

With the theme “Reminiscence of DKLS 20 Years Corporate Journey”, DKLS Industries Berhad hosted its 20th anniversary gala dinner at a prestigious hotel in Ipoh on 08 October 2016.

Traditionally, DKLS Corporate Dinner is held once every four years. This year is special.

- To commemorate DKLS’s 20th Anniversary in its listing in BURSA Malaysia in 1996. This Gala Dinner enables DKLS Board of Directors, Management and Staff to pay tribute to our business partners’ kind support, encouragement and contribution towards DKLS’s corporate success.
- To celebrate the milestone achieved in Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives embarked by DKLS in nation building (Prize Giving Ceremony for DKLS Linguistic Ambassador Awards Essay Writing Competition Season 2)
- Legacy of Service Excellence Award Presentation to employees with more than 20 years with DKLS, in appreciation of their loyalty, integrity and dedication to the company.
- Presentation of cheque RM 100,000 to the development of STEM Education in SM Methodist (ACS) Sitiawan, Perak.
- DKLS Unity Event

More than 800 guests and staff attended the gala dinner.



DKLS Industries Berhad Board of Directors
L-R : IR Mustapha bin Che Jusoh, Dato Seri Haji Omar bin Haji Ahmad, Mr Ding Poi Bor (Managing Director), Dato' Ding Pei Chai (Chairman), Ir Sam Tuck Wah (Executive Director), Mrs Sam (Finance Director) and Mr Chin Kok Tong.



DKLS Unity Event, our spirit of togetherness, dynamism and commitment to excel in whatever we do.

Ybhg Dato' Ding Pei Chai , Chairman of DKLS Industries Berhad delivering his speech.



Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

On this auspicious occasion, let me share with you some challenges we went through.

Tonight we are celebrating DKLS 20th Anniversary since it was listed on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange.

In all practical sense, our corporate journey began long before that. There were some defining moments that I am sure some of you here tonight, especially the younger generation, will be hearing these stories for the first time.

Let me wind back the clock to 1983. That year, a very small company by the name of Sri Indera Sari Sdn Bhd was born. Three brothers founded the company together : Poi Chung, Poi Bor and myself. Back then, Sri Indera Sari was only a Class B contractor – meaning it was only allowed to tender for projects not more than five million ringgit in value. Hence, we mainly undertook small jobs such as road and drainage works, earthworks and the construction of small bridges and passenger jetties.

Then we made a big leap in 1986. We managed to obtain special permission to tender for a Class A project on an open-tender basis. We competed among more established contractors and won the job. At the time, the country was in the middle of a recession, and this was the biggest project in terms of value contracted out by JKR.

Many critics, both within JKR as well as our other competitors, were doubtful of our capabilities. At the time, the oldest among us was barely 30-odd years old. But we managed to complete the project ahead of schedule and with a significant profit.

On the strength of this project, Sri Indera Sari was then elevated to a Class A contractor. From then on, our relationship with JKR became very close. We were even invited by JKR to complete 2 other abandoned projects. Later, in the early 1990s, DKLS Quarry Sdn Bhd was established. With the establishment of a quarry as part of our backbone, we became actively involved in road and highway construction and other civil engineering works.

At the time, the country's economy was picking up and more projects were available. The constraint we faced then was limited financial capability. Many golden opportunities slipped through our fingers because we couldn't get a sizable loan. Like the North-South Expressway.

In 1995, my brothers and I invited Mr and Mrs Sam Tuck Wah to be additional shareholders. And we realized that if we wanted to grow the company, we would need to raise funds from the public.

In 1996, we established DKLS Industries Sdn Bhd through acquisition of both Sri Indera Sari and DKLS Quarry. DKLS, as you probably already know, stands for Ding Kong Ling & Sons. We named the company after our late father, who passed away in 1982.

On 18 October, this new holding company was listed on the second board of the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange. In 1996, it was the right time to be listed. The stock market was better than a casino then. Tomorrow's price is always better than today!

If I were to tell you that the journey was smooth, I would not be telling the truth. Just barely one year into the public arena, the first Asian financial tsunami came. No one was spared. The country's interest rate soared to as high as 18 percent. Most of the construction projects then were shelved. The Malaysian property market bubble burst. The ringgit depreciated against the US dollar like diarrhea and so did all the shares on the KLSE. That was the darkest moment in our company's history.

But with God's grace and love, we managed to secure a few projects of significant value. These projects helped us to fulfil our profit guarantee in order to keep afloat. Otherwise, I wouldn't be what I am today. Praise the Lord ! DKLS emerged stronger each time we overcome the challenges.

In 2001, DKLS was elevated to the Main Board of the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange. Now that we had established a good track record and were financially more stable, we were more confident in undertaking bigger projects – of hundreds of millions in value. We built highways, prisons, colleges, hospitals, cargo jetties and airport runways. We also expanded further in the property development sector.

Beside that, we also started to venture abroad. We got involved in mini-hydro power generation and water treatment in China and Laos. In Cambodia, we were the very first privatised toll-road concessionaire.

By 2007, we were no longer dependent solely on our construction division for revenue. We had diversified our portfolios, especially in the quarry and property sectors. The global economic cycle experienced a hitch. When the 2008 recession hit, DKLS was in a much financial position than it has been in the previous recession.

