agreement objective of limiting global temperature rise to well below 2°C.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



SGS has recently been recognised as an external reviewer for the Green and Sustainable Finance Grant Scheme by Hong Kong Monetary Authority. Through the Scheme, SGS will help institutions and corporates establish credibility in the accelerating development of green bond issuance and loan borrowing.

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MEMBERS CORNER

WSP is proud to be recognised as a leader of ESG and Sustainability consulting by an independent research firm in January. To determine the list of market leaders featured in its Green Quadrant: ESG & Sustainability Consulting 2022 report, the research firm assessed the capabilities of 15 ESG and sustainability consultancy firms on their ability to deliver a wide range of ESG services and support their clients in implementing sustainability in their business. This recognition is a testament to WSP and its talented professional ability providing practical Future Ready solutions to help clients around the world build ambitious but achievable ESG strategies.

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General Members

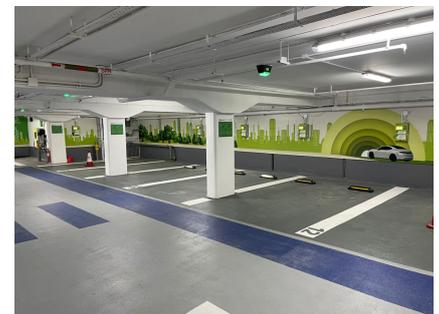
BEAM Society Limited (“BSL”) maintained its ISO 14001 credentials following a recent surveillance audit conducted in January. It was found that BSL’s management team is committed in continual improvement of its Environmental Management System. Besides, well-regulated administrative processes and BEAM Plus assessment tools support its BEAM operational team members to deliver the assessment services, professional development, training and examination process to cope with clients’ and interested parties’ needs and expectations in applying sustainable building and environmental protection measures. The audit report also highlighted BSL’s continual efforts in identifying and applying market available environmental-friendly materials, technology and operational practices in sustainable green building development.

Building Energy Analytics Company Limited published research findings at the International Conference of Applied Energy 2021 based on its patented Software-as-a-Service (“SaaS”) SMART 610, a smart energy audit tool fully complying with the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance (Cap. 610). The cost-cutting and cloud-based SaaS, tested by more than 200 energy audits during its development, aims at speeding up building energy audits, energy and carbon management in Hong Kong.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)

Cornerstone Technologies is now supporting fellow BEC member Wilson Group on electric vehicle charging solution at its first roll-out premise at Admiralty Car Park. A total of 13 chargers providing medium and quick EV charging services applicable for all EV brands have been installed. This partnership supports Cornerstone’s commitment to offering park sites an all-encompassing charging system designed to integrate its chargers with their real-time charging records and car park payment system.

In December 2021, **Crown Gas Stoves (Holdings) Company Limited** won the “13 Climate Action SDG Badge” at the InnoESG Prize Presentation cum ESG Forum 2021 for its performance in sustainable development and ESG. In the future, the company will continue to develop more creative, environmentally friendly and fashionable products.



MEMBERS CORNER

En-trak was invited by a non-profit, member led organisation this January to share how innovation can support the corporates' initiatives in reducing carbon emission while providing positive impact to the occupants, especially under the global net-zero targets. En-trak's solution manager Mr Clement Cheng explained the impact its A/C on-demand solution brings to the society, corporates and occupants, as well as the potential benefits on sustainability.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



In January, a new nature report from **GlobeScan** shows that there is a gap between growing concern and high expectations from the public, and perceived performance of most actors in protecting nature and wildlife. The study revealed that perceived performance of governments and large companies has plateaued or declined over the past year and NGOs are the most positively viewed actors, followed by individuals. Only a third or less agree that their national government and small and large businesses do their part to protect nature and wildlife.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



Since the outbreak of the pandemic, the global demand for masks is soaring. Plastic-containing disposable masks take a long time to decompose after being discarded, which will pollute water and pose threats to wildlife. In response to this, **Intertek** is now running the Green Leaf certification programme and has lately helped brands on their production of environmentally friendly masks.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



Mayer Brown has published an article in response to the results of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority's pilot climate risk stress test ("CRST"), which assessed the potential impact of climate change on the banking sector. The CRST indicates that the Hong Kong banking sector should remain resilient to climate-related shocks given the banks' strong capital buffers. However, it was noted that simplified assumptions and use of historical data in modelling could mean the potential impact could be more serious than predicted. Mayer Brown's article provides an overview of the scope of the CRST, pertinent findings and actions required to enhance climate risk management going forward.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



In January, **The Harbour School ("THS")** won the Best in Teaching and Learning at the 2022 International School Awards. THS was shortlisted amongst 250+ applicants from international schools in over 40 countries in multiple categories and won this category for its Marine Science Programme, which includes a Marine Science Centre and "The Black Dolphin" - a 50-foot sailboat as outdoor classroom. By integrating ocean literacy throughout the school's curriculum, THS aspires to nurture the students with a greater appreciation and sense of responsibility for marine conservation and biodiversity in what the United Nations has designated the "decade of the ocean."

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

Recently Published Sustainability Report

- Hactl



WELCOME NEW BEC MEMBERS

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CLESTRA

- Prosperity Real Estate Investment Trust



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- NHH Biodegradable Plastics Company Limited

- Megasoft Limited



- SUEZ NWS Limited



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- IE Expo 2022 - HK Pavilion | Environmental Protection Department | 20-22 April

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Want to share your company's latest green news with over 6,000 BEC newsletter subscribers from various industries? BEC Council, Corporate and General Members are welcomed to submit their exciting news/ technology/ activities related to sustainability and environmental excellence to us. Please contact **Mr Tomas Li (T. 2784 3922 | E. tomasli@bec.org.hk)** for submissions and enquiries.

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