



The month of February has flown by, and EMAS apologies for the delay with the bulletin for the month of March. Nonetheless we have many interesting updates for members this month.

In February, EXCO had its first meeting of 2011 and rounded up activities expected for the next few months as well as direction that it hopes to take for the year. In short, increased engagement with government and service buyers on manpower issues such as rising wages, housing concerns, improving productivity levels to meet and exceed current levels, adoption of new technology, and last but not least, increased positive recognition of the industry by showcasing an industry that cares and aims to improve professionalism through responsible companies. These are indeed lofty goals which EMAS hopes to make headway on as we move through 2011, and the committee hopes to get the involvement of each and every EMAS member in achieving these goals.

Recently, there have been continued concerns with cheap sourcing, training hurdles, one sided contracts and headcount contracts. These remain as key challenges for EMAS, and the association hopes to continue to engage and raise the profile of these issues publicly as the committee feels such engagement is pivotal towards improving the industry and professionalism as a whole.

Moving on, EMAS would like to extend an update on upcoming events and we recommend that these dates are booked in your diaries in advance.

In the month of April, EMAS hopes to hold another talk for buyers of services. Those interested have the opportunity to present their technology or improved work processes to a varied audience of service buyers including schools, town councils, government agencies, shopping centres, hospitals, facility management companies as and managing agents. This is a good opportunity for service providers to educate service buyers on the latest developments within their individual areas of specialty. With more buyer education, we can move towards more responsible and value driven sourcing. The targeted date for this event is 7<sup>th</sup> April. Interested companies should contact EMAS Secretariat Ms Agasia Fong at: [AgasiaFong@epc.com.sg](mailto:AgasiaFong@epc.com.sg)

Next up on 14th April is a dialog session with Ministry Of Manpower on manpower needs, enforcement and compliance. We urge all EMAS members to take this opportunity to raise related issues for discussion. However since this would be a public forum, we hope to have these issues tabled for discussion beforehand, so that the related ministry can have this answered adequately. As such, we encourage EMAS members to approach our EMAS Secretariat with a brief of the issue they wish to raise, so that this can be compiled and forwarded to the related ministry beforehand. Please contact EMAS Secretariat Ms Agasia Fong at: [AgasiaFong@epc.com.sg](mailto:AgasiaFong@epc.com.sg)

Another interesting update this month is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Public Hygiene Council (PHC), held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011 at Khoo Teck Puat Hospital boardroom. The meeting yielded a good discussion on the direction the council should take with regard to further development with the council's strategic thrusts and approach, as well as key initiatives. These key initiatives include: media stories on public hygiene, personal hygiene study and follow up campaign, and the analysis and release of the public cleanliness study. In addition, the PHC will look towards promoting accreditation of cleaning companies; an issue that is also dear to the heart for EMAS.

With EMAS Vice President Mr Milton Ng on the PHC, this is an issue which both associations can hope to pursue in tandem for the benefit of the cleaning industry at large.

In addition, EMAS would like to highlight the upcoming 23rd FAOPMA 2011 - Pest Management Conference to be held in India from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September this year. EMAS President Mrs Deanne Ong, from ORIGIN Exterminators, will be committing a delegation for this event. EMAS encourages members from the pest management industry to send out delegations to this event. The advantages and benefits of participating include a chance to learn from the conference as it covers updates within the industry. Furthermore, this may serve as a good incentive trip for well deserving staff whilst allowing them exposure and good learning opportunities. The conference will be held in scenic Goa, at the Zuri White Sands, Goa Resort & Casino, and looks set to be a rejuvenating, refreshing experience for all participants as they catch up with other members of the industry amidst the beautiful sun and sand of Goa. EMAS will be sending this information out to both buyers and services, government agencies and the whole industry to announce this event. Interested companies can find out more about the event at: [www.faopma2011.ipca.org.in](http://www.faopma2011.ipca.org.in)

Finally EMAS is most excited to welcome our newest member, Glomax Maintenance Services, which joined EMAS this February. EMAS is heartened also to add that the month of February marked the inception of two new EXCO committee members: Mr Woon Chiap Chan from ISS Facility Services Pte Ltd, and Mr Daniel Leong, from Qool Enviro Pte Ltd. With the involvement of two new EXCO members, EMAS will benefit from increased assistance to direct the association towards our goals for 2011. It is our hope also, that all existing members continue to spread the word about the association and encourage other companies within the environmental health industry to come on board with EMAS to work for our shared goals and benefits.

Environmental Management Association of Singapore  
1003 Bukit Merah Central, #02-10 Singapore 159836  
Tel: 6278 2538 Fax: 6278 7518 Email: [secretariat@emas.org.sg](mailto:secretariat@emas.org.sg)