

# Surveying in the spotlight

*The HKIS booth at the 27<sup>th</sup> HKTDC Education & Careers Expo served as a showcase for the Institute and Hong Kong's surveying profession, while educating the public and prompting visitors to consider a career in surveying.*

Prudence Lui

Photo: SCMP



1. Members of the Young Surveyors Group and student helpers picture here with the HKIS General Council members in front of the HKIS booth.
2. Student helpers, Tansy Cheung (L) and Edward Tam (R), introduce the interactive game to visitors.
3. HKIS President Sr Thomas Ho gives an informative talk on the career prospect of surveyors.

## EVENT SPOTLIGHT

*“ Career prospects are bright given future developments like the new CBD on Lantau and civil works in China springing from Belt and Road initiatives. ”*

The HKIS took part in the 27th HKTDC Education & Careers Expo held at the Hong Kong Exhibition and Convention Centre from February 23 to 26, joining more than 860 organisations from 22 countries. This premium annual event draws tens of thousands of students and jobseekers every year and provides a perfect platform for the Institute to enhance its image, as well as the public's understanding of the profession.

HKIS President Sr Thomas Ho hailed the event as a golden opportunity to give the general public a much clearer picture of what it is surveyors do. “The general public tends to lack a clear understanding of our role, and some may be confused about our contribution to Hong Kong's progress,” Ho said. “It was therefore encouraging to see so many people being drawn to our booth to learn more about the industry. From past experience, common questions usually raised are things like what is surveying, how to join the profession, what the salary levels are and how to get the necessary qualifications. Some even ask details about the six different divisions within the profession.”

Ho said that he believes the future is bright for the profession not just because of the many ways to join the profession – such as via university or IVE courses – but because of its link to construction. “The maturity of Hong Kong's development is a well-discussed point because many areas have already been developed, but we must take into account the fact that many buildings were constructed 30 to 50 years ago or more. They need to be rebuilt or repaired, and such works need to be conducted by surveyors. When you talk about planning and housing, we have surveyors who specialise in construction, land and valuation. Also, the Belt and Road initiatives will provide good opportunities for surveyors working in and with these countries. Furthermore, the establishment of the Property Management Services Authority under the Property Management Services Ordinance will drive demand for surveyors as part of the new-style property facility management.”

Young Surveyors Group (YSG) Chairman Sr Chris Mook said that the idea behind this year's expo booth was to introduce the profession in a special way and deepen understanding

of the Institute's six divisions. To do this, the team introduced more interactive elements. “In the past we outlined and presented details on display boards, but this time we gave things a twist by introducing mini-games to promote more interactions. Three games were specially designed to denote the daily work of surveyors involving four groups of professional practices: building surveying, quantity surveying, general practice, and planning and development. The game on quantity surveying guided players through various quantity surveying-related tasks in building the ‘Lego brick premises’, such as BQ preparation, procurement and valuation of work in progress. For the game on general practice and planning and development, different scenarios were set for visitors to match the purpose of land use and understand height restrictions. The game on building surveying introduced the public to the way of measuring cracks by using the crack gauge, which is one of the tools to measure cracks. Participants could understand that building surveyor will measure cracks while carrying out a building inspection. To incentivise participants, we also produced a set of pens printed with the names of our six divisions to serve as reminders to the students who received them.”

The spirit of the games, Mook explained, also matches the YSG's three special themes: Y - youth innovation, S - search for interesting topics and G - gather up dreams. “This explains why this time YSG has involved itself more with the divisions. For instance, the Building Surveying Division produced a series of two-minute videos on building safety and we displayed them onsite. The various divisions also emailed requests to council members to send senior members to the booth and help brief student helpers serving the public.”

During the expo's four days, the HKIS booth was managed by a team of 40 volunteers, comprising 20 university students and 20 HKIS members. There were three shifts per day of between four and six hours, the main task being to answer queries from the public. Mook spent all of the first day on duty and fine-tuned whatever was necessary to ensure everything worked smoothly.

