

**DINNER ADDRESS**

**IDECON 2014**

**by**

**PROF. DR. SHAHRIN BIN SAHIB**

**VICE CHANCELLOR, UTEM**

**AVILLION LEGACY HOTEL, MELAKA**

**8.00 PM, 22ND SEPTEMBER 2014**

**BISMILLAHIRRAHMANIRRAHIM**

**SALUTATION:**

*(Salutation will be cited according to the attendance later)*

**Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr. Abu Bakar Bin Mohamad Diah**

Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI)

**Honorable Professor Dr. Susumu Kagawa**

President, Tokushima University, Japan

**Yang Berbahagia Dato' Prof. Dr. Mohd Nor bin Husain**

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International)

**Yang Berbahagia Associate Professor Dr. Mohd Rizal bin Salleh**

Dean, Faculty of Manufacturing Engineering & Chairman of iDECON  
2014.

Distinguished Participants, Guests, Ladies & Gentlemen,

## Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh & Good Evening,

1. Alhamdulillah praise be to the Creator, Allah SWT the Almighty, Most Gracious, Most Merciful for His blessings on this momentous occasion. On behalf of Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka, I would like to extend my **warmest welcome** to all the keynote speakers, paper presenters, industry practitioners and academicians to the International Conference on Design and Concurrent Engineering (iDECON) 2014. Allow me to recite a short Malay poem:

**'Memuput bayu ke pohon ara,  
Sayang sang kumbang mencari makan;  
Majlis bermula pembuka bicara,  
Selamat datang saya ucapkan.'**

2. I would also like to congratulate the Faculty of Manufacturing Engineering of UTeM on its commendable initiative and admirable commitment in organizing and coordinating *iDECON 2014*.

**Ladies & Gentlemen,**

3. UTeM embraces the spirit of scientific curiosity and this spirit is translated in the organization of *iDECON 2014*. The success of two previous events: *iDECON 2010* and *iDECON 2012* conferences have strengthened our belief that *iDECON 2014* is indeed the appropriate platform for the interaction, discussion, exchange of ideas on the latest techniques that are parallel to the theme of the conference: **Emerging Technologies Towards Sustainability Manufacturing**. This conference is extremely significant and provides a wonderful opportunity for academicians, scholars, researchers and practitioners to evaluate a wealth of global information and available resources that are being presented.

**Ladies & Gentlemen,**

[University and Historical City of Melaka & Unique Malaysian Culture]

4. I am indeed thrilled when informed that this conference has succeeded in attracting quite a number of international participants from Germany, Iraq, Japan, Nigeria, United Kingdom and United States. I wish all of you, including our Malaysian participants a pleasant stay in Melaka. In addition to the *iDECON 2014* conference events, I believe the organizing committee has meticulously arranged for programs such as a scheduled visit to UTeM main campus in Hang Tuah Jaya and other historical tourist attractions in Melaka. Hence, I hope that you will use this opportunity not only for academic discourse but also to enjoy

unique and memorable experiences, and subsequently getting a better understanding of our university and The UNESCO World Heritage City of Melaka as a whole.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

5. As the first technical university in Malaysia, UTeM adopts and adapts quality application-oriented education in its curriculum, and at the same time engaging constantly in industry-related research and development. Currently, there are seven faculties in the field of engineering and technology as well as one academic centre: Faculty of Manufacturing Engineering, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Electronics and Computer Engineering, Faculty of Information and Communication Technology, Faculty of Technology Management and Technopreneurship, Faculty of Engineering



Technology and the Centre for Languages and Human Development. Most faculties are located in the main campus in Hang Tuah Jaya, 20 km away from the conference venue while two (3) faculties are situated at two other campuses, they are the Technology and City Campuses.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

6. Melaka was once called “The Venice of the East” because of its function as the main international trading port in South East Asia in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. It is believed that Melaka was named by Parameswara, a Sumatran prince who later established the Sultanate of Melaka in the late 1390’s. Parameswara in Sanskrit meaning supreme Lord/Being. From there, Melaka rose from a humble fishing village to a major trading centre, particularly in the spice trade which involved the merchants from China, India and

Arabia. Thus, Melaka became an important sea trading link between the East (China) and the West (European countries). The Sultanate of Malacca flourished in the 15th century before it was colonized by the Portuguese, followed by the Dutch and then the British before it became a part of Malaya (in 1957) and then Malaysia (1963). Japanese rule 1942 - 1945 has unleashed nationalism in Malaysia. The historical buildings and cultural fabric resulting from these rich and colorful history of Melaka are still preserved to this day. On 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008, UNESCO accorded Melaka City together with Georgetown in Penang, the status of World Heritage site. Currently, Melaka is not only an important tourism destination, but also an important manufacturing region in Malaysia.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

[Thank You to Sponsors]

7. At this juncture, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all our sponsors and participants. My deepest appreciation goes to our main sponsors, the Ministry of Education and the State of Melaka, for their generous contribution to this event. Such benificent contribution reflect the importance and significance of this international conference.
8. A very big thank you as well to other contributors and other main sponsors for supporting this event. To all participants, may this be

the beginning of a long lasting friendship between you and UTeM in particular, and Melaka as a whole. I would like to make one humble request, kindly be our honorary ambassadors and you are most welcome to return to the university.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

[Closing]

9. Before I end, I would like to thank all presenters, moderators and participants for your productive and valuable contributions throughout this conference. It is your active participation that has made this conference an excellent and fruitful endeavor. At this very moment, I would also like to congratulate the Chairman of *iDECEN 2014*; Associate Professor Dr. Mohd Rizal B. Salleh and all the committee members for successfully organizing this

conference. I sincerely wish everyone a fulfilling and productive time at the conference as well as a wonderful stay in Melaka. May this event be an insightful and educational experience for all who attend and we hope to see you again in future conferences organized by Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka. May God' blessings be with all of you.

**'Pepohon menghijau damainya desa,**

**Terlihat rusa tepian perigi,**

**Orang berbudi kita berbahasa,**

**Di lain masa bersua lagi.'**

Thank You. Wabillahi taufiq wal hidayah, wassalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.