



ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS

SRI LANKA



ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

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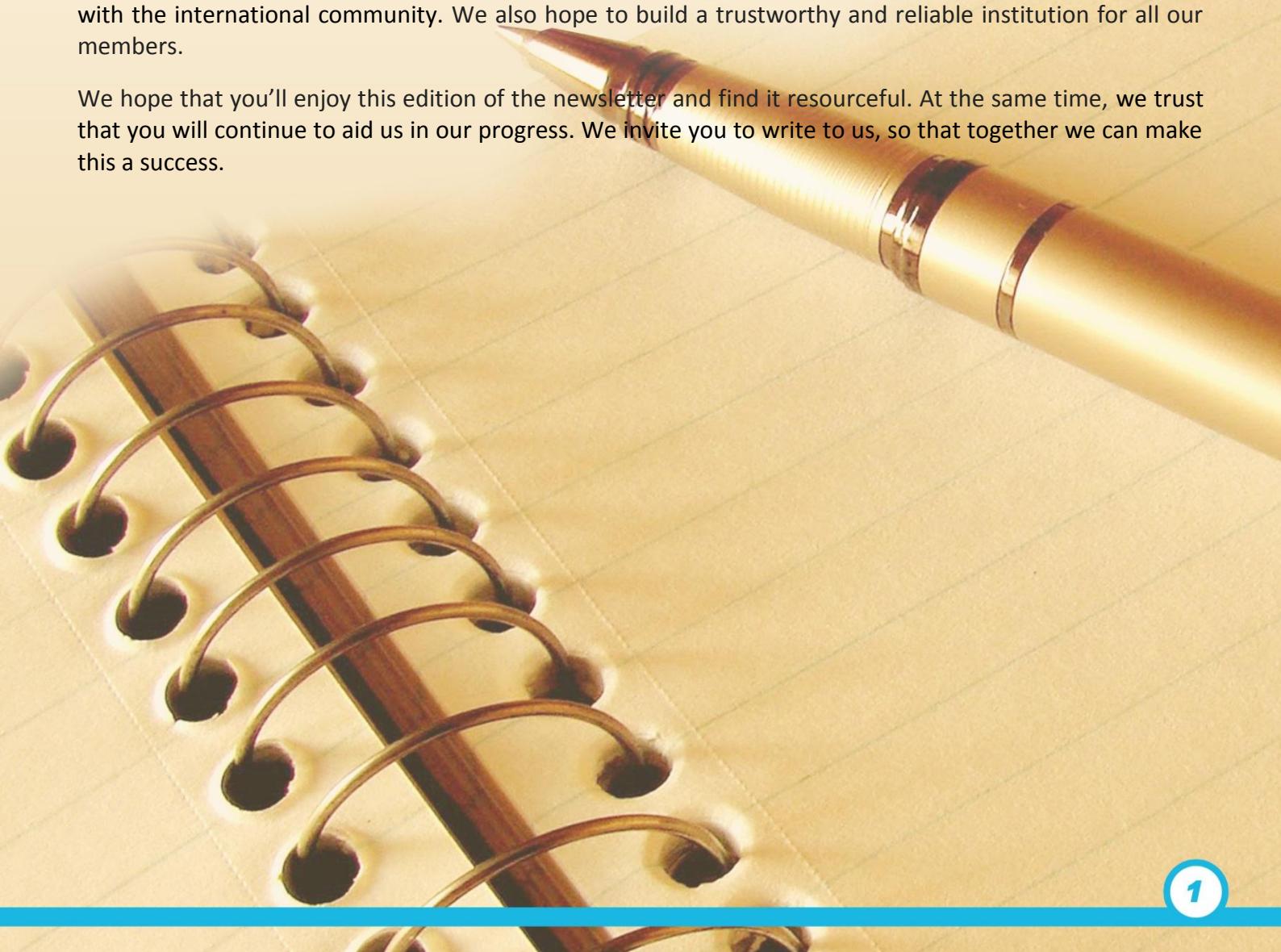
Editorial Preface

Greetings to the readers of the newsletter of EWBSL! In this very special issue, we hope to provide you with a brief overview of the activities carried out by our energetic members of EWBSL.

2013 was a successful year for us and we carried out many humanitarian, social services and community oriented projects mainly to uplift the living standards of the disadvantaged community through the implementation of engineering initiatives and solutions.