Now, it looks like the global economy is heading into another storm. Locally, the property market is sliding and the construction industry is already experiencing a very competitive environment. With the instability of our ringgit, imported items will be our major risk. But we believe that, again with God's grace and love, DKLS will be able to weather the difficulties.

And with every success, we have and will continue to give back to the community. We are committed to various causes through DKLS Foundation and other CSR initiatives, impacting several domains : environment, nation building, community, marketplace and workplace dimension.

In closing, I am proud to say that since DKLS has been listed on the KLSE, and despite the challenges we faced along the way, DKLS was never in the red. The credit goes to the entire team : management, marketing and operations. I am also very proud to say that we have a sizable team of senior staff who has been with us for more than twenty years. Their loyalty to the company is very, very much appreciated.

I have one humble message to our younger generation staff. If possible, please emulate the current hardworking and loyal senior colleagues. Everyone of you has contributed to DKLS' success today and tonight is your night.

So, please sit back, relax and enjoy yourselves.

Thank you.

All Glories to God.

Dato' Ding Pei Chai
Chairman, DKLS Industries Berhad
08 October 2016

Tribute and Admiration to Ding's Family
by Ir Sam Tuck Wah, Executive Director of DKLS Industries Berhad



Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Tonight's celebration is deemed incomplete without these significant remarks. Standing by my side is the lady - caring and loving at heart. My wife, whom I love, Mrs Sam. My tribute to her as one of the Ding's siblings.

Friends, please allow me some space to pay a tribute to express my gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to Ding's Family. I have waited for the right occasion to express such desire for a long time. DKLS 20th Anniversary Gala Dinner is a golden opportunity and the most auspicious moment for me to do so.

I wish to offer a glimpse of Ding's family. A little that I know, Ding's family hails from Sitiawan. It started with the late Mr & Mrs Ding Kong Ling. They have 9 children all together. Today, the sons occupy the frontlines and the daughters safeguard the forts.

Ding's family is a catalyst for inspiration, living in harmony forms a united front for them. Every joy shared, adds more love to the family. Every crisis faced, brings them closer.

The central theme of Ding's family success is love. In times of trouble, in times of need, I feel the strength surrounding me by love. Without whose love I can't succeed.

Ding's family is a source of benevolence. Compassionate, selfless and generous. Integrity shapes the family culture, defending the truth makes them courageous.

Ding's Family values good reputation. No matter at home or abroad, this is their moral equation, inherited from generation to generation.

An Intelligent family all together. Thoughtful, helpful and successful, with smart children nurtured to take the helm.

Today is my tribute, my appreciation and my honour to them.

Thank you, Ding's family.

There is a greater tribute that needs a mention. A loving couple who raised a family of respect, with children who are competent, honourable and capable. That is none other than my late father in-law and mother in-law, Mr & Mrs Ding Kong Ling.

The above remarks may not be sufficient to quantify my tributes to Ding's family in full. Nevertheless, a true reflection and sincere admiration, to lead DKLS to withstand the test of time. Nurturing effortlessly a winning team, to serve, to strive but not to yield.

I wish Ding's family God's richest blessings.

Ir Sam Tuck Wah
Executive Director, DKLS Industries Berhad
08 October 2016









Long sweet road to success



The board of directors and guest on stage raising their hands to celebrate the company's anniversary.

DKLS Industries Bhd started off as a very small company called Sri Indera Seri Sdn Bhd in 1983. Three brothers – **Dato'** Ding Poi Chung, Ding Poi Bor, and Dato' Ding Pei Chai – founded the company and since then, it has only grown bigger.

In 1996, they established DKLS Industries Bhd to acquire both Sri Indera Sari and DKLS Quarry and on Oct 18 that year, the company was listed on the second board of the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange (KLSE).

"In 1996, it was the right time to be listed. The stock market was better than a casino then, tomorrow's price is always better than today," said Pei Chai to the crowd during the company's 20th anniversary celebration at Kinta Riverfront hotel.

DKLS stands for Ding Kong Ling and Sons as the brothers named the company after their late father, who passed away in 1982.

Pei Chai did share the company's dark experience during Asian Financial Crisis as the country's interest rate soared to as high as 18% and most of the construction projects in the country were shelved.

"The Malaysian property market bubble burst and the ringgit depreciated against the US dollar like diarrhoea, and so did all the shares in KLSE. That was the darkest moment in our company's history but with God's grace and love, we managed to secure a few projects of significant value. These projects helped us fulfil our profit guarantee in order to keep afloat. Otherwise, I wouldn't be what I am today," he said in his speech

Now that things are going on the track, he says the company is more confident in undertaking bigger projects worth more than hundreds of million in value.

"We built highways, prisons, colleges, hospitals, cargo jetties, airport runways and now we have also expanded further in the property development sector. Besides that, we also started to venture abroad."

Pei Chai did acknowledge that the global economy is heading into another storm but he is confident that they are able to weather the difficulties. During the annual dinner, guests were feasted with variety of food and also performances from their staff.

Staff who have worked with the company for more than 15 years were also rewarded when they were given a commemorative plaque and a watch.