

Good morning Minister Desmond Lee, Minister for National Development and Minister-in-charge of Social Services Integration; fellow Professional Engineers and Distinguished Guests,

1. Thank you Minister for gracing this annual event, where new Professional Engineers gather to receive their certificate, testimony of their engineering skills and professional ethics. All the Professional Engineers present will renew their pledge at the end of the event, to reaffirm again their professional responsibilities in ensuring public safety as we work as a team to continue to develop Singapore.
2. As we reflect on this Day of Dedication, I am very pleased that Er. Chua Koon Hoe, Past President of the Board, is here. He is an excellent example of stewardship, who came in to lead the Board, and left it stronger. Indeed, he is also the President who coined “Day of Dedication” and made it into an event that is anticipated and attended by many.
3. The Board has been in existence since 1971, and over the last five decades, we have worked together with other players in the built environment industry to grow Singapore, All industries need engineers to design and build the spaces to work, live and play, to travel, to communicate. As Albert Einstein said: “Engineers create that which has never been”. We make dreams come true, because engineers are the solution providers.
4. Today, we are giving out two Distinguished Professional Engineer Award. They are to Professional Engineers who have practised engineering throughout their career, and are icons in the engineering community. I admire and respect them; and am thankful that we have such Professional Engineers in our midst.

5. To commemorate the five decades of engineering professionalism, we will be launching a book, "Engineering the Future", looking at the events that lead to the formation of the Professional Engineers Board, and how the Board, together with the Professional Engineers, work with other professionals, developers and builders to create a better Singapore. You will be given the book later on, after the unveiling.
6. As we look at the past and record the engineering achievements and our journey, we also need to look forward. At the PEB Symposium held in August this year, we have invited speakers to talk about the future of engineering, and how engineers must now think and work differently. There are many opportunities for engineers as we look at zero waste, the circular economy, super low energy buildings, green building materials. Our generation and the next generations of engineers need to be prepared not just to build, but to build sustainably. Engineers will be Key Enablers for a Sustainable and Resilient Smart City
7. Today, we are presenting certificates to 66 new Professional Engineers. You will be part of the PE community that will be helping to transform Singapore into a Sustainable and Resilient Smart City. As you attain this pinnacle of your engineering career, treasure this achievement and respect the profession that you have chosen. Because with such great recognition comes great accountability.
8. Being a Professional Engineer is a calling that you are answering to. As engineers, we want to create that which has never been, yet not forgetting public safety. It has always been a challenging task, but we are ready to put our brains, skills and experience together and develop solutions to the myriad needs of the community. Besides protecting public safety, be ethical. Do what is right, and good for the community.

9. Congratulations to all the recipients. Distinguished Professional Engineers, Professional Engineers, Specialist Professional Engineers, Accredited Chartered Professional Engineers and Gold Medal winners.

10. Thank you.