Lunchtime Talk: The Legal Practitioner in the Building and Construction Industry

Brief Synopsis: The construction landscape in Singapore is ever-changing and this industry offers a fast-paced and challenging career across varied legal issues where advising and representing clients in construction projects gives legal practitioners an important role and relevance to the built environment around us. Our guest speakers are Daniel Tay, a Partner at Chan Neo LLP, the only law firm in Singapore dedicated to the practice of building and construction law, and Mr William Zhang, Head of Legal, Asia Pacific Regional Office of Samsung C&T Corporation, a leading engineering and construction MNC. They will jointly provide an overview on internships, training contracts and jobs in construction law and share from their experience how students can prepare for and build a career in this exciting sector.

Event Details

Date: 17 August 2018, Friday
Time: 1230H to 1400H (Please do not be late)
Lunch will be provided.
Venue: Blk B, 4th Level, Seminar Room 4-4
National University of Singapore, Faculty of Law
Registration: https://tinyurl.com/yd6gg7pw

SPEAKERS

Daniel Tay
Partner, Chan Neo LLP

Daniel Tay is a lawyer and partner at Chan Neo LLP. He specialises in the engineering and construction, hospitality, high-end boutique and retail, commercial and residential real estate sectors, advising on a broad scope of legal issues from company disputes and employment to contract drafting, project completion, defects, damage, insurance and professional indemnity, and dispute management including mediation, adjudication under the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act, international and domestic arbitration including under FIDIC, PSSCOC, REDAS, SIA or bespoke contracts, and Court litigation.

Daniel’s recent cases as counsel are a series of Court successes from 2014 to 2017 including a $4.7 million bond demand for a developer against a contractor for Eon on Shenton Way: CCM Industrial Pte Ltd v 70 Shenton Pte Ltd [2014], a 7-day trial for a renovation contractor against a penthouse owner: Arte Associates v Chua Hock Seng [2017], and a claim against an insurer in relation to alleged expiry of a bond: 1L30G Pte Ltd v EQ Insurance Company Ltd [2017], with indemnity costs obtained in the last two cases. Daniel also acted for a tunnelling contractor in an injunction application against a $1.2m bond demand by a main-contractor: Tactic Engineering Pte Ltd (in liquidation) v Sato Kogyo (S) Pte Ltd [2017] which was eventually heard by the Court of Appeal.
Daniel frequently provides legal advice on contract administration, payments and damage/defects issues with a strong emphasis on quality work and a successful outcome. He is co-author of the Construction Arbitration and Litigation modules on LexisNexis Singapore and is a regular speaker on building and construction law for construction industry institutions. He is appointed to the Inquiry Panel of the Law Society, the committee of the Insurance Law Association of Singapore and selected in 2018 as Singapore Business Review’s 20 Most Influential Lawyers Under 40.

William Zhang
Head of Legal, Samsung C&T Corporation Asia-Pacific Regional Office

William is an in-house legal counsel with a major international contractor and leads a regional team supporting projects in the Southeast Asia region. As the regional Head of Legal, he plays a leading role in providing leadership to the legal and contracts team. The Head of Legal is tasked with analyzing and identifying the legal risks and implications of the projects and operations of the business, and provides proactive, in-depth, legal, business-focused advice to the business. His team implements initiatives and improvements in processes in order to set standards and reinforce a culture of integrity, safety, quality, ethical behavior and responsibility across the business.

Projects that William and his team support include super high-rise buildings, civil infrastructure projects and plant projects. A select listing of the projects are: (i) the SLNG Terminal which is a key national infrastructure in Singapore's energy diversification strategy; (ii) two sections of the completed Marina Coastal Expressway; (iii) three stations and associated tunnels in the Downtown Line of the MRT rail network; (iv) construction of Runway 3 in Changi Airport’s forward-looking expansion programme (v) the prestigious mixed development in Tanjong Pagar where the completed Guoco Tower now stands as the tallest building in Singapore; and (vi) the Merdeka PNB 118 Tower in Kuala Lumpur which when completed will be the tallest building in Malaysia.