# annual report 2003



land surveyors board
singapore

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Land Surveyors Board is constituted under the Land Surveyors Act (Chapter 156). The Act includes provisions for:
  - (a) the registration of surveyors who provide survey services in Singapore;
  - (b) the issue of annual practising certificates to registered surveyors;
  - (c) the licensing of corporations and multi-discipline partnerships which intend to engage in survey work in Singapore;
  - (d) the approval of assistant surveyors employed by registered surveyors;
  - (e) the appointment of Investigation Committees by the Board to investigate complaints against registered surveyors or licensed corporations and partnerships; and
  - (f) the conduct of surveys.

# 2 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

# 2.1 The members of the Board were as follows:

President - Mr Low Oon Song (Chief Surveyor)

Members - Mr Richard Ho Chee Phen (Appointed by the Minister under Section 4(2)(c) wef 12 May 2003)

> Mr Lee Li Chuan (Nominee of the Singapore Institute of Surveyors & Valuers (SISV) and appointed by the Minister under Section 4(2)(d) wef 1 Sep 2002)

> Mr Toh Keng Yew (Appointed by the Minister under Section 4(2)(d) wef 1 Sep 2002)

Mr Tan Choo Haw (Appointed by the Minister under Section 4(2)(d) wef 1 Sep 2002)

Mr Leong Kai Weng (Appointed by the Minister under Section 4(2)(c) up till 11 May 2003)

### 3 FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

- 3.1 The functions of the Board include:
  - to keep and maintain a register of surveyors, an annual register of practitioners, an annual register of licensees and a register of approved assistant surveyors;
  - to hold such examinations as the Board considers necessary for the purpose of enabling persons to qualify for registration as registered surveyors;
  - to approve or reject applications for registration of surveyors or to approve any such applications subject to such restrictions as it may think fit to impose;
  - (d) to establish, maintain and develop the standard of professional conduct and ethics of the land surveying professional;
  - (e) to promote learning and education in connection with the profession of land surveying;
  - (f) to hear and determine disputes relating to professional conduct or ethics of registered surveyors, licensed corporations or partnerships;

- (g) to appoint arbitrators for the purpose of hearing and determining disputes between registered surveyors, licensed corporations or partnerships and other persons; and
- (h) to license corporations and partnerships which supply survey services in Singapore.

# 4 STAFF

4.1 The Board appointed Mr Tan Kok Tiong as the Registrar, Madam Janet Koh Soey Hong as the Assistant Registrar and Miss Vijea Lakshmi as Corporate Service Officer on part-time basis.

# 5 MEETINGS

5.1 The Board held 12 meetings in 2003.

# 6 REGISTRATION

# 6.1 Registered Surveyors

As on 31 Dec 2003, the number of registered surveyors was 71. Among them, 21 were with Statutory Boards and institutions of higher learning and 50 were in the private sector. The list of registered surveyors is at Appendix A.

# 6.2 <u>Assistant Surveyors</u>

As on 1 Jan 2003, 261 assistant surveyors were on the register. During the year, another 51 assistant surveyors were registered and 55 assistant surveyors were deregistered. As on 31 Dec 2003, the number of assistant surveyors registered with the Board were 257.

### 7 PRACTISING CERTIFICATES

7.1 During the year, the Board issued 55 practising certificates to registered surveyors as listed in Appendix A. There was an increase of 7 practitioners as compared with 2002.

# 8 LICENCE FOR MULTI-DISCIPLINE AND CORPORATE PRACTICE

8.1 During the year, the Board issued three licences to corporations under Section 22 of the Land Surveyors Act. These three licences were granted exemption from Sections 22(1)(c), (d) and (e)(iii) of the Land Surveyors Act vide the Land Surveyors (Exemption) Order 2003.

### 9 COMMITTEES

- 9.1 Examinations Committee
- 9.1.1 The 15<sup>th</sup> Examinations Committee was appointed wef 1 Sep 2002 for a period of 2 years. The constitution of the Committee was:

Mr Toh Keng Yew - Chairman Mr Maik Seck Hoe - Member A/P Tor Yam Khoon - Member

Mr Lee Tuck Onn - Member, nominee of the

Singapore Institute of Surveyors & Valuers.