“I observed a wide spectrum of the public, such as students of other academic subjects and graduates from overseas universities or with non-surveying degrees, visit the booth. There were even some adults who wanted to switch to surveying. Frequent questions included the way to attain qualifications, what overseas qualifications were recognised, job and career prospects, and salary levels. The prospects for the profession are certainly bright given future developments like the new CBD on Lantau and civil



Members of the Young Surveyors Group and student helpers designed surveying-related games

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works in China springing from Belt and Road initiatives.”

This year, HKIS President Ho also gave a 30-minute talk on careers in the surveying profession, going back to Hong Kong's earliest days in 1843. He traced the many milestones the profession has achieved, such as developing training for local students at the then Hong Kong Technical College back in the 1960s, as well as the birth of the HKIS in 1984. He also highlighted surveyors' scope of work, the background of the HKIS and the qualifications required for surveyors, as well as career prospects.

His advice for students was to take that initiative to learn about the profession as early as possible. “They can do this, for example, by visiting future Careers Expos or signing up for activities designed along our branding campaign, such as map-making competitions in secondary schools,” Ho said. “Indeed, the HKIS organises regular career talks in schools covering different surveying categories. Last November, we worked for the first time with the Education Bureau on the Business-School Partnership Programme on Work Experience Movement. So far, 18 companies have got involved and arranged for students to work with them for two or three days.”

The recruiting of 20 students to assist at the booth was done with an eye on building a long-term rapport with young surveyors. Tansy Cheung, a Year 1 student of the Department of Surveying at the University of Hong Kong, lent a helping hand on the weekend afternoons. “I wanted to know more about the industry and the people involved. There was also the opportunity to learn things that aren't on our university syllabus, such as communication skills. Also, my university course hasn't covered all aspects of land surveying, so I was able to pick up some basic information from the leaflets.”

Cheung added that she was able to help a number of booth visitors with their enquiries. “Most visitors had limited knowledge of the profession,” she said. “A student who said she was weak in mathematics asked if it's difficult to deal with calculations. I told her that it's pretty straightforward and not a key criterion for consideration. I also explained to one person how he could apply for membership of the HKIS. Fortunately, there were senior members present to field the more difficult questions.”

Edward Tam, another student helper who shares the same academic background as Cheung, hoped to pass information about the profession on to interested parties as well as brush up his own knowledge of surveying. “As an executive member of my university's Surveying

Society, I learned about this expo through YSG,” he said. “A 60-minute helpers' briefing was held at City University by Sr Prof Lawrence Poon. It covered basic knowledge on surveying, objectives, a rundown of the mini-games and what messages the Institute would like to deliver. My participation deepened my knowledge on building surveying and strengthened my confidence in communications. A family came by with a child who spoke English, so I had to test my English and explain clearly the instructions and steps involved. The creative games using Lego bricks proved to be very popular and got many people to stop at the booth to see what was happening. The concept was very basic so it was easy to understand.”

One of the visitors to the booth, a Year 4 student from a Hong Kong university, admitted he had only a narrow understanding on surveying and thought it was only related to big construction projects like the West Kowloon development project. Afterwards, however, he had a much better idea of what the profession involved. “I gained a better understanding after playing one of the games and one of the helpers explained to me lesser-known perspectives like valuation,” he said. “I also learned that the path to become a qualified surveyor is not easy due to the high entry level. For instance, in the first two years a graduate needs to build up a certain number of service hours within their respective field.”

Adult visitors like Helen Chung popped by to find out how each division works and what specialised duties they perform. “I played a game related to general practice which tested me in different scenarios,” Chung said. “The question was where I should site a park. My first choice was wrong as it was on private land, so the HKIS helper patiently guided me towards the answer which was that a park should be in a recreational zone.”

Another younger visitor, who gave his name as Stephen, was interested in the validity of overseas qualifications via distant learning. “I asked on behalf of my friend who knows of a couple of schools overseas offering surveying, but he's not sure if they're legitimate,” he said. “I got the answer I needed from the senior HKIS member who was present.”

Mr Lee, an adult visitor who works in engineering, made inquiries on behalf of his niece, who is a quantity surveyor, but found that the information he received was useful for him as well. “I was glad to hear so much more about the various areas of surveying,” he said. “This could be an alternative field for me to develop after retirement.”

