





DUBAI | KUALA LUMPUR | KUCHING | KOTA KINABALU



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Director's Message

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As we reflect on the year 2023, we find ourselves living in the midst of the intricate tapestry of the present. Year 2023 is indeed a period marked by unprecedented global challenges, upheaval and resilience. We are utterly grateful for the collaborative efforts with our friends and colleagues in the construction industry, legal fraternity and ADR community in defining the journey of L2 i-CON International and Legal Plus.

In celebrating the symphony of success and gratitude within the pages of this Year Book 2023, I am compelled to begin an expression of profound gratitude.

Our sincere appreciation extends to the 176 guests of honours, moderators and speakers, whose names grace the Wall of Fame in this 2023 Year Book. We are truly grateful for the unwavering support from our sponsors, supporting organisations, emcees (who represent the future leaders), and the presence of each of the attendees in our conferences, webinars and events, whether in person or virtually. Your commitment and passion as an industry leader have been instrumental and remarkable. Without you, we will not be able to achieve our aspirations in connecting and bridging our diverse community and foster communication, collective efforts and collaborations between the industry players.

"Life is not always a zero-sum game. For every winner there doesn't have to be a loser. In fact, most successful stories are less about competition and more about collaboration."

- Michelle Yeoh's Address to the Harvard Law School Class of 2023

A resounding applause is due to our dedicated team, especially Mohsein, Shalenny, Halim, Faris, Fiza, Daniel and Chay, their hard work and commitment have been the driving force behind the symphony of success. Thank you for being an integral part of our shared journey.

Allow me a moment, and on behalf of Wai Loon and Hong Kit, to express our heartfelt appreciation to the trio of Legal Plus – Tun Zaki, Tan Sri James Foong and Catherine Eu. Your willingness to embark on this unique (or perhaps, mad) journey with us, embracing different ideas and approaches, is truly commendable with our due respect.

As we turn the page to a new year, we anticipate an exciting adventure in the year 2024!



CINDY WONG Director L2-iCON International



PEAR BOOK 23 A Symphony of Success and Gratitude

As we stand on the threshold of another year's end, it is with immense pride and gratitude that we reflect upon the incredible journey that has been 2023. For L2 i-CON International and Legal Plus, this year has been a canvas painted with diverse and vibrant hues, each stroke representing a unique event that has left an indelible mark on our collective memory.

"2023: A Symphony of Success and Gratitude," our 2023 Year Book, goes beyond a simple reflection of accomplishments. It stands as a testament to the unwavering dedication of our team and the invaluable support received from our cherished partners and attendees.

We will revisit the milestones, triumphs, and moments that defined this remarkable year. From the empowering International Women's Day event to the enlightening Construction Claims and ADR Conferences across West and East Malaysia, as well as internationally, each gathering has added a unique chapter to our story.

As we delve into the pages that encapsulate the essence of our 2023 journey, we extend our sincerest gratitude for being a part of our story. Your presence, support, and enthusiasm have inspired chievements, and we are excited to share this reflection with you.

Here's to 2023 – a year of triumphs, learning, and building connections. May the coming pages evoke memories of shared experiences and inspire anticipation for the exciting chapters that await us.

2023 Year Book Editorial Team

Chief Editor and Content Lead SHALENNY CARINO

> Art Directors SYED HALIM FARIS AHMAD

Consultants LEONG HONG KIT CINDY WONG



About Us





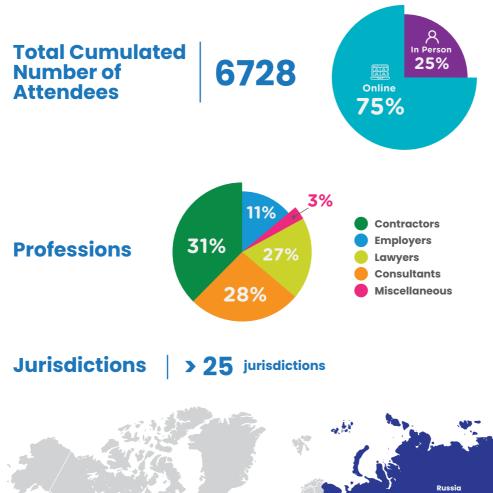
Legal Plus was set up in 2014 by Tun Zaki Azmi, Chief Justice of the Dubai International Financial Court in United Arab Emirates (UAE) and retired Chief Justice of Malaysia as Chairman, Tan Sri James Foong, Chairman of Ombudsman for Financial Services and retired Federal Court Judge, Malaysia and Catherine Eu, retired Executive Director of the Bar Council, Malaysia as Directors. The main objective of Legal Plus is to provide continuing professional training, public seminars and events pertaining to legal issues and legal compliances for various professions, trade, industries and enterprises. For more information on Legal Plus, please visit www.legalplus.com.my L2 i-CON International is a dynamic and strategic platform dedicated to organizing global professional events aimed at fostering growth facilitating networking opportunities. and Founded by Lam Wai Loon of Harold & Lam Partnership and Leong Hong Kit of MAC Consultant, L2 i-CON International brings together a wealth of experience and expertise. Spearheaded by our director, Cindy Wong, we are proud to be a powerhouse in the industry, successfully organising numerous ground-breaking events since 2020. With an impressive track record, we have not only facilitated the growth and expansion of our community internationally but also emerged as a driving force in connecting professionals worldwide. With a commitment to excellence, L2 i-CON International serves as a catalyst for meaningful connections, business development, and impactful global engagement.







Statistical Bulletin







A Special Thanks to All Our Events' Supporting Organisations and Sponsors!

We express our deepest gratitude for your unwavering support and eagerly anticipate further collaboration, growth, and success together.





WALL OF FAME 2023

We extend our sincere gratitude and honour to these 176 individual professionals in international ADR fraternity and construction communities. Their invaluable time, dedication and efforts as our guests of honour, moderators, speakers or industry experts have been instrumental in the success of our conferences, parallel events and webinars throughout the year 2023. Their unwavering commitment and expertise have not only significantly enriched the industry but have also contributed to leaving an enduring impact to the growth of the field.

