

FEATURED CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

MA. ALEXANDRA "SANDY" R. PRIETO ROMUALDEZ

Ms. Ma. Alexandra "Sandy" R. Prieto Romualdez is this year's keynote speaker at Building Green 2009. Ms. Romualdez is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Philippine Daily Inquirer. As the President and CEO, Sandy directs the operations of the company and is responsible for corporate strategic planning, management development, succession planning, performance management, organizational design, corporate policy-making and organizational development. She also plays a key role in network building particularly with regard to the business community and non-government sector.

Aside from the Inquirer, Sandy is also actively involved with the newspaper's sister companies. She is the Chairperson of Hinge Inquirer Publications (which is into magazine publishing) and President of Inquirer Publications, Inc. (which is into tabloid publishing).

Sandy's business competence is balanced by her inclination towards advocacy work. She is one of the founding members of Hands On Manila and Gifts and Graces Fair Trade Foundation. Hands On Manila recruits, educates and coordinates a network of volunteers for diverse community projects within Metro Manila. Gifts and Graces, of which she is the President, provides marketing support for the livelihood projects of non-government organizations. She was also Co-Chair of Tabang Mindanaw and used to head the Associate Missionaries of the Assumption (AMA).



Corporate social responsibility is something that Sandy takes seriously. The Inquirer launched projects such as the "New Paper Drive", youth readership campaign and the Read-Along program for kids, among others.

Sandy has been given recognition by several groups for both her work in business and for her advocacies. In 2007, she was honored as one of the Ten Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (TOWNS) for media and print journalism. In 2006, she was selected as one of the Young Global Leaders by the World Economic Forum. Three years ago, she received the Gusi Peace Prize for Journalism. In 2004, she was selected as one of the finalists for the first Entrepreneur of the Year Award while in 2002, she received the Aurelio Periquet Business Leadership Award (Pearl Award). She was also selected as one of The Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) awardees for Public Service in Print Media and Advocacy in 2001. In 1999, the Filipino-Chinese Federation of Business and Professional Women of the Philippines honored her as the Best Woman Achiever in Business.

Currently, Sandy is a board member of Ifra, a worldwide research and service organization for the news publishing industry. She was also a former Commissioner for Media and Arts of the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW).

HO CHOW JIN

A Principal Consultant at Autodesk, Chow Jin is responsible for developing relationships and strategic initiatives with local government and professional bodies in the ASEAN region. Some of these initiatives include the Green Mark and sustainable design initiatives in Singapore.

His current charter is driving sustainable design via Building Information Modeling (BIM). He is also working with the integration of Autodesk BIM technology with Geographical Information Systems (GIS) technology.

Having been with Autodesk for more than 10 years, Chow Jin has taken on many roles. Most recently, he was Senior Business Development Manager, Architectural, Engineering and Construction Industry, ASEAN. He was also the Team Leader for the Application Engineers team in Southeast Asia.



A Civil Engineer (Land Surveyor) by profession, Chow Jin had worked as a Land Surveyor for two years where he worked on survey and construction projects, which included Mass Rapid Transit stations, rail construction and airport infrastructures. He spent 5 years in the development of Geographical Information System (GIS) and 3 years R&D on Concurrent Engineering in the AEC space.

He is currently a committee member of building SMART (formerly IAI) Singapore Chapter and has represented Autodesk in the IFC 2x2 and 2x3 certification of Autodesk Revit Architecture software.

Building Green is the Conference and Expo Series of the Philippine Green Building Council.

To learn more visit <http://philgbc.org> and/or <http://buildinggreenphilippines.org>

For more information about the work of PHILGBC, you may contact the National Secretariat by sending an email to secretariat@philgbc.org

KARL HURWOOD

Karl is responsible for the Design and Production activities of the Manila Design Office for Atkins; a multinational engineering and design consultancy, providing expertise to help resolve complex challenges presented by the built and natural environment. Atkins is the largest multidisciplinary consultancy in Europe, the largest engineering consultancy in both the UK and the Middle East, and the UK's second largest architecture firm.

Karl's role includes overall supervision and management of Architectural Design teams, as well as Structural and Building Services Engineers.



JOHN VERMEULEN

John received his Mechanical Engineering degree at the College for Merchant Marines, Nijmegen, the Netherlands. He subsequently earned his Masters in Industrial Design from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT), Cape Town, South Africa researching the applications of Hemp as a sustainable design material.

For 2 years, he served as faculty at the same university. As an accomplished designer, he won the prize for most innovative design at Design Indaba Expo 2006, CapeTown, South Africa for a load-bearing, sustainable rural transport tricycle "Mojive".