- 9.1.2 The Examinations Committee reviewed the Board examination papers for the April and October 2003 Examinations. It also moderated the examination papers for Advanced Diploma in Land Surveying Course conducted by the Singapore Polytechnic in March and September 2003.
- 9.2 <u>Committee on Advanced Diploma in Land Surveying</u>
  Course
- 9.2.1 The Board and the Singapore Polytechnic jointly formed the Committee to set up the Advanced Diploma Course in Land Surveying. This is a one-off course to allow diploma holders who are providing survey services to upgrade themselves and obtain registration with the Board. The 3-year course which started in January 2001 was completed in December 2003. Of the 18 students who completed the course, 16 obtained full passes and 2 were required to re-sit for a paper in 2004.

9.2.2 The constitution of the Committee was:

Mr Low Oon Song - Chairman
Mr Maik Seck Hoe - Member
Mr Ong Kah Chai Ian - Member

Mr. Lee Li Chuan

- Member (wef 10 Feb 2003)

- Member (up till 29 Jan 2003)

- Member (up till 29 Jan 2003).

- 9.3 <u>Committee To Review Part II Of The LSB Directive On Non-cadastral Survey Practices</u>
- 9.3.1 The Board set up the Committee on 1 Jun 2003 to review Part II of the LSB Directive on non-cadastral survey practices in view of the switchover to the ISN survey. The Committee submitted its report to the Board in December 2003. The Board accepted the report.
- 9.3.2 The constitution of the Committee was:

Mr Tan Choo Haw - Chairman
Mr Toh Keng Yew - Member
Mr Wee Soon Kiang - Member

A/P Tor Yam Khoon - Member, nominee of

the Singapore Institute of Surveyors & Valuers.

- 9.4 Committee To Review The Examination Syllabus
- 9.4.1 The Board set up the Committee on 24 Nov 2003 to review the syllabus of the subject Cadastral Law.

9.4.2 The constitution of the Committee was:

Mr Richard Ho - Chairman
Mr Tang Tuck Kim - Member

Mr Lee Li Chuan - Member, nominee of

the Singapore Institute of Surveyors & Valuers.

# 10 EXAMINATIONS

- 10.1 The Board conducted the written and practical examinations in April and October 2003.
- 10.2 The results of the examinations were as follows:

Subject	Number of Candidates	Passed	Withdrawn / Absent	Failed
Written:				
Cadastral Law	5	0	1	4
Practical:				
(a) Open Lot Survey	5	3	0	2
(b) Built-on Lot Survey	6	0	0	6
(c) Strata Survey	5	3	0	2

- 10.3 During the year, 4 candidates fully completed the examinations prescribed by the Board.
- 10.4 Twelve graduate land surveyors passed the written subject Cadastral Surveying & Legislation set in the Advanced Diploma in Land Surveying course by the Singapore Polytechnic. The Board has recognised the subject as equivalent to the subject "Cadastral Law" prescribed by the Board.

# 11 PROGRESS OF CADASTRAL SURVEYS UNDERTAKEN BY REGISTERED SURVEYORS

11.1 The number of lots undertaken by registered surveyors in 2003 were as follows:

	Land Lots	Strata Lots
Received in 2003	3,598	58,485
Completed in 2003	3,682	62,042
Under action as at 31 Dec 2003	334	2,295

11.2 The graphs showing the status of cadastral surveys over the last 5 years are at Appendices B1 – B2.

# 12 REVIEW OF LAND SURVEYORS ACT AND RULES

- 12.1 In July 2003, the Board conducted a review of the following Act and Rules with a view to simplify or eliminate the rules:
  - (a) Land Surveyors Act;
  - (b) Land Surveyors (Approved Assistant Surveyors) Rules:
  - (c) Land Surveyors Rules;
  - (d) Land Surveyors (Investigation Committee) Rules; and
  - (e) Land Surveyors (Conduct of Cadastral Surveys) Rules.
- 12.2 Follow-up actions were taken.

### 13 LAND SURVEYORS BOARD CIRCULARS

13.1 During the year, the Board made two reviews to the existing 58 LSB circulars issued prior to 2003. In the review made in February 2003, 45 of the existing circulars were expunged while 13 were retained. In December 2003, a further review on the 13 circulars was made. Three of the circulars were expunged, 4 were transferred to the CS Directive on Cadastral Survey Practices and 6 were retained.

