



Prizes and Awards

The President's Award 2008 - Ir Dr Cheng Hon-kwan



The presentation of the President's Award was made at the 33rd Annual Dinner. In recognition of the dedicated and valuable service of the member of any class who has served the Institution with distinctive achievements, the President's Award has been set up by the Institution. This year, Ir Dr Cheng Hon-kwan receives the honour of the President's Award.

Ir Dr Cheng Hon-kwan, the President of the Institution for the Session 1978/1979, our Honorary Fellow and the HKIE Gold Medallist in 2005 has devoted himself to engineering profession and the Institution. His professional achievements, service to the profession and the community were widely recognised, including his honours, OBE and GBS.

Ir Dr Cheng's contribution to the Institution is remarkable. Whilst serving in the Council, he has actively participated in the planned transformation of the Engineering Society of Hong Kong into the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers. The successful transformation in 1975 brought the Institution to a new height and made her the only engineering professional body that was incorporated by law in Hong Kong. Moreover, Ir Dr Cheng also represented the Institution on various external committees and working parties in late 1970s and early 1980s, for example, Review of Buildings Ordinance and Regulations Committee, Buildings Ordinance Authorised Persons' and Registered Engineers Registration Committee, Building Development Advisory Committee, University Engineering Advisory Committee of the University of Hong Kong, etc.

In early 1990s, under the leadership of Ir Dr Cheng, the Institution has successfully set up its own Accreditation Board, to take over from foreign agencies the responsibility for accrediting the engineering courses offered by the universities in Hong Kong. He was the first Chairman of the Accreditation Board. The setting up of the Accreditation Board provided a solid ground for the Institution to become one of the full signatories of the Washington Accord later. Ir Dr Cheng also attended to the prerequisite formalities and signed the agreement on behalf of the Institution in 1995, as a new, full signatory at the conference held in Ottawa, Canada. Since then, the Institution has been placed on the world map.

In view of his immense contributions and achievements, Ir Dr Cheng Hon-kwan was conferred the President's Award 2008.