In year 2014, we aim to increase our member capacity and establish student chapters with enthusiastic students and initiate social services and community oriented projects with the help of institutes, government bodies and non-profit organizations. So many activities and events took place this year and we are indeed glad to inform that we have launched a new website for EWBSL. We invite all who are interested in, to visit our website and check our latest updates. With all of this, together we hope to kick start the new year, one full of potential energy to seek opportunities and develop collaborative bonds with the international community. We also hope to build a trustworthy and reliable institution for all our members.

We hope that you'll enjoy this edition of the newsletter and find it resourceful. At the same time, we trust that you will continue to aid us in our progress. We invite you to write to us, so that together we can make this a success.





GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

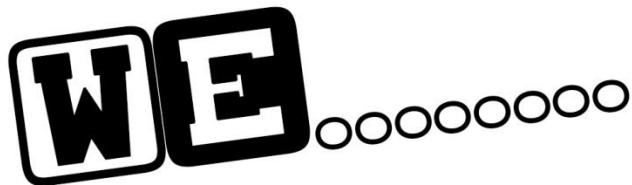
EWBSL is an organization that enlightens the future of communities at disadvantage and we will continue to empower such communities with the help of our vision, mission and our energetic and self-motivated members.

2013 was indeed a year filled with success involving a lot of great effort and services. We kick started the year with volunteer services, the construction of bridges and we concluded 2013 in style with a special session on EWB at the International Conference on Structural Engineering and Construction Management (ICSECM). It helped, I believe in motivating a lot of EWB members and students who of various Universities who had come to be a part of ICSECM 2013.

Technical Support, Humanitarian Aid, consultancy were all part of our services that were provided through our dedicated members and with my heart full of gladness, I must emphasize that we will continue to do so in future as well. This message is also partly in gratitude to all those of you who contributed towards the success we had in the year 2013 and we hope that you will join hands with us in the future too, to break free of borders in 2014.

In the dawn of the New Year, I wish all of you a successful and wonderful year ahead filled with happiness and joy.

Sincerely,
Professor Ranjith Dissanayake.
President- EWBSL



**EWBSL is a non-profitable social services organization which established in 2011,
with diversified potential engineers in the country.**

The aim of EWBSL is to uplift the living standards of the disadvantaged community in the world, with advanced sustainable engineering solutions applicable to social and community development projects.

EWBSL represents the Sri Lankan identity in EWB International, which is the main hub, joining all EWB branches operating word wide, with over 50 countries, functioning with developed and developing nations.

EWBSL focuses on filling up gaps of unaided communities and treat the community with the best engineering solutions possible, for a better tomorrow.

Meet the EWBSL Board Members & Advisory Board



President

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*Mr P.H. Sarath Gamini
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PITIGODA BRIDGE, A COLLABORATIVE INNOVATION TO SUPPORT HUMANITY



EWBSL, in collaboration with EWB KIT team, Germany, constructed a suspension bridge across Ma Oya in Pitigoda, Sri Lanka, which is a remote village about 12 km from Hunnasgiriya.

The village is usually subjected to flooding during heavy rains and during flooding; the water level rises up to about 3-4 m. During these times, the villages are unable to travel and most of the farmers cannot deliver their products to the city. And due to the high speed of water, people are at risk of crossing the waters, especially children and the disabled.



The project was completed by EWB KIT team of Karlsruhe University, Germany and all members volunteered their service and all the funds that were raised were donated to this particular project. This project was helped, designed, financed and supervised by the students and is encouraged and supported by the University Academic Staff. The project was also helped and guided with senior lecturers at the Civil Engineering Department, in the University of Peradeniya and of cause with the final year students. The bridge was officially opened for the public and the maintenance is continued by the EWB members. This project helped EWB members to join hands and serve the community and certainly this project will motivate other EWB members around the world about their capacity, capability, strength and their vision towards the world.

KARAWWA BRIDGE, A HELPING HAND TO THOUSANDS.....

EWBSL joined hands with EWB KIT, Germany to construct the new Suspension Bridge in Karawwa, Ratnapura. This is the second major project, with the KIT team having had the First Bridge that was built and finished in Pitigoda, helping thousands of people in the village for their daily transportation needs.