Abang Iwawan Adrian Dobbie-Holman Adrian See Jooi Hong Ais Lidzhanova **Alain Farhad** Alex Ngu Sze Shae Alliff Benjamin Suhaimi Amy Hiew Kar Yi Anand Anthony Andrew Heng Andrew Merrilees Andy Hewitt Aniz Ahmad Amirudin Ar Anthony Lee Tee Ar David Yek Tak Wai Arun Visweswaran Balan Nair Thamodaran **Basil Georgiu** Belden Premaraj **Bryan Ho** Cátherine Green **Chelsea Pollard** Cheong Yoke Ping Cheryl Cairns Chin Yuen Fong Choon Hon Leng Chow Kok Fong Christopher Brinley Cindy Wong Xien Ýee Connor Curran **Cristina Milincianu** Crystal Wong Wai Chin Darshendev Singh Datin Chu Ai Li Dato Sri Fong Joo Chung Dato' Quek Ngee Meng Dato' Mah Weng Kwai Dato' Nitin Nadkarni Dato' Pretam Singh Darshan Singh Dato' Ricky Tan Seng Cheong Datu Ir Ts Richard Anak Tajan Datuk Brenndon Keith Soh Datuk Ir Ho Hon Sang Datuk Mohd. Hanafiah Bin Mohd. Kassim Datuk Nor Asiah Binti Mohd Yusof Datuk Seri Ahmad Fadil **Bin Shamsuddin** Datuk Sr Charlie Chia Lui Meng Datuk Sundra Rajoo Dean Ryburn Diana Rahman **Dimitrios Tousiakis Dr Aseel Zimmo** Dr Christopher To Dr Colin Ong KC Dr Ehsan Mùnaaim Dr Minli Tang Dr Vanina Sucharitkul Eri Hertiawan Eric Teo

Fatima Balfageeh Foo Joon Liang Francis Xavier S.C George Albert William Chapman Gerald Moore **Girish Kamat Grace Chaw Gurvir Singh Sandhu Guy Elkington** Hamizah Hamzah **Heather Yee** Hung Le Husni Madi lan de Vaz Idil Bozoglu Ir Harbans Singh K.S. Ir Pooba Mahalingam James P. Monteiro James Tan Kok Kiat Jamie Duncan Janet Chai Pei Ying Janice Tay Jirapong Sriwat Joanna Seetoh John Coghlan John Green John Lumbantobing John Shenton Jonathan Blaney Jonathan Lim Josephine Hadikusumo Julian Bailey Justice Dató' Hajah Aliza **Binti Sulaiman** Justice Dato' Lee Swee Seng Justice Dato' Lim Chong Fong Justice Dato' Mary Lim Thiam Suan Justice Datuk Wong Kian Kheong Justice Tuan Nadzărin Bin Wok Nordin Kajendra Karen Gough Karen Ng Gek Suan Kasia Halliday Kee Meng Fai Kevin Prakash Kieran Murphy Kirsten O'Connell Kuhendran Thanapalasingam Lam Wai Loon Leng Wie Mun Leon Gan Leong Chee Weng Leong Hong Kit Loshini Ramarmuty Louise Azmi Lvnnda Lim Magda Kofluk Mak Hon Pan **Matei Purice Michael Cover Michael Tonkin**

Michelle Nelson Minn Naing Oo Mohanadass Kanagasabai Natasja Pollemans Naveen Sri Kantha Nesreen Osman Nicholas Gould Nor Zalida Ahmad Nurul Sabri **Ooi Huey Miin Oon Chee Kheng Paul Gibbons** Paul Starr **Peter Hiebler** Prof Dato' Dr Rahmat Bin Mohamad **Prof Steve Ngo** Ranjeeta Kaur Reshma Oogorah **Robert Sliwinski** Rodney Martin Roger Chin Ken Fong Sanjay Mohanasundram Sará Koleilat-Aranjo Satinder Singh Sandhu Scott Lambert Sean Gibbs Shanti Abraham Sharifah Shazuwin Shaun Kumar Shintaro Uno Soh Lieh Sieng Sr Arlene Chia Sr Dr Naseem Ameer Ali Sr Isabel Sim Tseu Yu Sudharsanan Thillainathan Suzannah Newboult Tan Hui Wen Tan Kee Heng Tan Sri David Wong Dak Wah Tan Sri James Foona Tan Swee Im Tatiana Polevshchikova Teoh Shu Ling **Terence Loh** Thayananthan Baskaran The Right Honourable Tan Sri Dato' Abdul Rahman Bin Sebli The Right Honourable Tan Sri Datuk Amar Abang Iskandar Bin Abang Hashim Thierry Ngoga Gakuba Trung Nguyen Ts Farid Salehan **Usamah Sial** Victoria Loi Vinh Luu (Richard) Wilson Ho Wolf Von Kumberg Wong Hin Loong Yvonne Foo



Grateful Gathering

We are grateful for the supports and contributions by our 20 young professionals and professionals-to-be in emceeing our 2023 events.

Adillah Zaki Ashley Ooi Hui Ying **Bryce Mendonca** Chow Wen Si Christine Lay Kei Een Daphne Wong Teck Mee Eric Wong Ing Chung Ezra Voon Bu Khiong Jason Chai Jia Sheng **Chiew Jiar Li** Lee Hui Juan Lee Pay Wen Melissa Sarah Tan Tser Tzi Monisha Cheong Nicollette Nastashia Ooi Wei Qian Sameera Hassan **Shalenny Carino** Siti Nazatul Nadia Binti Mohd Ridzuan Yee Tsai Yiew





Courtesy Visits

In the first quarter of 2023, we initiated a series of courtesy visits to several prominent professional organisations and institutions in Malaysia, aiming to foster stronger ties within the industry and promoting collaborative initiatives, as well as exchanging ideas and insights in the international ADR and construction communities.

Commencing on 14 February 2023, we were graciously hosted by Prof Ar Sarly Adre Sarkum,who held the position of President at that time for the Malaysian Institute of Architects (a.k.a. Pertubuhan Arkitek Malaysia [PAM]), together with PAM ADR Committee Co-Chairman, Ar Anthony Lee Tee (currently, PAM's Hon. Secretary) and PAM's Secretariat, Nor Suryati Sulong in their Green Building.

Subsequently, we paid a courtesy visit to Oliver Wee, President of Master Builders Association Malaysia (MBAM) and Lenny Lim, General Manager of MBAM at the MBAM office on 17 February 2023.

