

Getting it right

When it comes to building projects, quality control is key to Woh Hup

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WOH HUP has received eight awards at this year's Building & Construction Authority (BCA) Awards, making it the local builder with the most number of construction excellence titles to date.

Not only has the company won 53 Construction Excellence and Construction Excellence (Merit) awards, it is also the only builder to receive the Quality Excellence Award for the sixth year running.

One of the awards was for the Cairnhill Nine and Ascott Orchard Singapore development.

The project entailed the construction, completion and maintenance of a mixed development comprising a 30-storey residential apartment, a 20-storey hotel, and a six-storey carpark that is connected to an existing mosque. The project took three years to complete.

Its senior site manager, Mr Iwan (who goes by one name), says: "The existing Al-Falah mosque, located at the first storey level, was in operation and opened to public throughout the re-development. Woh Hup took a sensitive approach to assist and create greater accessibility for worshippers by deploying marshals for traffic control and temporarily putting works within proximity on hold during peak-period prayer sessions."

In addition, as the top three levels above the religious institution and the surrounding structures had to be demolished, Controlled Demolition Methodology was used to minimise noise, dust and vibration to the mosque.

"Advanced technologies such as diamond cutter and robotic hydraulic crushers, which reduces dust, noise and debris generated, were employed to ensure that the existing building remained structurally safe and habitable throughout course of the demolition," says Mr Iwan.

Delivering quality work

Established in 1927, Woh Hup is one of the leading, privately owned building and civil engineering companies in Singapore. It has undertaken many notable and iconic projects



Above: The Cairnhill Nine and Ascott Orchard Singapore project saw the use of advanced technologies.
Left: The Interlace is one of Woh Hup's iconic projects.



The driving force behind Woh Hup's continued success is its people, says Mr Iwan. PHOTOS: CHONG JUN LIANG, BCA, WOH HUP

that mark its growth alongside Singapore's. These include Clifford Pier, MacDonald House, Reflections at Keppel Bay, Gardens by the Bay, The Interlace and the upcoming Jewel Changi Airport.

Mr Iwan says: "Woh Hup has evolved over the last 90 years with one aspect that remains constant — to deliver quality works to the best interest of our clients and end users.

"Our quality motto of 'Do it right the first time' keeps us in check to ensure strict implementation of quality control measures from raw materials supply chain, installation and process to the final finishing works."

In addition, Woh Hup's top management encourages a continuous learning environment that welcomes innovation and engineering in the construction process to improve productivity.

"We are open to cultural shifts with the vision to improve and deliver high quality projects without compromising our client's confidence," says Mr Iwan.

The backbone of success

Mr Iwan says that the driving force behind the company's continued success is its people.

He says: "We believe in our people. They are our biggest asset and the main engine that drives the company forward. The management recognises that the company's success lies in the hands of good, talented people who are willing to put in their best efforts to deliver quality projects."

The company invests heavily in employee training and encourages open communication between employees and top management.

"In Woh Hup, we have an open feedback system and regular discussions among the staff with their management. A performance rewards system is also established to reward staff for their contribution. Through this, we aim to create a good working environment between all stakeholders involved in the project and promote team work," he adds.