



Prizes and Awards

The HKIE Gold Medal 2008 - Ir Prof Chow Che-king



The HKIE Gold Medal 2008 has been presented at the 33rd Annual Dinner of the Institution which was successfully held on 11 March 2008. Ir Prof Chow Che-king was the winner of the HKIE Gold Medal Award this year. The selection criteria were precise and rigorous. The Panel of Judges considered all candidates' achievements as well as their contributions to the profession and to the

community. The most distinguished person was selected for the Award in recognition for his commendable achievement.

As inspired by Dr Sun Yat Sen's book on infrastructure planning in China, Ir Prof Chow Che-king chose engineering for his university study with a Government scholarship. His career began as a resident site staff for Tai Lam Chung dams, rising to become Head of Civil Engineering Office and later as the Director of Territory Development, until retirement. In his 40 years of civil service, he always maintained forward leadership in many significant projects with personal attention to the key features, for instance, the Hong Kong Waterfront Road, Chek Lap Kok Airport feasibility study, Lantau Fixed Crossing design, Shatin New Town and harbour reclamations for urban expansion, etc.

Since becoming the HKIE member in 1954, he has devoted his utmost for the betterment of the society and has contributed greatly to engineering profession. Starting from 1960s when Hong Kong was still rather backward in engineering, he was always keen to initiate new technology. In order to promote prestressed concrete construction, he encouraged contractors to submit alternative designs, and conducted full-scale ultimate loading site tests to ensure quality of works. Other notable examples included the innovative Tsing Ma Bridge aerodynamic deck design, marine fill reclamation, accelerated consolidation methods, harbour hydraulic models, and environmentally oriented land use planning.

Besides engineering practice, he has been enthusiastic in education, training and community services. On retirement from civil service, he was awarded OBE medal and appointed as Hong Kong Affairs Adviser. Other invitations included Honorary Professor of

the University of Hong Kong, Council Member of the Hong Kong Academy of Engineering Sciences, Honorary Adviser of the Association of Engineering Professionals in Society, Presidency of the Hong Kong Former Senior Civil Servants Association, and political Selection Committee members. To promulgate his wide working experiences, he has published many papers in various local and overseas conferences, and is the author of the book 'My Life as an Engineer, 50 Years of Infrastructure Development in Hong Kong' published by the Hong Kong University Press, which depicts engineers' achievements for better understanding by the general public.

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