On 22 February 2023, our delegation was hosted by Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) Malaysia's President, Ts Ho Chee Leong, Vice President Administration Wong Khin Yip, and Council Members Ts. Ahmad Zalane Alias, Dr Tan Hai Chen, and Mr Ng Tek Wei. During the visit, we congratulated Datuk Seri Michael Yam on becoming the 119th President of the CIOB for 2022 and 2023. He is the first Malaysian and second Asian to hold this prestigious role at the UKbased body, which was established 188 years ago.

On the following day, 23 February 2023, we were warmly welcomed by the Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (RISM). During the courtesy visit, the RISM President at the time, Sr Dainna Baharuddin, Chief Operating Officer, Esther Teo, and Education & Accreditation Board Chair, Sr Eric Khoo Sui Lai hosted us in RISM's office.

We also had the opportunity to visit the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR) on 27 February 2023 and were hosted by President, Datuk Professor Sundra Rajoo and then-Head of AIADR Secretariat, Heather Yee in their office.













On 1 March 2023, our delegation was hosted by the Society of Construction Law (Malaysia)'s then-President, Sivabalan Sankaran, Deputy President, Loshini Ramarmuty, and Vice President, Serene Hiew Mun Yi.

Following that, we were hosted by the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators (MIArb) on 15 March 2023, in the presence of the serving council members at the time: President, Ooi Huey Miin, Deputy President, Victoria Loi, and Vice President, Mak Hon Pan.

Upon Datuk Professor Sundra Rajoo's appointment as Director of Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC), Legal Plus and L2 i-CON International, alongside with Chartered Association of Building Engineers (CABE) Malaysia Chapter, Sports Law Association of Malaysia (SLAM), Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators (MIArb), Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Malaysia (CIArb), Chartered Institute of Building Malaysia (CIOB) Malaysia, Society of Construction Law (SCL) Malaysia, Association of Construction Project Managers Malaysia (ACPM), gathered at the AIAC on 28 March 2023 for a warm and engaging joint-congratulatory session with Datuk Professor Sundra Rajoo. A joint congratulatory message was extended to the Director during the session.

Additionally, on 19 April 2023, our delegation had the pleasure of visiting the Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (REHDA). The Association's President, Datuk NK Tong, Chief Executive Officer, Aslinda Mohd Noor, Senior Manager, Shirley Ho and REHDA Institute Assistant Manager, Pearljit Singh, courteously hosted our delegation in their offices. The first quarter of 2023 concluded with the embrace of warm Borneo hospitality with the courtesy visits to PAM Sarawak Chapter and Sarawak Building and Civil Engineering Contractors Association (SBCECA) respectively. Our delegation was warmly hosted by Ar Chai Si Yong, then-Chairman of PAM Sarawak Chapter in PAM Sarawak Chapter's office located in Kuching. The Chairman of SBCECA, James Ha Tung Ing together with his committees and local industry prayers also welcomed our visit in their Kuching office.

We express our profound gratitude and heartfelt appreciation once all the organisations and institutions for their generous hospitality and support during these courtesy visits, laying a robust foundation for future collaborations and shared success in the industry.









i 12 May 2023

Raia Hotel and Convention Centre, Kuching

The highly anticipated Construction Claims and ADR Conference Sabah & Sarawak 2023 brought together industry leaders, professionals, and experts to explore the latest developments in construction claims and alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

The conference, which took place on 12 May 2023 at Raia Hotel and Convention Centre Kuching was met with resounding enthusiasm from participants, and the response was nothing short of tremendous, with the event attracting an overwhelming level of interest from industry professionals. The conference witnessed a full house with over 200 in-person attendees and over 150 virtual attendees.

The high demand and sold-out attendance demonstrate the immense value that participants placed on gaining insights into construction claims and ADR. This enthusiastic response further reinforces the significance of the conference as a premier platform for knowledge exchange and professional growth in the construction industry.

The Conference started with a welcoming speech by Director of Legal Plus, Tan Sri James Foong followed by the Opening Remarks by Sarawak State Legal Counsel, Dato Sri JC Fong, Keynote Address by the Chief Judge of Sabah and Sarawak, the Right Honourable Justice Dato' Abdul Rahman Bin Sebli and the Special Address by the Director of Public Works Sarawak, Datu Ir Ts Richard Anak Tajan.









Throughout the conference, a wide range of topics were covered. The first session covered the topic of "Construction in Sabah and Sarawak – Major Projects, Key Challenges and Recommendations", which was moderated by President of the Sabah Law Society at that time, Roger Chin Ken Fong, joined by panellists George Albert William Chapman, Nor Zalida Ahmad, Sr Isabel Sim Tseu Yu and Abang Iwawan.

The second session covered the subject of "Conducting Delay Analysis and Assessing Extension of Time", with sitting Court of Appeal Judge, Justice Dato' Lim Chong Fong moderating the discussion. The esteemed panellists were Soh Lieh Sieng, Adrian See, Grace Chaw and Alex Ngu.

"Construction Project Management Good Practices" was focused on the third session. Advocates Association of Sarawak's President, Gurvir Singh Sandhu moderated the session and was joined by Ir Harbans Singh KS, Aniz Ahmad Amirudin, Janet Chai and Leong Hong Kit.

The fourth session discussing "ADR Landscapes in Sabah and Sarawak and Latest Development" marked the end of the knowledge exchange at the conference. Chin Yuen Fong, Satinder Singh Sandhu, Lam Wai Loon and Heather Yee make up the panel in which sitting Court of Appeal Judge Justice Dato' Lee Swee Seng moderated. The diverse array of sessions provided attendees with comprehensive insights into the complexities of the construction industry.

In addition to the valuable content delivered during the conference, attendees were able to take advantage of numerous networking opportunities. The connections established and partnerships forged have the potential to drive future collaborations and advancements in the industry.

Our Managing Director, Cindy Wong concluded the Conference with her Closing Remarks by extending her gratitude to all the speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, and attendees who contributed to the success of the Construction Claims and ADR Conference.











CLAIN CLAIN

In parallel with the Construction Claims and ADR Conference Sabah & Sarawak 2023, 3 complimentary Webinar sessions were crafted to complement the core conference, offering diverse perspectives and specialized knowledge.

In the first session named "Dealing With Flooding At Construction Sites - How Does The C.A.R. Policy Respond" on 27 April 2023, participants delved into the nuances of handling flooding at construction sites. Ir Pooba Mahalingam, Regional Risk Consultant from Talent Asia Training & Consulting - Pan Asia Risk Management, shared expertise on navigating the complexities of C.A.R. Policy responses in the face of water-related challenges.