*This article is published courtesy of Classified Post.*

「未來有大嶼山市中心及『一帶一路』帶動中國土木工程等發展項目，測量業的前景一片光明。」

# 測量業 受青睞

香港測量師學會於第 27 屆香港貿發局教育及職業博覽，設立攤位向公眾介紹學會及香港測量業，增進公眾認識之餘，同時鼓勵參觀人士投身測量業。

Prudence Lui

第 27 屆香港貿發局教育及職業博覽在 2 月 23 日至 26 日假香港會議展覽中心舉行，香港測量師學會連同來自 22 國的 860 多個組織共襄盛舉。這項年度盛會每年吸引成千上萬的學生和求職者，學會藉今次展覽提升形象，增進公眾對業界的認識。

香港測量師學會會長何國鈞測量師指，是次活動讓公眾更了解測量師的工作，是一次難得的機會。「一般市民不熟識測量師的職責，亦有人不明白測量師對香港發展的貢獻。而令我感到鼓舞的是，我們的攤位吸引了大批市民前來參觀，他們想知道更多測量業的資訊。按過往經驗，最常見的問題包括：甚麼是測量、如何入行、薪酬水平、如何取得專業資格。也有人問及測量業六個組別的詳情。」

何國鈞測量師認為測量業具發展前景，一是因為入行途徑多，包括入讀大學或香港專業教育學院課程，二是因為測量業與建造業相輔相成。「我們常說香港發展成熟，很多地區已被開發，但很多樓宇興建至今已 30 至 50 年甚至更久，這點值得關注。要重建和維修這些樓宇，就需要測量師進行有關工作。至於規劃和房屋方面，我們有專攻建築、土地及估值的測量師。而『一帶一路』則為測量師提供更多與沿線國家合作的機會。此外，根據《物業管理服務條例》設立的物業管理業監管局將帶動市場對測量師的需求，以滿足新型物業設施管理的需要。」

青年組主席莫璟瑋測量師表示，今年的展覽攤位旨在以特別的方式介紹測量業，加深公眾對本會六個組別的認識。攤位因此增加更多互動元素。「我們以往只會用展板介紹資訊，但今次別出心裁，推出小遊戲，增加互動。我們設計了三款小遊戲，講述專業測量師的四類日常工作：建築測量、工料測量、產業測量，還有規劃及發展。其中有關工料測量的小遊戲指示玩家利用樂高積木完成各項涉及工料測量的任務，如準備工程清單、採購和估價。在產業測量師和規劃及發展測量師的遊戲中，參觀人士根據我們設定的不同情境，配對相應的土地用途和認識建築物高度限制的概念。透過建築測量師的遊戲，參觀人士可以學習如何利用裂縫規來量度裂縫，也了解到建築測量師進行樓宇勘察時，裂縫規為常用的勘察工具之一。為獎勵參加者，我們還製作了一套原子筆，筆上印有本會六個組別的名稱，加深學生的印象。」



相片提供：SCMP

青年組成員與一眾理事會成員和資深會員合照

## 「以樂高積木製作的遊戲別具創意，大受歡迎，吸引許多人在攤位前駐足觀看。」

莫璟瑋測量師指，這些遊戲的理念亦符合青年組的三個特別主題，即「Youth innovations」、「Search for interesting topics」和「Gather up dreams」。「青年組這次積極與各組別合作。舉例而言，建築測量組製作了一系列有關樓宇安全的影片，每段片長兩分鐘，在現場播出。此外，各組別發電郵要求委員會成員安排幾位資深會員到場，向負責招待公眾的學生義工講解工作。」

在為期四天的展覽中，香港測量師學會招募了 40 位義工協助攤位運作，其中 20 位是大學生，其餘 20 位是學會的會員。義工每日輪值三更，每更四至六小時，主要工作是回答公眾的提問。莫璟瑋測量師在第一天全日當值，確保攤位運作順利。