#### 14 LSB DIRECTIVE ON SURVEY PRACTICES

14.1 The Board set up the Directive on Survey Practices, which are guidelines for registered surveyors on cadastral survey, engineering survey, topographical mapping and hydrographic survey. It was intended to provide the surveying and geomatics community with a framework for surveys conducted within Singapore. The contents include a compilation of practices that were effected through the issuance of Chief Surveyor Circulars and Land Surveyors Board Circulars over the years. It contains 2 parts:

Part 1 - Cadastral Surveys; and Part 2 - Non-cadastral Surveys.

- 14.2 Part 1 of the Directive on cadastral survey practices was transferred on 24 Jun 2003 to the Chief Surveyor. Under the Chief Surveyor's review, it has been renamed as CS Directive on Cadastral Survey Practices. It is available on the Singapore Land Authority's web-site at http://www.sla.gov.sg.
- 14.3 Part 2 of the Directive on non-cadastral survey practices has been considered by the committee set up to review the practices. It has been renamed as LSB Directives on Engineering & Hydrographic Survey Practices. It is available on the Board's web-site at http://www.minlaw.gov.sg/lsb.

### 15 CO-ORDINATED CADASTRE TRAINING COURSE

15.1 The Board and the Surveying & Mapping Laboratory of Nanyang Technological University, Singapore jointly conducted the Co-ordinated Cadastre Training Course for the registered surveyors and their staff. The course aimed to prepare them for the switchover from the Cassini system of survey to the coordinated cadastre system. The classes were conducted by Associate Professors Goh Pong Chai and Tor Yam Khoon. Due to over-whelming response, the course was conducted in 7 batches commencing from March to May 2003 for 209 participants.

#### 16 ERRORS IN CADASTRAL SURVEYS

16.1 The Board received 19 reports (as compared with 17 reports in 2002) from the Chief Surveyor on errors in cadastral surveys. These errors were of a minor nature. They were corrected either by the registered surveyors concerned or the Chief Surveyor under Section 40 of the Land Surveyors Act.

# 17 ENCROACHMENTS IN CADASTRAL SURVEYS

17.1 During the year, the Board considered the issues relating to encroachments detected in cadastral surveys.

### 18 MEETING WITH OTHER SURVEYORS BOARDS

- 18.1 The Board attended the 19<sup>th</sup> Joint Surveyors Boards Meeting on 12 Dec 2003 hosted by the Sabah Surveyors Board at the Sutera Harbour Hotel, Magellan Wing, Kota Kinabalu. Delegates from the Land Surveyors Board Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah Surveyors Board, Brunei Surveyors Board, Land Surveyors Board Sarawak and Land Surveyors Board Singapore attended the meeting.
- 18.2 The meeting discussed professional and technical matters, and shared experiences.

# 19 ASEAN FLAG

- 19.1 The Board's representative to the Asean Flag Council, Mr Tan Choo Haw attended its meetings as follows:
  - (a) 16<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting held on 8 Mar 2003 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; and
  - (b) 17<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting & 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial General Meeting held on 5 Sep 2003 in Malacca, Malaysia.
- 19.2 The Board appointed Associate Professor Tor Yam Khoon as its representative to the Asean Flag Working Group on Mutual Recognition of Surveying Qualification.

# 20 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

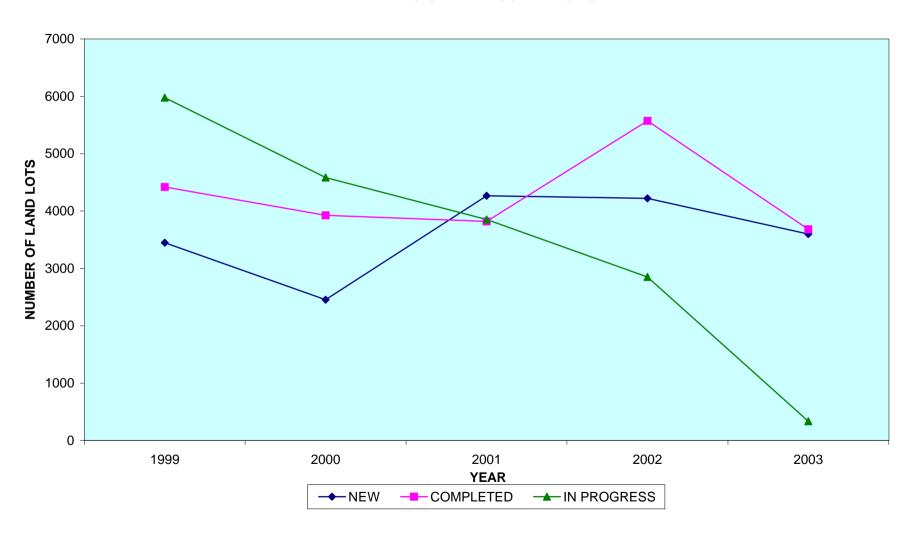
20.1 The Financial Statements of Accounts for the year ended 31 Dec 2003 is at Appendix C.