On 9 May 2023, participants unlocked the essentials of the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012 (CIPAA) in a foundational second session titled "CIPAA 101". Kee Meng Fai and Terence Loh, Partners from Belden Advocates & Solicitors guided attendees through the key principles and practical aspects of CIPAA, providing valuable insights for construction industry professionals.

Gaining a comprehensive understanding and "Introduction To The FIDIC Contract And Claims" was the focus of the final webinar session also on 9 May. Led by industry experts, Paul Gibbons, Chief Executive Officer of Decipher Group, and Andy Hewitt, Director of Hewitt Decipher Partnership, this session offered insights into the fundamental aspects of FIDIC contracts and navigating associated claims.





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Housing Development and Real Property Conference 2023

23 June 2023

💇 Virtual 🗖 zoom

The Housing Development and Real Property Conference 2023, held virtually via Zoom on June 23, witnessed an incredible turnout with about 500 participants. The conference, meticulously curated to address pressing issues and explore recommendations in the housing and real property sector, featured five insightful sessions led by esteemed moderators and speakers.

The Virtual Conference started with Session 1 "Reviving Abandoned Housing Project-Issues, Challenges and Recommendations". Dato' Mah Weng Kwai, Retired Court of Appeal Judge and Consultant at MahWengKwai & Associates, skillfully moderated a session that delved into the complexities of reviving abandoned housing projects. The distinguished speakers, including Datuk Sr Charlie Chia Lui Meng, Ar David Yek Tak Wai, and Aniz Ahmad Amirudin, provided valuable insights, fostering a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and potential solutions.

It was followed by a debate in Session 2 on whether "Short-Term Rental or AirBnB Should be Prohibited/Allowed/Regulated". Dato' Ricky Tan Seng Cheong, navigated a thought-provoking debate on the regulation of short-term rentals, featuring perspectives from Louise Azmi, Leng Wie Mun, Hui Wen Tan, and Leong Chee Weng. The engaging discourse highlighted diverse viewpoints on the subject, contributing to a deeper understanding of the complexities surrounding short-term rental practices.

Session 3 which discusses "Liquidated Damages for Late Delivery of Vacant Possession by Housing Developer" consequently follows. Lam Wai Loon, guided an insightful session on the intricacies of liquidated damages for late delivery. The distinguished panel, consisting of Karen Ng Gek Suan, Ooi Huey Miin, Leon Gan, and James Tan, provided a nuanced exploration of the legal aspects and considerations surrounding late delivery issues.





YP Cheong, Principal and Founder of YP Cheong & Co, then moderated Session 4 "Strata Management - Major Issues, Challenges and Recommendations", addressing major issues in strata management. Dato Pretam Singh and Alliff Benjamin, as speakers, shared their expertise, shedding light on the challenges faced in strata management and offering valuable recommendations.

Finally, Dato Quek Ngee Meng, Managing Partner at Halim Hong & Quek, skillfully led a discussion in Session 5: "Managing Housing Defects Claims Effectively." The speakers, including Datuk Ir Ho Hon Sang, Ar Anthony Lee Tee, and Amy Kar Yi Hiew, provided valuable insights into effective strategies for addressing and mitigating housing defects claims.

As we reflect on the resounding success of the Housing Development and Real Property Conference 2023, we extend our sincere gratitude to the participants who made this virtual gathering a vibrant exchange of knowledge and insights. The collaborative spirit and active engagement throughout the sessions underscored the importance of continued discourse in addressing the dynamic challenges within the housing and real property sector.

















Construction Claims and CIPAA Conference Malaysia 2023

27 - 28 July 2023
AIAC, Kuala Lumpur



In the heart of Kuala Lumpur, the pulse of construction and dispute resolution resonated through the halls of the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) from 27 to 28 July 2023. The Construction Claims and CIPAA Conference Malaysia 2023 was conducted in a hybrid setting and witnessed the support of over 700 physical and virtual attendees.

Starting the Conference with warm Welcoming Remarks was Tun Zaki Azmi, Chief Justice of Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) Courts, Former Chief Justice of Malaysia, and Chairman of Legal Plus, followed by the compelling Opening Remarks of Datuk Sundra Rajoo, the Director of AIAC and the ever-enriching Keynote Address of Justice Dato' Mary Lim Thiam Suan, Federal Court Judge of Malaysia. She emphasised on the importance in shifting our focus now towards 'business end' in construction project, training to avoid dispute with better planning and project management.

The inaugural session, conducted on Day 1, navigated through the intricate landscape of construction disputes in a session titled "*The Six Methods of Analysis Method Listed in SCL Delay & Disruption Protocol*". Under the astute moderation of Loshini Ramarmuty, President of the Society of Construction Law (SCL) Malaysia and featured experts Peter Hiebler, Lynnda Lim, and Thayananthan Baskaran, each bringing to the table an impressive array of practical experiences and profound expertise in grappling with delays and disruptions.





As the conference progressed, Session 2's "Conditions Precedent in Construction Contract" became the focal point of the discussion moderated by the Chair of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Malaysia, Ranjeeta Kaur on that same day. Andrew Heng Yeng Hoe, Balan Nair Thamodaran, Jamie Duncan, and Diana Rahman engaged in a lively exchange, unraveling the legal intricacies surrounding conditions precedent in construction contracts. The session delves into the critical role of conditions precedent and their significance, interpretation, and evolving legal landscape.

The intellectual discourse continued in Session 3 with "Writing an Enforceable Adjudication Decision", addressing the pivotal topic of crafting enforceable adjudication decisions. The session, masterfully moderated by Justice Tuan Nadzarin bin Wok Nordin, High Court Judge of Kuala Lumpur (Construction), aimed to shed light on the intricacies of constructing compelling and legally sound adjudication verdicts within the realm of construction disputes. Ir Harbans Singh KS, Sr Dr Naseem Ameer Ali, and Sanjay Mohanasundram shared their profound insights into the meticulous craft of constructing enforceable adjudication decisions.

