

WELCOME ADDRESS BY

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“CONSTRUCTION DIGITALISATION WITH BIG DATA”

**Statistics, Indices In Construction And Automation (SICA)
Conference 2019**

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W HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR

Distinguished guests,
Members of the media,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Assalamualaikum warahmatullalhi wabarakatuh, Salam Sejahtera and a very good morning to all of you.

1. On behalf of the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) Malaysia, I am pleased to welcome all of you to our event this morning. CIDB is honoured to be organising and hosting the 5th instalment of ***Statistics, Indices in Construction & Automation, or SICA Conference 2019.***
2. Before I begin, I would like to extend a warm welcome and express my sincere appreciation on behalf of CIDB to Yang Berhormat Tuan Haji Mohd Anuar, the Deputy Minister of Works, for being here with us today to officiate this event. Indeed, this is a testament to the Ministry of Works' strong commitment in driving construction excellence.

3. It is also a great pleasure to have Yang Berbahagia Dato' Dr. Syed Omar Sharifuddin, the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Works to deliver today's keynote presentation on National Construction Industry Information Centre (NCIIC), an initiative championed by CIDB under the Construction Industry Transformation Programme (CITP) 2016 – 2020 to create an industry-wide Big Data ecosystem.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. In this day and age, technology is disrupting industries in a profound way at a rate like never before. As technology is constantly changing and advancing rapidly, we are exposed with masses of data which enables us to capture more data than ever before.
5. However, Big Data is not useful on its own if we do not capitalise the use of Big Data Analytics. The concept of Big Data analytics is not something that is newly discovered. As a matter of fact, big data is already being used by the construction industry in the design, construction and operation stage¹. Allow me to highlight some ways Big Data Analytics is transforming the design-build-operate lifecycle of construction projects today.
6. **At the Design stage:** Big data - which encompasses data such as environmental data, stakeholder input, and social media discussions, besides building design and modelling information - can be used to determine what and where to build for the highest benefit. Historical big data can be analysed to determine probabilities of construction risks in order to steer new projects away from potential risks and towards improved chances of success.
7. **At the Building stage:** Big data from weather, traffic, and community and business activity can be analysed to determine optimal phasing of construction activities to maximise cost and construction efficiency. Data collected on machine usage on site can also be used to analyse active and idle times to determine the

¹ <https://www.thebalancesmb.com/how-the-construction-industry-is-using-big-data-845322>

optimal management of machines to reduce costs, achieve maximal productivity, improve maintenance to minimize downtime, and improve environmental impact.

8. **At the Operation stage:** Sensors built into finished project enable effective monitoring based on any requirement. For example, data on energy consumption in malls, office blocks or other buildings can be tracked to ensure it conforms to conservation goals. Building data can also be fed back into building information modelling (BIM) systems to schedule maintenance activities. Traffic information on roads can be analysed to determine solutions for optimal traffic flow.
9. As you can see, big data analytics can offer insights that traditional systems simply cannot. It can enable improvements in financial and project information, risk and profitability forecasting, and status reports.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

10. SICA 2019 is organised to provide a platform for the big data enthusiasts and construction industry players alike to gather, learn, relearn, develop or even collaborate in an effort to build comprehensive data, statistics and indices for the construction sector. Through this platform, we aim to enable effective collaborations, gain deeper insights, promote data-driven policy and business planning to increase the productivity of the construction industry.
11. In line with this year's theme, ***Construction Digitalisation with Big Data***, SICA Conference 2019 will focus on the current and future applications and implementation of big data for the construction community. The conference will cover experience-sharing by industry practitioners and leaders on the benefits of big data usage. Through today's conference, I am confident that we will be able to take away key learnings on how digitalisation with Big Data can contribute to the industry, as well as the way forward in preparing the construction industry to embrace the Fourth Industrial Revolution, or Industry 4.0.
12. Through SICA 2019, participants and stakeholders will have the opportunity to:

- **Firstly** – Build networks with institutions supplying quality big data to the construction industry. You can also exchange knowledge and experiences on big data analytics in the construction industry;
- **Secondly** – Participate in discussions about how Big Data is making a huge difference in business efficiency, especially within the construction industry and find out the latest developments in Big Data analytics. You will gain insights into how you can make better decisions in your business strategy or construction management with Big Data analytics; and
- **Thirdly** – Promote the importance of credible and reliable data in establishing a benchmark that will contribute to the policy formulation and business planning.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

13. With the strong support from the Ministry of Works, the team at CIDB will continue to strive for excellence and succeed even further. CIDB is fully committed to work with the industry to uplift the standards and quality of the construction sector, and the theme of this year's SICA conference, "Construction Digitalisation with Big Data" is certainly one of the game changers for the industry that will allow us to thrive beyond 2020.

14. In that regard, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our SICA 2019 supporting partners and exhibitors.

15. To all of our panel speakers, we are truly grateful for your commitment to share your experiences and expertise at this conference today.

16. I am also pleased to note that this year, we have received overwhelming response not only from local participants, but also from our peers from the United States and United Kingdom. Therefore, I would like to encourage your active sharing and input and I wish all of you a productive, informative, and a very enjoyable conference.

17. Before I conclude, let me put on record my appreciation to Yang Berhormat Tuan Haji Mohd Anuar for gracing today's event and to all our partners for making this

event a success. And once again, thank you all for your presence and participation at SICA conference 2019.

Thank you.

Wabbilhitaufiq Walhidayah Wasalamualikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

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