The Bridge is established across a branch of the Bentara River and constructed at Karawwa village in the Niyagama divisional secretariat. This joins more than 8 villages helping children, farmers, and the villages for their daily basic transportation needs, and in the long run, this promises to improve the living condition of the villagers.

This project proceeded with the villagers and the aim of including them in the project is to provide knowledge for the people, so that they can repair the bridge independently after the construction. The other goal is to motivate them and to make them pride about the construction as fruit of their own labour.

The Karawwa Bridge is constructed over a height of 2 meters over the ground with a deck width of 1.3 meters. The height of the pylons will be 6 meters and the length of ramps will be 12 meters with the bridge span of 30 meters.

Mr. Sven Nagal acted as the Project Manager and was guided by Prof, Ranjith Dissanayake, who is the President of EWB, Sri Lanka. This project combined and collaborated EWBSL and EWB Germany, and was a good bonding moment for the representatives of the two countries.

The project will benefit hundreds of people and advances the way of life for those villagers around the area. The project will also help EWB members to join hands and serve the community and would certainly give motivation to other EWB members around the world to show their capacity, capability, strength and their vision towards the world.



Launching of the new website for EWBSL

www.ewbsl.org



The new website of EWBSL provides the users with a fresh new look and contains structural changes to reflect recent developments.

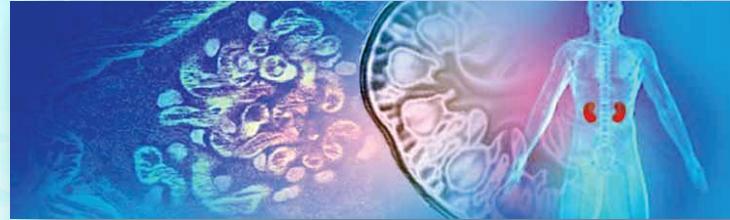
The launching of an improved version of the website is a step further in recognizing the need to maximize information technology capabilities in terms of promoting the services of EWB to a larger audience that will be using our online system. We endeavor to bring in more information that will be useful to varied groups and to present them in a more user-friendly way.

This way, we hope to make the improved website the convergence platform for the members, for the other demand-driven personals, and community-sensitive extension workers in the region.



Symposium on Chronic Kidney Disease....

EWBSL joined hands with InRC (International Research Centre) of University of Peradeniya, IFS Sri Lanka, Sri Lankan Capacity Building Network (Cap-Net Lanka) and Wimalawansa Foundation to organize a Scientific and an Engineering Symposium on Chronic Kidney Diseases in North Central Province, Sri Lanka. The chronic kidney disease initially emerged in the Anuradhapura district in Sri Lanka, about twenty years back, is now surfacing in other parts of the country affecting people of all ages irrespective of gender. WHO/ NSF assisted research projects have revealed that approximately 15% of the population in the North Central Province in Sri Lanka are suffering from kidney disease of multi factorial origin. This being one of the burning issues in Sri Lanka, the EWBSL thought of stepping forward to accomplish the initiation for the formulation of solutions for this issue and we introduced a Scientific and Engineering foundation to minimize this concern.



Professor Sunil Wimalawansa, MD, PhD, MBA, DSc, who is an eminent scholar and a Professor of Medicine, Endocrinology, Physiology and Nutrition in New Jersey, USA delivered the keynote speech and likewise many resource personals presented their ideas, views and solutions in regards to this issue. Among the Resource personals present were Prof. O.A. Illeperuma, University of Peradeniya, Prof. Rohana Chandrajith, University of Peradeniya, Prof. A.M.S. Dhammadika Menike Dissanayake, University of Peradeniya, Prof. C.B. Dissanayake, IFS, Dr. Thanuja Ariyaratne, Rainwater Harvesting Forum, Dr. Nishantha Nanayakara, Kandy General Hospital, Dr. Upali Samarajeewa, International Consultant on Laboratory Accreditation and Food Safety, Dr. Sujithra Weragoda, Mr. Vasantha Ratnayake, and Mr. Sumanaweera, AGM (R&D), NWS & DB who were all keen on this issue and made a platform to minimize and mitigate this rising issue and this certainly was an eye opening event for some of the Governing bodies and certain Institutes. We hope to continue with the program and help more people in need by providing them with actionable solutions and assisting to raise their living standards.