Day I concluded with Session 4 moderated by High Court Judge of Kuala Lumpur (Construction), Justice Dato' Hajah Aliza binti Sulaiman, where the panel explored the multifaceted challenges of defects in construction projects in a session named "*Trouble with Defects.*" Adrian See Jooi Hong, Ar Anthony Lee Tee, James Patrick Monteiro, and Karen Ng Gek Suan brought forth diverse perspectives on navigating and resolving defects. They highlighted the importance of identifying the nature and cause of defects and the impact of defects on main contractors and the blaming game that often occurs.

ONSTRUCTION CLAIMS & CIPAA ONFERENCE MALAYSIA 2023













On Day 2, Belden Premaraj, Principal Partner at Belden Advocates & Solicitors, provided a unique perspective in a Special Address, setting the stage for the day's discussions.

The subsequent Session 5 of the conference, "Presenting an Effective Construction Claim," moderated by Ooi Huey Miin, President of The Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators at that time, featured speakers Adrian Dobbie-Holman, Anand Anthony, John Shenton, and Crystal Wong Wai Chin, who offered strategic insights into presenting impactful and effective construction claims, covering both pre-contract and post-contract management techniques. The session also emphasizes the importance of understanding contractual requirements for successful claim presentations.

The conference continued to unravel complexities with Session 6 "*Multi-Tier Dispute Resolution Clauses* – *Their Benefits & Flaws*". Former Chief Judge of Sabah and Sarawak, Tan Sri David Wong Dak Wah guided the discourse, with a panel of international speakers, Heather Yee Jing Wah, Minn Naing Oo, Hung Le, and Tatiana Polevshchikova delving into the intricacies of dispute resolution clauses. The discussion covers the definition, common forms, benefits, and drawbacks of these clauses.

In Session 7 titled "The Future of Expert Evidence in International Arbitration - Challenges and Opportunities", moderated by Lam Wai Loon, Founding Partner at Harold & Lam Partnership, speakers Dr. Vanina Sucharitkul, Sudharsanan Thillainathan, John Lumbantobing, and Soh Lieh Sieng explored the evolving landscape of expert evidence in international arbitration. The four prominent speakers discussed challenges and opportunities in the field of construction law and highlighted the role of experts that is crucial in construction and engineering disputes, as they provide technical expertise to determine liability and quantum.











Bringing the conference to a close with Session 8, "Latest Development in CIPAA" provided a roadmap into the latest developments in the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012. Moderated by Court of Appeal Judge of Malaysia, Justice Datuk Wong Kian Kheong, speakers Wong Hin Loong, Satinder Sandhu, Victoria Loi, and Leong Chee Weng shared insights, guiding participants through the evolving terrain of CIPAA. The session was divided into four parts, covering topics such as enforcement of adjudication decisions, setting aside of adjudication decisions, enforcement of judicial decisions, and direct payment by principals.

This immersive experience served as a crucible for thought-provoking discussions. The diverse sessions and esteemed speakers contributed to the success of this conference, solidifying its place as a key event in the industry.



In parallel with the Construction Claims and CIPAA Conference Malaysia 2023, 4 complimentary Webinar sessions were designed to enhance the overall conference experience. In the first session *"What Constitutes a Variation Claim"* conducted on 17 July, participants explored the intricacies of what constitutes a variation claim. Guided by Darshendev Singh and Ts Farid Salehan, attendees gained valuable insights into the nuances of managing and navigating variation claims in construction contracts.

On 18 July, the focus shifted to understanding the *"Termination of Construction Contracts"* in the second session. Wilson Ho and Bryan Ho, Partners at Ho Partnership, shared their expertise, unraveling the complexities surrounding the termination process and providing practical guidance for the construction community.

Session 3 on 24 July centred on *"Practical Completion of Construction Contract – Common Issues and Practical Solutions"*. Mak Hon Pan, along with Shaun Kumar, provided valuable perspectives on achieving practical completion efficiently and addressing challenges that may arise.

In the fourth session on 25 July, participants delved into "The Concept of Time At Large' in a Construction Contract". Kee Meng Fai and Terence Loh, Partners from Belden Advocates & Solicitors shared their insights, shedding light on the implications and considerations related to the concept of 'Time At Large' in the construction industry. The sessions collectively contributed to a comprehensive understanding of critical aspects in construction contract management.







International Statutory Adjudication Forum (ISAF)

In the realm of international adjudication, the International Statutory Adjudication Forum (ISAF) has marked its presence with significance. ISAF formerly known as the International Statutory Adjudication Expert Committee was launched by Tan Sri James Foong at the CIPAA Conference 2022, jointly organized by Legal Plus and L2 i-CON.

After over a year of unwavering dedication, the ISAF achieved a pivotal moment with the official unveiling of the Model Law on Statutory Adjudication. This milestone was celebrated during the SCL (Singapore) – ISAF Joint Conference 2023, held on September 21, 2023, showcasing ISAF's commitment to shaping the landscape of statutory adjudication.

Earlier this year on March 13, 2023, a significant step forward was taken when the International Statutory Adjudication Forum conducted an in-person meeting in Singapore. Chaired by Chow Kok Fong, and with Justice Dato' Mary Lim as an advisor, the meeting saw fruitful discussions. The diverse composition of the ISAF, with members from Singapore, the UK, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Australia, Thailand, and Malaysia, among others, reflects a global collaboration dedicated to advancing the field of statutory adjudication. As ISAF continues to evolve, it stands as a testament to the collaborative efforts of experts from around the world in shaping the future of statutory adjudication.

Chairman:

Chow Kok Fong, Equitas Chambers (Singapore)

Advisor:

Justice Dato' Mary Lim, Federal Court Judge (Malaysia)

Members:

- 1. Ian de Vaz, Wong Partnership (Singapore)
- 2. Yvonne Foo, Harry Elias Partnership (Singapore)
- 3. Karen Gough, 39 Essex Chambers (UK)
- 4. Sean Gibbs, Hanscomb Intercontinental (UK)
- 5. Paul Starr, King & Wood Mallesons (Hong Kong)
- 6. Christopher To, Gilt Chambers (Hong Kong)
- 7. Naseem Ameer Ali, Massey University (New Zealand)
- 8. John Green, Building Disputes Tribunal (New Zealand)
- 9. Basil Georgiu, Jackson McDonald (Australia)
- 10. Jirapong Sriwat, Nishimura & Asahi (Thailand)
- 11. Shintaro Uno, Nishimura & Asahi (Thailand)
- 12. Lam Wai Loon, Harold and Lam Partnership (Malaysia)
- 13 Kevin Prakash, Kevin Prakash (Malaysia)

Secretariat Board

- 1. Pan Yan Teng (Malaysia)
- 2. Sameera Hassan (Malaysia)
- 3. Cindy Wong (Malaysia/L2 i-CON International)









BICAM's Launch and Conference

- **12 October 2023**
- Sabah International Convention Centre, Kota Kinabalu

In the esteemed halls of SICC Kota Kinabalu, the Borneo International Centre for Arbitration and Mediation (BICAM) made the official launch of its Arbitration and Mediation Rules on 12 October 2023, hosting a comprehensive conference that brought together eminent figures and international experts in the field of arbitration. This launch and conference, organized by BICAM in collaboration with Legal Plus and L2-iCON, marked a significant milestone for BICAM.