# LIST OF REGISTERED SURVEYORS AS ON 31.12. 2003 APPENDIX A

S/N	REGISTERED SURVEYOR	<u>S/N</u>	REGISTERED SURVEYOR
*1	Ang Kim Tee	37	Loi Poh Mun
*2	Ang Phar Teng	*38	Low Lee Luang
3	Aw York Bin	39	Low Oon Song
4	Chai Kok Vui Christopher	*40	Maik Seck Hoe
5	Chan Fook Onn	*41	Mak Weng Tat
*6	Cheah Phi Teik	42	N Rameswaram
*7	Chia Aik Kok	*43	Ng See Yong
*8	Chng Teong Eam	*44	Ong Kah Chai lan
9	Foo Chow Heng Kenny	*45	Ong Lok Ping
*10	Foo Jong Kan	46	Ong Wan Lye
11	G S Senan	*47	Paul James O'Connor
12	Goh Pong Chai	*48	Quah Kee Soo
*13	Goh Soo Hang	*49	Quah Yong Lok
14	Ho Chee Phen Richard	*50	See Seng Guan
*15	Ho Kim Swee	*51	Soh Kheng Peng
*16	Hwang Haut Eng	*52	Tan Boon Teck
17	Khoo Boo Khean	*53	Tan Choo Haw
*18	Khoo Chong Teik	*54	Tan Eng Fei
*19	Kwah Kheng Swee	*55	Tan Huck Jin
*20	Lau Hua Peng	*56	Tan Sek Leng
*21	Lee Boon Haw	57	Tan Siew Siong
22	Lee Eng Kwang	*58	Tan Teck Khiam
*23	Lee Eng Soon	*59	Tang Tuck Kim
*24	Lee Li Chuan	*60	Teo Chong Chai Patrick
*25	Lee Tuck Onn	*61	Teo Oon Hock
*26	Leong Kai Weng	*62	Thiang Thian Kee
*27	Leong Kin Weng	*63	Tiong Yong Kui
*28	Lew Hoi Thong	*64	Toh Keng Yew
*29	Lew Tek Fart	*65	Tor Yam Khoon
*30	Lim, Anthony	*66	Wang Yu Yung
*31	Lim Chin Tian	67	Wee Kee Hock
32	Lim Teck Seng	*68	Wee Soon Kiang
*33	Lim Thiam Hock	*69	Yeoh Joo Pheng
*34	Liu Nam Thiam	*70	Yip Wan Kee
*35	Loh Suat Yen	*71	Yuen See Wah
*36	Loi Hwee Yong		

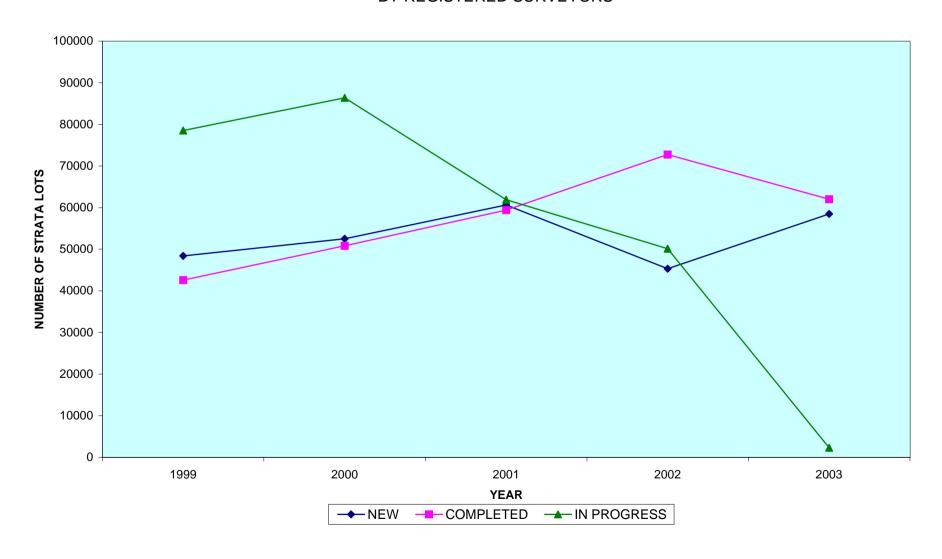
<sup>\* -</sup> With practising certificate.