Special Session on EWB at ICSECM 2013

EWBSL is glad to inform you that we put up a special session on Engineers Without Borders (EWB) at the 4th International Conference on Structural Engineering and Construction Management 2013 (ICSECM) which was held in the beautiful city of Kandy, Sri Lanka on the 13th, 14th and 15th of December 2013. The very special session on Engineers Without Borders was held on the 15th of December with an opening Ceremony and more than 50 foreign and local participants attended this particular event and contributed in various ways. More than 5 special presentations were presented and they represented EWB India, EWB Australia and EWB Sri Lanka.



The programme Chairs for this even were Eng. Oliver Nacevski who is the vice president of EWB International and Dr. I.M.S. Sathyaprasad who is the Advisor of EWBSL. The Advisory Committee consisted of Mr. Herbert Perera EWB Germany, Prof. Jay N. Meegoda, New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA and Mr. Ashoka Ajantha, Practical Action, Sri Lanka. Among the Organizing Committee, Prof. Ranjith Dissanayake, President EWBSL, Dr. Shameen Jinadasa, Treasurer, EWBSL and Dr. S.D.G.S.P. Gunawardane were involved. International Coordinators for this particular event were Mr. Sven Nagel EWB Germany, and Mr. Sandeep Kinge EWB India (Mumbai Chapter). The themes which were used were the EWB projects, Community Development projects and Social Development Projects. The Session Coordinators were Eng. Namal Thibbotuwawa, Mr. Ravin Kandalama, Mr. Umesh Vithanachchi and Mr. Shyanaka Dananjaya. All the papers presented were published in a special volume of ICSECM and these publications will be sent to all leading libraries for future references.

EWBSL president visits INDIA....

EWB GITAM Hyderabad chapter being one of the closest friends of EWBSL, organized a seminar in association with Ministry of Environment and Forest and Deccan development on “Biodiversity and Renewable Energy Resources” on 24th February 2014 at GITAM University, Hyderabad Campus. This special occasion was enlightened by Prof. Ranjith Dissanayake delivering the keynote speech on “Lessons learnt from tsunami damage in Sri Lanka”. This occasion was graced by Prof. Sanjay, Prof. B Basavaraja, Dr. Ashok Agarwal, Mr. Shri.R Narsing Rao, Mr. Shri Sanjay Gadhalay, Dr. T S Surendra and Prof. B. Basavaraja. Special student presentations also highlighted this event and made it colorful. Special topics such as Bio Diversity Conservation and Use of Renewal Energy were among the discussed topics in this special seminar. Lot of burning issues of today's world was conferred and certainly this would be an eye opener to nature lovers and partakers.

Prof. Ranjith Dissanayake, who is the president of EWBSL, was the chief guest for the inauguration of Tech Check Project in ZPHS, Rudraram, India. EWB GITAM University Hyderabad Chapter established a new Computer Laboratory named Dr. Ashok Agarwal Computer Laboratory and the opening ceremony of this event was also graced and lead by Prof. Dissanayake with the participation of several locals and also honorable guests from GITAM University.

A memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was also to be signed between EWBSL Peradeniya Chapter and EWB GITAM Hyderabad Chapter to work in collaboration and to share the knowledge and technology among keen and enthusiastic young engineers to reach the need and to change the world for the betterment. The platform was made and EWBSL will power the gears soon to reach all aspects to fulfill the mission of EWBSL.



What's in 2014?

Project Team

Meetings.....

The Project Team Meetings will be held continuously as we have planned so many projects ahead. EWBSL will join hands with EWB KIT team, Germany to work together again this year to share experiences and launch projects to help the people in need. EWBSL will also sign a MOU agreement with EWB GITAM University, Hyderabad Chapter and will work on the projects and several community Services. If you are interested in participation and introduction of new projects, you are always welcome to do that and feel free to contact us anytime.



ICSBE 2014.....



ICSBE
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The 5th International Conference on Sustainable Built Environment, 2014 will be held at Earl's Regency Hotel, Kandy, Sri Lanka, as the next in line of a highly successful series of conferences held since December 2010. The Conference will run over four days and features presentations by authors of all accepted papers, as well as keynote lecturers. We are planning to have another Special Session on EWB at ICSBE 2014 and we are eagerly waiting to accomplish that! General and plenary sessions will be accompanied by workshops and technical sessions. Accepted papers will be published in a special volume of proceedings with an international standard book number (ISBN).

