Malaysian Sewerage Industry Guidelines

Septic Tanks
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ISBN 978-983-44456-2-1

Third Edition
January 2009

Published by
Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Air Negara (SPAN)
National Water Services Commission
Prima Avenue 7, Block 3510
Jalan Teknokrat 6
63000 Cyberjaya Selangor
Malaysia
FOREWORD
BY THE CEO OF SPAN

Since independent, the wastewater treatment technology in Malaysia have evolved through the introduction of new systems in the industry. Since then basic sanitation facilities as overhang latrines, pit and bucket systems and pour flush systems were slowly replaced by more modern systems like aerated lagoons, activated sludge system, package systems and variety of mechanical plant. However, sewage still remains as one of the major pollutants of our inland waterways. In the 1900s, the emergent of new treatment technologies were mainly driven by the basic need to treat the sewage so as to control waterborne diseases. Today, the environmental regulations including effluent discharge standards are becoming more stringent with increasing awareness toward sustainable environmental management. Public are also more educated and more alert on the need to preserve the water source and the environment. Hence the introduction of more innovative design in municipal wastewater treatment technologies is needed in order to meet the stricter regulatory requirements.

Faster approvals of sewerage system provide better development potential within an area while standardization of system and equipment will lead to better operational efficiencies. Thus the first edition of the guidelines for sewerage industry entitled “Design and Installation of Sewerage Systems” was introduced in 1995. The main purpose of these guidelines is to assist the developer and professionals to plan and design sewerage systems that comply with the regulatory requirements. Certainly those guidelines have successfully paved the road towards nurturing a more structured sewerage industry development.

The National Water Services Commission (SPAN) has completed the exercise initiated by the Sewerage Services Department to review and improve those guidelines. The new revised documents were renamed as the “Malaysian Sewerage Industry Guidelines” which comprise of five (5) volumes.

These new revisions incorporated invaluable knowledge gained by various stakeholders in the sewerage sector over the past decade. SPAN would like to thank all parties involved in the revision exercise. It is hoped that the publication of the third edition of this volume will further improve the sewage system development in this country.

Chief Executive Officer
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