The conference commenced with a warm welcome from Tan Sri Datuk Seri Panglima David Wong Dak Wah, Chairman of BICAM and Former Chief Judge of Sabah & Sarawak, setting the tone for ADR in the Borneo region. Following this, YAA Tan Sri Datuk Amar Abang Iskandar Bin Abang Hashim, President of the Court of Appeal of Malaysia, delivered a keynote address, offering valuable perspectives on the pivotal role of arbitration in the legal landscape.

The BICAM Arbitration and Mediation Rules were officially launched by a distinguished panel consisting of Tan Sri David Wong, Justice Dato' Mary Lim Thiam Suan, Justice Dato' Lim Chong Fong, and Chin Yuen Fong. This momentous occasion was witnessed by over 120 participants, including legal and ADR practitioners, industry experts, and business leaders, marking a significant milestone in the advancement of arbitration and mediation practices in the region.

The sessions that followed were meticulously curated by BICAM to provide a comprehensive overview of BICAM's rules, insights into its innovative automated case management system, and discussions on contemporary developments in arbitration.

Tan Swee Im, International Arbitrator Member at 39 Essex Chambers, expertly moderated Session 1, navigating BICAM's Arbitration Rules and Mediation Rules 2023, featuring speakers Tan Sri Wong David, Tan Kee Heng, Josephine Hadikusumo, and Choon Hon Leng.













Session 2 of the conference was the presentation on BICAM's Automated Case Management System by Teoh Shu Ling and Sharifah Shazuwin.

Kuhendran Thanapalasingam, Partner at Zul Rafique & Partners, then guided Session 3 titled "Arbitration 101 – Contemporary Development In Arbitration", featuring insights from Justice Dato' Mary Lim Thiam Suan, Eri Hertiawan, Dr Minli Tang, and Grace Chaw, who collectively discussed the contemporary developments shaping the field.

Finally, the conference also addressed practical issues concerning the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012 (CIPAA) in Session 4 moderated by Datin Chu Ai Li, Partner at Azman Davidson & Co. Esteemed speakers, including Justice Dato' Lim Chong Fong, Ir Harbans Singh KS, Chin Yuen Fong, Leong Hong Kit, and Satinder Sandhu, shared valuable perspectives.

As the conference drew to a close, BICAM Council Member, Tan Kee Heng delivered closing remarks, expressing gratitude for the active participation of all attendees and emphasizing the significance of the day's discussions.

BICAM's Opening Ceremony and Conference

20 July 2023

Sabah International Convention Centre, Kota Kinabalu







A few months prior (20 July 2023), BICAM held its official Opening Ceremony and Conference, alongside two insightful sessions. In the first session titled "Unveiling Lessons From The Past; Unearthing Strategies For The Future in ADR," moderated by Dr Colin Ong KC, a Chartered Arbitrator and King's Counsel, he was joined by a panel of distinguished speakers including Prof. Steve Ngo, Francis Xavier, Foo Joon Liang, Shanti Abraham and Janice Tay. The second session, aptly titled "Why Do You Choose Arbitration or Why Do You Not Choose Arbitration? - From the Perspectives of End Users, Parties' Representatives, and Arbitrators," was moderated by Dato' Weng Kwai Mah, a retired Court of Appeal Judge of Malaysia, and a Consultant of MahWengKwai & Associates, also a BICAM Council Member. The session featured insights from a distinguished lineup of speakers, including Ir Harbans Singh KS, Datuk Brenndon Keith Soh, Datuk Nor Asiah Binti Mohd Yusof, Datuk Mohd. Hanafiah Bin Mohd. Kassim, and Crystal Wong Wai Chin.





iiii 23 October 2023

AIAC, Kuala Lumpur

On October 23, 2023, we had the privilege of hosting the Book Launch of 'Construction Arbitration' by Chow Kok Fong published by Thomson Reuters at AIAC, Kuala Lumpur. The launch in Malaysia was preceding the launch in Singapore.

The evening was truly memorable as it marked an industry's occasion, garnering overwhelming support from esteemed industry players in the legal fraternity, construction field, and arbitration community both within and outside of Malaysia. The author, Chow Kok Fong, shared his thoughts and processes behind his latest publication, providing a unique opportunity for the attendees to gain insights into the inspirations and motivations that led to this significant work. The event was further enriched by the heartwarming speeches delivered by eminent figures including Justice Dato' Mary Lim Thiam Suan, Justice Dato' Lee Swee Seng and Justice Dato' Lim Chong Fong, distinguished Federal Court and Court of Appeal Judges of Malaysia. Additionally, Datuk Sundra Rajoo, the Director of the Asian International Arbitration Centre and Girish Kamat from Thomson Reuter also shared their uplifting and valuable perspectives. The occasion was made even more joyous with the presence of Chow Kok Fong's family and friends, including Chow Wen Si, his daughter who emceed the book launch alongside with Monica Cheong.

In conjunction with the book launch, attendees were enriched by two panel discussions featuring distinguished senior practitioners and industry experts. Session 1 on "Major Concerns in Arbitration Today" was moderated by Yvonne Foo, alongside with panellists, Belden Premaraj and Foo Joon Liang. In Session 2, the distinguished panellists, Tan Swee Im, Rodney Martin, Mohanadass Kanagasabai and Oon Chee Kheng discussed "Managing Construction Arbitration: Lessons to Manage Cost and Time", expertly moderated by Dato' Nitin Nadkarni. Both sessions were highly interactive and fruitful.