「我見到不同人士來參觀我們的攤位，例如有其他學科的學生、外國大學的畢業生或非測量學系的畢業生，甚至有一些有意轉行測量業的成年人。他們的問題一般包括如何取得測量資格的途徑、哪些海外資格獲認可、測量的就業和發展前景，以及薪酬水平。未來有大嶼山市中心及『一帶一路』帶動中國土木工程等發展項目，測量業的前景一片光明。」

今年，香港測量師學會會長何國鈞測量師發表了 30 分鐘演講，內容追溯到香港開埠早年，從 1843 年開始回顧測量界的多項里程碑：例如在六十年代，為當時的香港工業專門學院本地學生開辦訓練課程，以及在 1984 年成立香港測量師學會。他亦談及測量師的職責、香港測量師學會的背景、成為測量師所需的資格，以及就業前景。

何國鈞測量師建議學生盡早學習行業知識。「他們可以參觀更多職業博覽會，或登記參加我們為推廣學會形象而設的活動，例如我們舉辦的地圖創作比賽。學會定期到學校舉辦就業輔導講座，介紹測量界的各類工作。去年 11 月，我們首次與教育局合作，參與商校合作計劃的工作體驗運動，目前有 18 間公司參與，學生會被安排到公司工作兩至三天。」

學會招募 20 位學生協助攤位運作，目的是希望他們多與年輕測量師接觸，為雙方建立長遠關係。香港大學測量學系一年級學生張希甄在週末下午到攤位幫忙，她表示：「我想了解更多行業知識及業內人士，來這裡亦有機會學到學校課程以外的東西，例如溝通技巧。學校的課程也並未涵蓋土地測量的所有範疇，我可以從宣傳單張上得知更多基本資訊。」

張希甄亦指，她接觸了不少前來攤位參觀的人，並解答他們的問題。她說：「參觀人士大多不熟識測量業，有學生問我，

她的數學不好，在計算數據時是否會有困難。我告訴她，這類工作其實很簡單，並非入讀測量學的主要考慮準則。我亦向一位參觀人士解釋如何申請成為香港測量師學會的會員，幸好當時有其他資深成員在場，可以回答較深入的問題。」

譚浩然是另一位學生義工，與張希甄同是港大測量系一年級生，他希望向有興趣的人介紹測量業，同時增進自己在測量方面的知識。他說：「我是大學測量學會的委員，透過青年組得知這場博覽會。潘永祥教授測量師在香港城市大學主持了一場 60 分鐘的義工簡介會，介紹基本測量知識、目標、小遊戲的流程，以及學會要推廣的訊息。這次博覽會加深了我的建築測量知識，令我溝通時更有自信。有一家人帶著說英文的小朋友來參觀，我只好用英文與他們溝通，清楚說明有關指示和步驟。以樂高積木製作的遊戲別具創意，大受歡迎，吸引許多人在攤位前駐足觀看。當中的概念簡單易明。」

一位香港大學四年級的學生參觀攤位，他表示不認識測量，以為測量只與西九龍發展計劃之類大型建築項目有關。但是次展覽增加他對測量業工作的認識。他說：「我玩了其中一個遊戲，工作人員向我解釋『估值』，這是較少人知的測量知識，加深我對測量的了解。我明白要成為合資格的測量師很不容易，因為入行門檻很高。舉例而言，畢業生畢業後的首兩年內，需要在各自的專業累積一定的工作時數。」

參觀人士當中亦有像 Helen Chung 這樣的成年人，她前來了解各組別如何運作，以及每組的職責。「我玩了一個有關產業測量的遊戲，要根據不同的情況為公園選址。我第一次選錯了，因為那是私人土地。香港測量師學會的職員耐心地引導我選出正確答案，將公園設在康樂用地。」

另一位參觀者 Stephen 較年輕，他希望了解遙距課程頒授的海外資格在香港是否獲認可。「我是代朋友問的，他得知海外有一些學校開辦測量課程，但他不確定這些學校的課程是否正規。一位駐場的香港測量師學會資深會員解答了我的疑問。」

從事工程工作的李先生，原本是代現職工料測量師的姪女查詢，後來卻發現這些資訊對自己亦相當實用。他說：「我退休後或許可以向測量界發展。」

本文由《Classified Post》撰文。