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## Interview with Engr. Dr. Uche Obiajulu

Engr. Dr. Uche Emmanuel Obiajulu, is the Chairman/Chief Inspector of Engineering Regulation & Monitoring (ERM) Victoria Island Zone, Lagos.

**E-Newsletter:** What can you say about infrastructural development, sustainability and other associate professional activities?

**Engr. Obiajulu:** From my experience as an engineer and my experience as ERM Chief Inspector who goes to project sites for inspect, the major problem we have is that there is a lot of political interference with infrastructural provisions and engineering affairs in the country. Many of the people doing



Engr. Dr. U. E. Obiajulu

infrastructural jobs are quacks. They are not trained engineers and they are not experienced at it. Many times because their bosses have political advantage in the society they move into supervising complicated projects and they end up messing it up and yet they still approve it for them. I believe that there will be political will to involve the right people and equipment and inspect to make sure the right equipment and people are used before we have the kind of infrastructure we want because a lot of money is being wasted in providing inadequate infrastructure or poor quality infrastructures and sometimes just to achieve political gains not necessarily to serve the purpose for which it is meant for. I believe NSE has a part to play in it, we could be a kind of pressure group that will tell the government 'look this cannot happen'.

Recently, the architects are taking their destiny in their hands. We on our own need to come out, do the lobbying, do the protest if need be and maybe make presentations to make the government know that it's not right. They can award contracts to their party members, nobody cares but the person who is going to be on ground who will design it or execute it or review it must be a trained personnel and the appropriate equipment is necessary too. They should fund the ERM and relevant bodies whose job is to inspect projects and catch the quacks and deviating personnel. So I believe we have a job to do as a body. For now, infrastructures on the ground is designed to please the fans and the electorates and not necessarily to solve engineering problems. That is why many roads are built poorly, many mechanical structures are erected without appropriate design and structural analysis. We shouldn't continue in that form. There should be some element of maintenance objectiveness in design of infrastructures. When we design projects, we, the government and whoever is going to inspect it or approve it should make sure that there is room for maintenance or maintainability of that particular project or that particular product or design. You do not just drop things that cannot be maintained. An example is street light bulbs that can't be changed or industry machines that their parts can't be changed. That is basically what I want to contribute in infrastructure. Right now we need a lot of developing.

**E-Newsletter:** *Thank you sir.* 



Public presentation of the New National Policy on Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and the Unveiling of the results of the 2013 National MSMEs survey on Tuesday 19th May 2015 at NICON Luxury Hotel, Abuja, by the Minister of Trade, Industry & Investment Dr. Olusegun Aganga. The Vice President Membership Services of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Engr. Chief Giandomenico Massari, FNSE, represented the President of the Nigerian Society of Engr. Ademola Isaac Olorunfemi, FNSE at the event.



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Institute of Appraisers & Cost Engineers A Division of The Nigerian Society of Engineers and a Member of International Cost Engineering Council

#### **2015 National Technical Conference**

Date: Tuesday, 9th June 2015

Venue: Merit House, 22 Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abu-

ja.

## The Nigerian Society of Engineers **Port Harcourt Branch**

# **General Meeting/Technical Evening**

Date:

Thursday, 28th May 2015

Time: 5.00pm

Venue:

Engr. Ishmael A. Banigo secretariat, Water Works Yard, No.3 Bernard Carr Street, Port Harcourt.

#### **Technical Presentation Topic:**

Delivering Effective & Result Oriented Engineering Projects by Engr. Emeka Nnadi



The Nigerian Society of Engineers

NATIONAL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunshine 25 5

#### THEME:

"National Integrated Infrastructure Master Plan 2014: Strategies For Implementation"

= N10,000

Venue: International Culture & Event Centre (Dome), Akure, Ondo State Date: Monday 16th— Friday 20th November 2015

#### Conference Registration

- Early Bird (Not later than September 30, 2015) = N30,000
- From October 1, 2015
- Spouses

- 4. Graduates = N10,000= N40,000
  - 5. Students = N5,000

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#### NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!

All members of NSE Port Harcourt Branch should pay their Annual Branch Dues of N5000 for Corporate Members and N7,500 for Fellows to UBA Account No. 1000183629 (Port Harcourt Main Branch). Also pay National Annual Subscription of N9,000.00 for Corporate Members & N11,500 for Fellows directly to First Bank Account No. 2020502052 & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation. All payments should be made into the bank accounts.