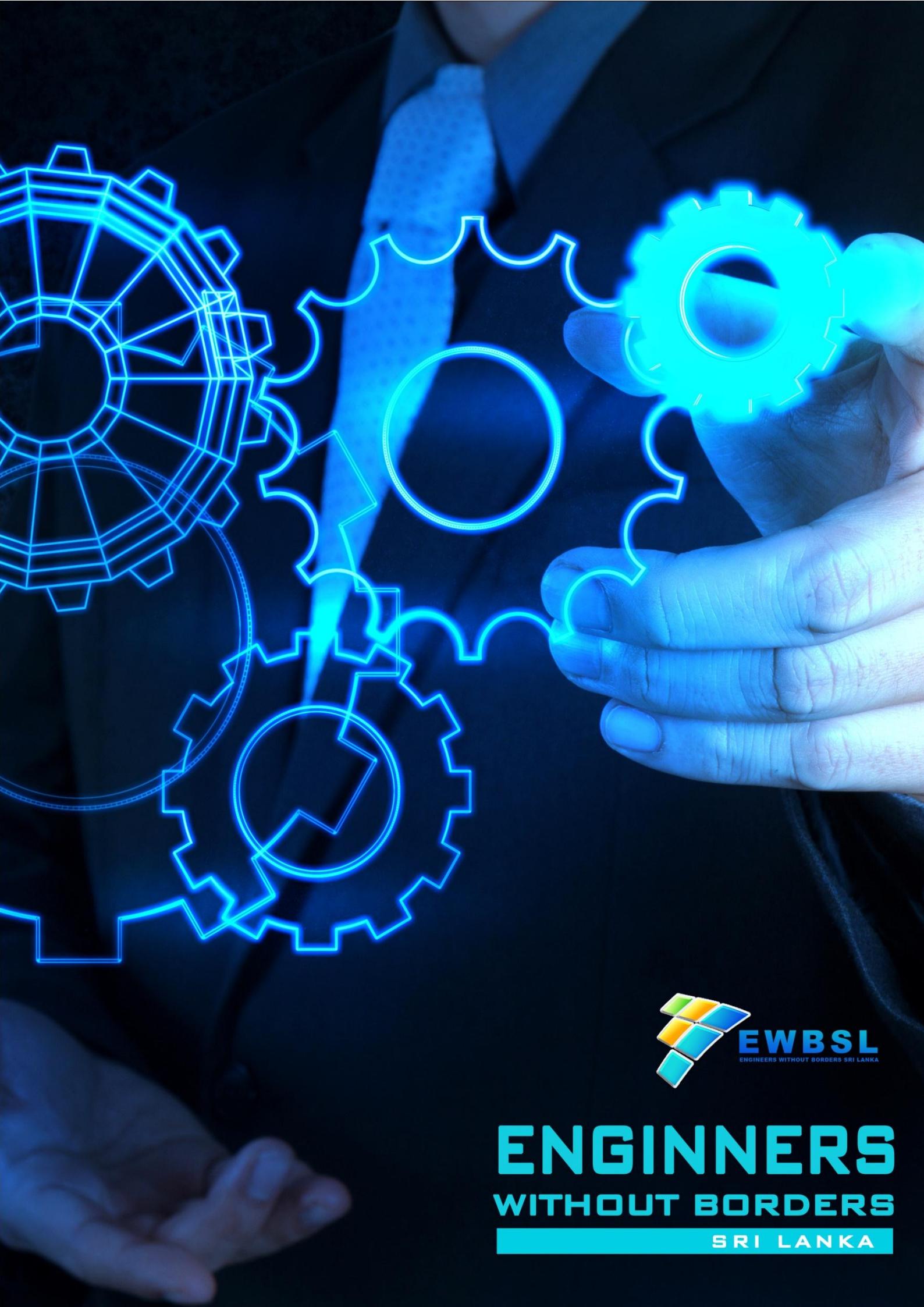
Join us as EWBSL Member.....

We are yet a small but strong Organization willing to support the humanity through Engineering aid. We are looking forward to start 2014 with all our Energy and Strength! So you can be a partner and join us to help the needy!

To join us, visit us at...

<http://www.ewbsl.org/ewbsl/>





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