International Construction Claims and ADR Conference 2023

8 - 9 November 2023

📀 Virtual 🗖 zoom

In the immersive realm of virtual connectivity, the groundbreaking two-day International Construction Claims and ADR Conference 2023 (ICCADR 2023) transcended borders from 8 to 9 November 2023, building on the triumphs of its predecessor in Dubai. ICCADR 2023 embraced a fully virtual format this year, attracting participants around the globe to delve into the intricacies of construction and ADR practices.

The conference kickstarted with Welcoming Remarks by Cindy Wong, Director of L2-iCON International and followed by a compelling Special Address by Fatima Balfaqeeh, Director of the Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA) Dubai & Managing Partner at Balfaqeeh Advocates & Legal Consultants. Her address delved into the dynamic landscape of construction dispute resolution, offering profound insights into the challenges and opportunities arising amid the construction and infrastructure boom in Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

In the dynamic landscape of Day 1 at the ICCADR 2023, a series of thought-provoking sessions unfolded, engaging participants in a deep exploration of pertinent industry challenges. Session 1, "*Sticky Issues on Delay, EOT, and LD*," navigated the complexities of construction disputes, skillfully moderated by Guy Elkington, Senior Managing Director - Construction Disputes and Advisory at Ankura. The expert panel, featuring Dimitris Tousiakis, John Coghlan, Anand Anthony, Balan Nair Thamodaran, and Kirsten O'Connell, delved into the intricate nuances of delay, extension of time (EOT), and liquidated damages (LD), unraveling solutions for the industry's sticky issues.

Moving forward, Session 2, "Variation Claims – The Common Hurdles Faced by Employers, Contractors, and Consultants," took centre stage. Moderated by Robert Sliwinski, Chair of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators UAE Branch, this session addressed the common challenges encountered by employers, contractors, and consultants in variation claims. The distinguished panel, including Julian Bailey, Eric Teo, Kasia Halliday, Kieran Murphy, and Peter Hiebler dissected the intricacies of navigating through variations, exploring contractual hurdles, and proposing effective strategies for all stakeholders involved. The session provided a comprehensive understanding of the complexities surrounding variation claims in the construction industry.

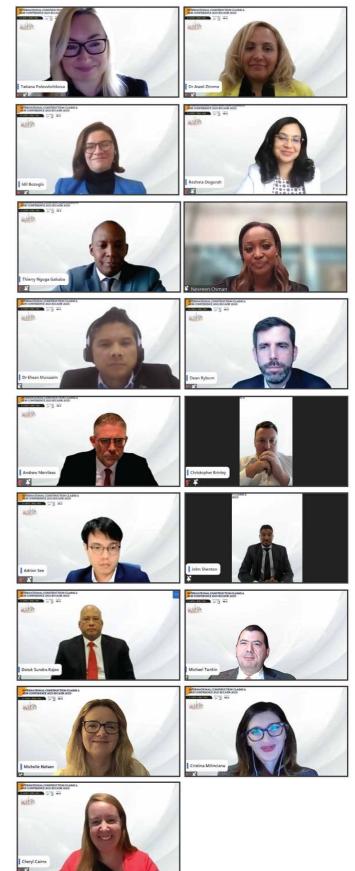




Diversity and inclusivity took the spotlight in Session 3, "Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) in Construction & Energy ADR." Tatiana Polevshchikova, led a robust discussion with panelists Dr. Aseel Zimmo, Nesreen Osman, Thierry Ngoga Gakuba, Reshma Oogorah, and Idil Kurt Bozoglu. The Session underscored the pivotal role of EDI principles in shaping an equitable future for the ADR sectors.

The day concluded with Session 4, "Latent and Patent Defects in Construction Works vis-a-vis Issues, Completion, Defects Liability, and Insurance." Moderated by John Shenton, Chair of The Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) Dubai Hub, the session featured Andrew Merrilees, Dean Ryburn, Dr Ehsan Munaaim, Adrian See, and Christopher Brinley. The panel delved into the complex aspects of latent and patent defects in construction, illuminating issues related to completion, defects liability, and insurance. Their collective expertise was showcased, shedding light on the nuances of identifying and rectifying these defects. Having concluded an insightful Day 1 where participants explored construction disputes, variation claims, EDI principles, and defects management, we transitioned towards an equally enlightening Day 2.

In Session 5, participants were engaged in a thought-provoking discussion moderated by Michael Tonkin of HKA on "*Given the Ever-Demanding Business World, Should Expedited Arbitration or Fast-Track Arbitration be Enhanced or Made as a Mandatory Default Procedure for Arbitration in Construction Contracts?*" The panel, consisting of Datuk Sundra Rajoo, Michelle Nelson, Cheryl Cairns, and Cristina Milincianu, navigated the complexities of arbitration in construction contracts. Their insights delved into the delicate equilibrium between efficiency and fairness, offering a nuanced understanding of whether expedited or fast-track arbitration should be enhanced or made a mandatory default procedure.





Session 6 followed right after with Lam Wai Loon moderating the panel featuring Nicholas Gould, Vinh (Richard) Luu, Sr Dr Naseem Ameer Ali, Shintaro Uno, and Joanna Seetoh. In the session titled "Statutory Adjudication - Its Flaw, Success, and Future", the discussion centred on statutory adjudication, unraveling its flaws, successes, and future trajectory. Their discussion illuminated the flaws, successes, and future trajectory of this dispute-resolution mechanism, providing attendees with a comprehensive view.

In Session 7, led by Scott Lambert, Vice President of Lighthouse Club Dubai, the exploration shifted to the craft of a successful claim for loss and expense in the session titled "*The Ingredients for a Successful Claim for Loss & Expense.*" Industry leaders like Husni Madi, Trung Nguyen, Shaun Kumar, Jonathan Blaney, and Connor Curran not only delved into technicalities but also shared personal narratives, offering a holistic understanding of the challenges and triumphs involved in constructing and defending claims for loss and expense in the region.

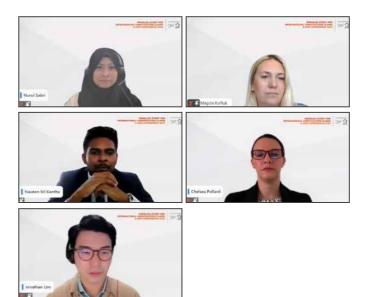
The conference ended with a profound discussion in Session 8, where Usamah Sial moderated a conversation about "*The Growing Significance of ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) in the Construction Industry.*" Speakers Suzannah Newboult, Gerard Moore, Natasja Pollemans, Arun Visweswaran, and Hamizah Hamzah provided invaluable insights into how environmental, social, and governance factors are shaping the future of construction practices.

