



**American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and
Air-Conditioning Engineers,
Hong Kong Chapter
Annual General Meeting
23rd May, 2008**

Presidential Address

By K.L. Chan, the Incoming President of ASHRAE Hong Kong Chapter 2008/09

First of all, I would like to thank all of you for coming and attending our AGM tonight. I am extremely delighted and honorable to be elected and appointed as the Incoming President of ASHRAE Hong Kong Chapter for a yearly term from 2008 to 2009, commencing on 1 July 2008. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Nominating Committee for the nomination and election of my Presidency in particular to the support from Governors, the Officers, all Committee Chairs and members. I would extend my sincere thanks to all members in the Board of Governors this year for their cooperation and contribution. Without the support of many volunteers and members, our Chapter would not succeed as much as we are. I hope all of you will continue to support the Chapter and actively participate in our functions.

In fact, it is my great honor to present the Incoming Presidential Speech and share with you some of our plans of the activities and tasks in the coming fiscal year 2008 – 2009. In the new fiscal year ahead, Hong Kong Chapter is coming to the 25th Anniversary. The Hong Kong Chapter was born in 1984 and established by Dr. Edwin Tao and several pioneers of HVAC&R industry in Hong Kong. Following to directions of Dr. Tao, Past Presidents and the Society, the Hong Kong Chapter has been growing healthily and successfully in the past 25 years. In order to celebrate this important milestone, the Hong Kong Chapter will organize a series of functions and activities, they are:

- Publication on 25 Historical Buildings in Hong Kong
- Book Launching Ceremony
- Jubilee Dinner on 3 April 2009

In my coming Presidential term, I have identified several major issues or areas for further development:

Membership Promotion

Members are the backbone of ASHRAE. The trend of losing members worries us. Although this is not just happened in Hong Kong, same phenomenon in other Asian developed countries, e.g. Singapore, Malaysia, etc. has been observed. The Chapter needs to find the right niche for ourselves and our members. A special task force will be established to review the situation and propose some action items.

Student Activities

Students are the future of our Society and the Chapter. There is also a decreasing trend of membership of students in these few years. The Chapter will carry out more “Orientation Programme” for new students and “Career Talk” for the final year students. A subsidy will be provided to final year students when they change the membership from student member to graduate member. The Chapter will offer more opportunities for exposure of students, e.g. CRC trip, Mainland – Hong Kong Joint Symposium, etc. so that they can not only learn something, but also have fun through the participation in voluntary works.

Technology Transfer

ASHRAE offers a platform for professional development and exchanges. However, the current way of exchange is not so well promoted to the professionals and the public. If we can make use of the available Distinguished Lecturers for arranging more attractive seminars and Forum, then the professional image of ASHRAE members will be established and the recognition from the industry will be much higher.

As usual, the Hong Kong Chapter is going to be exciting and busy as we will continue all those regular activities such as symposiums, membership night, seminars, student chapters & programs, china liaison, government & institutions liaison, annual dinner, workshops, retreat, sport competitions and technical programs & visits, etc, all of that have been well planned and will continue to be implemented. I must take this opportunity to extend my thanks to those organizing committees, who have been spending their own time to make those events happened. It would never be the same success without their dedications and hardworking.

To conclude, I would like to give special thanks to all immediate past officers, committee chairs and members who will continue to support us until the end of the smooth transition to the incoming committee chairs and members. I would like to make thanks in advance to all incoming committee chairs and members whose names the incoming officers and I will confirm in coming weeks.

Thank you very much and have a nice evening!