



Technical Talk

Organised by

The Joint Branch of the RINA and IMarEST (Singapore)

Global dislocation, threats, and opportunities for Singapore naval architects and marine engineers



by

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Date : 15 April 2021, Thursday

Time : 06:30 pm to 10.00 pm (SGT)

**Venue : SPGG (Singapore Polytechnic Graduates' Guild),
Grand Ballroom, Level 3
1010 Dover Road, Singapore 139658**

Due to the COVID pandemic, all our talks so far have been online. Currently though, the Singapore government has relaxed the restrictions slightly during Phase 3, and we would like to use this opportunity to arrange this Talk (specifically) in-person, followed by dinner - something that we have missed. The following rules and regulations must be adhered to:

- 1. The total number of participants is capped at 50. Registration will be on a "first come first serve" basis.*
- 2. To comply with Covid-19 Safe Management Measures, the list of participants must be submitted to the Singapore government one week prior to the event.*
- 3. In view of the above two clauses, registration will close on 07.04.2021 at midnight, or when the event is fully booked, whichever first.*
- 4. A boxed dinner will be provided to all participants for free. To avoid losses due to no-show, cancellation of registration will be only be allowed before 07.04.2021 midnight. Cancellation should be done through the Eventbrite webpage or by sending an email to Vimal Kumar (vimal256@gmail.com). Thereafter, no cancellations or replacements will be accepted, and a fine of SG\$25.00 will be imposed on each no-show case.*



5. *During the event, wearing of masks and safe distancing will be mandatory. Masks may be removed while consuming your meals. All participants will be assigned to a fixed table (5 pax per table) and no swapping of seats will be permitted.*
6. *Dress code: Casual, no collarless T-shirts, no torn jeans, no bermudas, no sneakers / track shoes, no sports attire, no singlets and flip-flops*

To register your attendance, please click the web-link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.sg/e/global-dislocation-threats-and-opportunities-for-s-pore-marine-engineers-tickets-146634753495>

Synopsis

Industries evolve like living organisms. New threats emerge with each passing year. In shipbuilding industry, kings and pretenders have walked past the global stage in succession. We see them wax and wane in the US, UK, Japan, South Korea, and China. The pretenders to the throne are in the wings in many corners of this planet: Middle East, South America, India, Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

Singapore did well to survive four decades; thanks to good timing (the rush to exploit offshore oil and gas following a series of energy crisis since 1973.) and a policy to replace escalating labour cost with a flood of cheap manpower from various countries. Unwittingly in so doing, we have also prepared the stage for new challengers. The efficacy of that strategy is tapering. The sun will set on the Singapore yards crippled by both (indigenous) labour and land shortage.

Can Singapore marine professionals find a different pathway to remain relevant? What opportunities are there in the face of rising seas and crushing land scarcity for development, for them to make contributions that only they equipped as they are by their training and experience are able to deliver?

A paradigm shift is needed to create more space for the economy to grow. Having reclaimed more than 150 sq. km of its territorial waters a new option is needed. Those who have spent decades designing ships and rigs have now the opportunity to repurpose that expertise to design floating islands for a nation so desperately in need of land.

About the Speaker

A mechanical engineering graduate of the National University of Singapore, he is a Fellow of the IMarEST.

Joining the industry in 1968, he is one of the pioneers of the Singapore marine industry. His expertise ranges from shipbuilding to the feasibility assessment, planning and design of shipyards across several countries around the world.

He founded the Society of Floating Solutions (Singapore) in 2017, initiated the First World Conference on Floating Solutions and advised the organisation of the second World Conference on Floating Solutions in Rotterdam in October 2020.

He champions the concept of mega floating structures to mitigate the threat of rising seas, and climate change. He abhors the practice of land reclamation with imported sand. As President of the Society, he has engaged officials of the Singapore government as well as members of the public to go beyond the conventional is space creation.