He finished his Ecovillage Training at Findhorn Foundation in 2008 and earned an Ecovillage Design Education (EDE) and Training of Trainers certificate from Thailand in 2009.

He is currently the Technical Adviser/Designer for Happy Earth NGO's Ecovillage Development at Cabiao, Nueva Ecija. His areas of expertise are in appropriate technology and ecological design.

RAUL MANLAPIG

Raul Manlapig is the Managing Director of Arup (Philippines), a global firm providing engineering design, planning and project management services in all areas of the built environment. Formed in 1946, the firm now has over 10,000 staff based in 80 offices in 31 countries and have completed projects in more than 160 countries. It has annual revenues of US\$ 1.2Bn.

Raul is responsible for developing Arup's business in the Philippines by promoting its full range of services to existing and prospective Clients. He provides leadership to a multi-discipline design group that is capable of providing specialist seismic skills, geotechnical engineering, building services design, site development/master planning and project management. His team has considerable experience in working with large design teams having contributed to the delivery of major projects in the Philippines and within the Asia Region in partnership with other Arup offices.



He is a structural engineer by profession and has been involved in the structural design of high rise buildings for the past 14 years. He was the lead structural engineer for the Enterprise Center project and more recently he was involved in a project director capacity in the design of the Shang Grand Tower and the St Francis Towers, a twin tower 60 storey condominium. Both of these projects were designed using a performance based design technique. The St Francis Towers is unique in that it uses viscous dampers in resisting wind and seismic effects on the building, a first in the Philippine construction history. He has also been extensively involved in structural evaluation of existing buildings in regions of high seismicity and has developed strengthening retrofit for many structures to allow it to perform better during seismic events. His structural evaluation work has taken him to countries such as Japan, Turkey, USA, China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, etc.

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PENELOPE REYES

Penelope lives in Cabiao, Nueva Ecija -- a small rural town, some 90 kilometers north of Manila. She founded an NGO called Happy Earth and works as Executive Director. Penelope is deeply involved in starting an ecovillage named PINTIG together with 4 other founders. It is designed as a Permaculture Community founded on principles that encourage the restoration of reverence and joy for a life within Nature.

Penelope holds a Masters' Degree in Environmental Management from the Ateneo de Manila University and the University of San Francisco, California. Her areas of expertise are: water quality monitoring, environmental anthropology, social management, social research & environmental communication and advocacy.

She devotes part of her time as administrator of Gaia Education, a UNESCO recognized sustainability education initiative that promotes Ecovillage Design Education (EDE) courses around the world. Concurrently, she is the Philippine Ambassador and Secretary of the Global Ecovillage Network.



MARNIE TOLOSA

Engr. Marnie Tolosa is the Strategic Business Development Manager of Cisco Philippines. His goal is to engage and develop “blue ocean” markets for Cisco and one of the markets that Cisco is pursuing is the Real Estate and Property Development Industry. The other “blue ocean” markets are the Healthcare Industry and Hospitality Industry.

Engr. Tolosa has been in the IT Industry for about 24 years, in various roles such as Solution Architect, Business Consultant and Industry Manager, and supporting various industries such as Retail and Manufacturing, Financial Services, Telecommunications and Utilities. Prior to Cisco, Engr. Tolosa worked for Microsoft, Oracle, SAP and Shell Philippines. In the late 80's up to mid 90's, he worked in Singapore and was one of the pioneers of EDS International, an ICT Consulting Firm based in Houston, Texas, USA.

Engr. Tolosa graduated from the University of Santo Tomas, i.e. BS Electronics and Communications Engineer.

LEO FERRER

Having been in GHD for 5 years now, Leo is a Registered Mechanical Engineer with 10 years of significant experience in various mechanical engineering works in industrial plants and commercial establishments, more particularly in cleanroom facilities, HVAC installation for commercial / residential areas and bulk material handling facilities like cement raw materials and coal. Furthermore, he has been involved in environmental projects like pre-feasibility studies of hydropower plant projects.

Leo's skill in green building design, energy modelling and HVAC precision design enabled him to handle the Green Building portfolio of GHD. Currently undergoing training for LEED AP and Green Star, Leo was job manager for the Manila team who undertook the building services design of Abu Dhabi's Al Raha Beach Development, a green building resort project and Melbourne's Pearson and Victoria Apartments both bearing energy and water efficiency features. He was also team leader for Concept EOS, a sustainable building concept based on a LEED Platinum scale for the Philippines which was presented recently at the United Architect of the Philippines (UAP) conference.



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