CEO’S MESSAGE

In that inaugural issue of EMC’s newsletter for the industry, our then Chairman Tan Soo Kiang iterated the wish to see EMC established as “the most professional, transparent and cost-effective utility market operator in Asia.” I believe we have achieved that vision. Today, the EMC brand is synonymous with the NEMS which has become the role model for countries in Asia that are looking at liberalising their electricity sectors.

We are indeed privileged to be the pioneer market operator of Asia’s first competitive electricity market, and we regularly receive visitors interested in learning about Singapore’s experience. In September this year, we hosted a delegation from Thailand, which has been tasked to lead the country’s market liberalisation efforts.

In October, we registered the NEMS’ 22nd electricity retailer, 25th embedded generation facility, as well as the first load facility under the Demand Response (DR) programme. The DR programme marks a new milestone for Singapore’s power sector. Both consumers and the power system stand to benefit from the programme which can help to moderate prices and improve power system reliability during peak periods.

We also held the 15th EMC Golf Day in October. I am heartened that the event continues to be well-received by the market participants (MPs) of the NEMS and other stakeholders in Singapore’s electricity sector. I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our MPs and sponsors once again for their continued support of the event.

Finally, looking at the wholesale market’s performance – the supply cushion remained above 28 percent in September and October. After two consecutive months of decline, the Uniform Singapore Energy Price (USEP) rose in September and October but remained below $80.00/MWh.

Toh Seong Wah
Chief Executive Officer

NEW ENTRANTS TO THE NEMS

New Market Participant
A new market participant, SmartCity Energy Pte Ltd, joined the National Electricity Market of Singapore (NEMS) on 3 October. SmartCity Energy is the 22nd electricity retailer to join the NEMS.

New Facilities Registered
On 13 October, ExxonMobil Asia Pacific Pte Ltd registered its fourth embedded facility in the NEMS with a capacity of 40.39MW. With this addition, the total registered capacity of embedded facilities in the NEMS is 614.89MW.

On 23 October, the NEMS welcomed its first load facility under the Demand Response (DR) programme that was introduced last year. The 7.20MW facility was registered by Diamond Energy Merchants Pte Ltd which also provides interruptible load services (another demand management programme) in the NEMS reserves market.

Under Singapore’s DR programme, large consumers who curtail their electricity demand – typically when electricity prices are high or when generation supply is tight – will receive payments when wholesale electricity prices drop as a result of their curtailment. The DR programme can thus help to moderate prices and improve power system reliability during peak periods, benefitting both consumers and the power system.
This year’s EMC Golf Day was held on Tuesday, 3 October at the Sentosa Golf Club (SGC). This is the 15th year that EMC is hosting the annual networking event for Singapore’s electricity industry.

We continued to receive strong support and participation for the event from market participants (MPs) of the National Electricity Market of Singapore (NEMS) and sponsors. In all, we welcomed more than 130 attendees from the industry, including board members, CEOs, senior managers, governance panel members as well as other key stakeholders.

Ardent golfers among our guests relished the opportunity to play at the Serapong course, which is one of the best championship courses in Asia, while novice golfers picked up valuable tips from the professionals in the two-hour golf clinic.

More guests joined in the evening cocktail reception and dinner for networking. As always, the lucky draw was the highlight for the dinner; prizes this year included the Samsung Galaxy Note 8, Apple iPhone 8 and Apple iWatch 2, as well as shopping and staycation vouchers.

The event would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors. We would like to thank both returning and new sponsors for their generous contributions - AsiaPac Distribution, OpenLink, Singtel, Power Systems Consultants, Acme Associates, Entiis, OCBC and Rajah & Tann.

We also saw continued support from our MPs – Buri Energy, Diamond Energy, Hyflux, Keppel Infrastructure, PacificLight, Red Dot Power, Semcorp, Senoko Energy, Singapore LNG Corporation and YTL PowerSeraya - whom we would like to thank for contributing to the novelty hole prizes, lucky draw prizes, food-at-hole stations and goodie bag items.

Finally, we thank all our guests for joining us and making this event a success. We look forward to hosting you again next year.
VISITORS TO EMC

The delegation from the EPPO presents a token of appreciation to EMC CEO, Toh Seong Wah

EMC team with the delegation from the EPPO

On 26 September, EMC hosted a group of 15 delegates from the Energy Policy and Planning Office (EPPO) of the Ministry of Energy, Thailand. Thailand is planning to liberalise its electricity market and the EPPO has been tasked to guide the country’s liberalisation efforts.

Singapore is the first country in Asia to have a competitive electricity market. EMC shared Singapore’s experience in liberalising the electricity sector, and took the delegates through the key features of the National Electricity Market of Singapore (NEMS). The visit also gave us the opportunity to find out about developments in Thailand’s power sector.

MARKET UPDATE

Overview of USEP and Supply Cushion - Jan to Oct 2017

In September, the supply cushion fell to 28.5 percent. This led to a 1.9 percent increase in the monthly average Uniform Singapore Energy Price (USEP), to $74.77/MWh. Despite the increase, September’s USEP was the second lowest monthly average level so far this year.

The USEP rose 3.7 percent to $77.55/MWh in October. This can be attributed to a decrease in offers in the cheaper price bands.
Market Information Sharing Forum (MISF)

The Market Operations team hosted the 95th session of the bi-monthly MISF on 14 September. During the forum, the following topics were shared with the attendees:

- Market performance and key highlights for July and August 2017;
- System enhancements and projects;
- Feature topics:
  - New feature in the daily trading report;
  - Introduction of ONEMS (“One NEMS”), a real time visualisation of the NEMS major market indicators;
- Solar Intermittent Generation Sources (IGS) in the NEMS;
- Changes in the Stepwise Constraint Violation Penalty (CVP) due to the combination of primary and secondary reserves.

We would like to thank all participants for their continuous support and strong interest in the MISF.

The next MISF is scheduled for 9 November. Market participants who are interested in presenting at future MISFs are encouraged to come forward.

Market Systems User Group (MSUG)

The bi-monthly MSUG forum was held on 19 October. EMC IT updated attendees on the following topics:

- Overview of NEMS systems availability year-to-date FY17/18;
- Overview of NEMS systems service desk calls received between October 2016 and September 2017;
- Overview of change releases deployed between October 2016 and September 2017;
- Major IT incidents and actions taken to resolve them;
- Upcoming planned NEMS Maintenance;
- Upcoming planned Disaster Recovery Exercise (Switchover);
- Status updates on IT infrastructure projects:
  - Enterprise Monitoring System (Phase 2);
  - Enterprise Backup System Replacement;
  - Data Warehouse Server Refresh; and
- Server Hardware Application Refresh Project (SHARP).

We would like to thank all participants for their continuous support and strong interest in the MSUG.

The next MSUG forum is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 21 December.

EMC TRAINING PROGRAMME

EMC will be holding the next run of its two-day course Understanding Electricity Markets on 8 and 9 February 2018. Our staff will be conducting seven sessions covering the following topics:

- Understanding Electricity
- Why Reform and Regulation are Essential in the Electricity Industry
- The National Electricity Market of Singapore and its Unique Features
- Introduction to SGX Electricity Futures Market
- Pricing in Detail
- Market Settlement and Credit Risk Management
- How Consumers can Influence Electricity Markets
- The course dates for 2018 are as follows:
  - 8-9 February
  - 17-18 May
  - 23-24 August

We advise you to book early to secure your place in the course date of your choice, and benefit from our early-bird discount.

Further details on the programme and on how to register are on our website, www.emcsg.com. For enquiries, please e-mail trainingprogramme@emcsg.com or contact Jan Lee at +65 6779 3000.