These sessions spanning over 2 days collectively ensured that participants left the ICCADR 2023 with a rich tapestry of knowledge, diverse perspectives, and a deeper understanding of the evolving landscape of construction claims and ADR.





A singular webinar session, which ran in parallel with the International Construction Claims and ADR Conference 2023, titled *"International Arbitration: Bridging The Divide Between Common Law And Civil Law Approaches"*, took place on November 1, 2023. Nurul Sabri, Board Member at ClArb Qatar, skillfully moderated the discussion. The panellists -Chelsea Pollard, Naveen Sri Kantha, Magda Kofluk, and Jonathan Lim - delved into the nuances of international arbitration practices, seeking to bridge the gap between common law and civil law approaches.





Dubai Arbitration Week 2023

Revisiting the Malaysia-Sulu Legal Duels and Expert Evidence: An Opportune Appraisal of the Global Arbitral System

A session in DAW organised by AIAC, in collaboration with Legal Plus and L2 i-CON International

i 14 November 2023

 (\circ) Mövenpick Hotel Apartments Downtown Dubai, Dubai

In the vibrant backdrop of Dubai Arbitration Week 2023, a compelling special session unfolded at the Downtown Dubai. Titled "Revisiting the Malaysia-Sulu Legal Duels and Expert Evidence," this exclusive DAW event, organised by the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) in collaboration with Legal Plus and L2 i-CON International, offered a unique perspective on global arbitration dynamics.

Setting the tone for the day, Professor Dato' Dr. Rahmat Mohamad, Chairman of the AIAC Advisory Board, and Honorary Professor at the Faculty of Law, Universiti Teknologi MARA, delivered a captivating Keynote Address that ignited intellectual curiosity among attendees.

Under the expert moderation of Dr Ehsan Munaaim, Contracts Director at SYSTRA and Sloan Fellow at MIT, the first session, "The Use of Expert Evidence in Arbitration – Challenges and Safeguards," showcased a stellar lineup of speakers. Michael Tonkin, Anand Anthony, Darshendev Singh, and Trung Nguyen engaged in a thought-provoking exploration of challenges and safeguards associated with expert evidence in arbitration.

The second session, "Unveiling the Truth: The Omnipotence of Sovereign Immunity in the Sulu Controversy," unfolded under the expert guidance of moderator Michael Cover. Wolf von Kumberg, Ais Lidzhanova, and Matei Purice illuminated the intricacies of sovereign immunity within the Sulu Controversy, unraveling complexities and shedding light on legal nuances.









As the curtains drew close, our Cindy Wong Xien Yee, Director at L2 i-CON International, graced the audience with insightful closing remarks, reflecting on the day's discussions and leaving attendees with food for thought.

Adding to the prestige of the event, His Excellency Datuk Seri Ahmad Fadil Bin Shamsuddin, the Ambassador of Malaysia to Abu Dhabi, lent his distinguished presence, contributing to the event's global significance.



Pink Your Pedals: Gym's Breast Cancer Awareness

i 12 October 2023

Flyproject @ Publika, Kuala Lumpur

In a powerful show of solidarity for breast cancer awareness, the "Pink Your Pedals - Gym's Breast Cancer Awareness Ride" unfolded as an inspiring event during Pink October. Jointly organised by Turner International Malaysia, CCi, A Rimkus Company, and L2 i-CON International, the day was a testament to the strength of community and shared commitment.

The event commenced with invited guest, Sr Arlene Chia sharing her remarkable journey of strength and resilience in the face of breast cancer. Her touching narrative served as a poignant reminder of the courage that unites us.

Participants then engaged in an unforgettable spinning class. Beyond a physical workout, it became a symbolic expression of unity and dedication to the cause of breast cancer awareness.

Beyond the pedals, the day was marked by networking and fun as participants connected with fellow supporters. The event underscored the power of community and the collective impact that arises when we stand together.

As the event concluded, Arlene's words lingered, emphasizing the importance of raising awareness about breast cancer and prioritizing health through regular checkups. This event serves as a lasting reminder of our commitment to supporting one another.





International Women's Day

i 7 March 2023

Mantra Rooftop Bar and Lounge, Kuala Lumpur

On the eve of International Women's Day, March 7, 2023 a gathering of strong and inspiring women took place at the enchanting Mantra Rooftop Bar and Lounge.

This soirée, more of a social gathering and networking event, celebrated the achievements of women in the construction and ADR communities. The atmosphere was charged with boundless enthusiasm as these strong women engaged in conversations, forging connections, and collectively dedicating themselves to driving change and creating opportunities for growth and success. Their dedication serves as a true inspiration, and we are eager to continue working together to build a supportive community that fosters empowerment and equity for women not only in construction and ADR but beyond.





Chank you

Farewell, amazing year of 2023! It has been an adventure full of learning, progress, and the delight of making new relationships. Our accomplishment this year would not have been possible without your unwavering support and encouragement, and for that we are eternally thankful. Together, we've not only organized memorable events but also forged lasting friendships and partnerships.

As we stand on the cusp of a new year, 2024 promises to be a canvas of new adventures, opportunities, and the joy of encountering new faces. We are excited to carry on our journey together, discover new places, and make memories that will last a lifetime.

Reflecting on the festive season approaching, we extend warm wishes to everyone. May your holidays be filled with joy, laughter, and the warmth of cherished moments with loved ones. Here's to a wonderful festive and holiday season, and the anticipation of a bright and fulfilling new year ahead!



See you in



Exciting News for 2024 Unveiled! Mark your calendars for our two MAJOR events in 2024 that are set to redefine the landscape of Construction Claims and ADR!

Get ready for a groundbreaking experience, where industry leaders, experts, and innovators converge to explore the latest trends and strategies in construction claims and alternative dispute resolution.

Save the date for these game-changing events. Stay tuned for more updates by visiting our website: www.L2icon.org and following us on LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/L2icon.

Let the countdown to these spectacular events begin!



For any enquiries, please email to us at contact@L2icon.org



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