# **SURVEY OF LAND LOTS: 1999 - 2003**BY REGISTERED SURVEYORS



# SURVEY OF STRATA LOTS: 1999 - 2003 BY REGISTERED SURVEYORS

**APPENDIX B2** 



# REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF LAND SURVEYORS BOARD SINGAPORE

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of Land Surveyors Board Singapore as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003 and the income and expenditure account for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Board's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

# In our opinion:

- a. the financial statements are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Land Surveyors Act (the "Act") and the Singapore Financial Reporting Standards so as to give a true and fair view of:
  - (i) the state of the affairs of the Board as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003 and the results of the Board for the year ended on that date;
  - the accounting and other records and the registers required by the Act to be kept by the Board had been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of the Act;
- b. During the course of our audit, nothing came to our notice that caused us to believe that the receipt, expenditure and investment of monies and the acquisition and disposal of assets by the Board during the year have not been in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

BOB LOW & CO
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Date: Singapore

# LAND SURVEYORS BOARD SINGAPORE

# BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2003

	·	
	NOTES 2003 S\$	2002 S\$
Accumulated Fund Balance at beginning of year Surplus for the year Balance at end of the year	181,908 24,105 206,013	162,884 19,024 181,908
Total Accumulated Fund	206,013	181,908
Current Assets Interest receivable on fixed deposits Cash & bank balances Fixed deposits	1,774 16,471 207,188 225,433	2,780 14,518 185,500 202,798
Current Liabiliies Accrual Renewal fees in advance	480 18,940 (19,420)	480 20,410 (20,890)
Net Assets	206,013	181,908
	Jahren Gr	/

Low Oon Song President Tan Kok Tiong Registrar

The annexed notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with these accounts.

# LAND SURVEYORS BOARD SINGAPORE

# INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2003

	NOTES	2003 \$	2002 \$
Application & renewal fees for practising certificate Examination fees Application fees for extension of time Fixed deposits interest Registration and renewal fees for field assistants Application for registration & certificate of registration fees Fees for licensing of corporation Other income Total Income	3	11,150 2,450 - 1,724 13,600 1,000 1,200 37,800 68,924	10,000 5,430 - 3,790 17,360 800 600 - 37,980
Less: Expenditure Auditors' remuneration Conference expenses with other surveyors board Depreciation Examiners' fee Expenses for board meetings Subscription Micellaneous Honorarium Postage & stamps Printing & stationery Transport	4	400 4,677 - 1,740 3,218 116 28,948 5,220 73 427 - 44,819	400 8,873 33 1,550 1,564 121 943 5,220 23 229
Surplus for the year	===	24,105	19,024

Low Oon Song President

Tan Kok Tiong Registrar

The annexed notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with these accounts.

# LAND SURVEYORS BOARD SINGAPORE

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2003

These notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with the accompanying accounts.

#### 1 GENERAL

The Board is incorporated in Singapore and has its office at c/o Singapore Land Authority, 8 Shenton Way, #26-01 Temasek Tower, Singapore 068811. The financial statements are expressed in Singapore dollars.

The principal activities of the Board as constituted under the Land Surveyors Act are to register and control land surveyors conducting surveys and for matters connected therewith.

# 2 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### a. Basis of accounting

The accounts are prepared in accordance with historical cost convention and have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Singapore companies Act and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards.

#### b. Recognition of interest income

Interest income is recorded when the fixed deposit matures.

# 3 OTHER INCOME

This amount consists of total fees collected for co-ordinated cadastre training course.

# 4 MISCELLANEOUS

This amount consists mainly of lecturer's fee, catering cost and associated cost for conducting the co-ordinated cadastre training courses at NTU.