NEW PERSPECTIVE OF URBAN STREET FOOD IN MICRO ARCHITECTURE IN MALAYSIA

Nurhuda Ruslan Azimin Tazilan
Jabatan Seni Bina,
Fakulti Kejuruteraan dan Alam Bina, UKM
arakitek@yahoo.com, azimintazilan@gmail.com

ABSTRAK

The existence of street micro or small architecture is often associated with functional needs of current and local needs such as street food vendors, especially in the cities. At this time, street vendors in Malaysia, especially the activities of the informal sector and is capable of fulfilling the requirements of buyers. These street vendors provide a wide variety of food sources to the buyer at a reasonable price. At the same time, the existence of food-based street vendors also has its own aesthetic values and culture which involve the various ethnic groups in the process of preparing street food. However, despite the existence of small units of street vendors, it has many problems that need to be addressed such as cleanliness, design configurations, security, business location, and traffic and food disposal system. In this study, the definition of street micro architecture will be reviewed to clarify the existence of this small architecture and its involvement in the function of city life. The study will also examine the factors that need to be considered in finding ways to better design approach and can be utilized by the community.

Keywords: City, Food, Micro architecture, Street, Street vendors.

INTRODUCTION

Informal sector such as micro architecture (SBM) is a phenomenon that is found during the transition or economic development such as in Southeast Asia. SBM presence also developing countries to be moving forward. In fact, the informal sector (SBM) has long been in Malaysia since 1890's for example in Taiping (Moore, 2004). Taiping been developing commercial center after the existence of street traders during that time. SBM provides a unique lifestyle and enrich the culture of the city that is sought after by tourists (Stapa, 2000). Understanding the real terms of SBM is very important because it can be identified by classification, characteristics and units (Azimin, 2010). It is particularly important to authorities, planners, architects, licensing or permits, planning, development and its applications in the street. In other words, the informal sector (SBM) is part of the urban image that underlies most of the cities in Asia and indirectly it is also available in major cities in Malaysia. Therefore, one of the SBM roles is to make sure the image, cultural, social, economic and physical cities in line with current needs. This is because most of the informal sector has a positive role in maintaining the activity of the Town and community economic officially by improving facilities for street traders particular those based foods.

REDEFINE THE MEANING OF STREET FOOD MICRO ARCHITECTURE

The definition of micro architecture is the architecture and small-scale building which the characters should be define and the finding must be specific and clear (Azimin, 2010). SBM presence in human life to some extent helps boost the economy of street vendors because SBM is a "support unit" and act as a medium of specific activity (Azimin, 2010). There are various types, design and function of each unit SBM in urban and rural areas. SBM in urban areas plays an important contribution to the economy of a country. This is because the "demand" and "supply" that exists between
the dealer and the buyer. According to Ismail Stapa (2000), the street vendors providing essential items to meet the human needs and requirements such as food, clothing and so on.

According to Echavarria (2005) in his book: Portable Architecture and Unpredictable Surroundings; states that SBM has long existed since thousands of years ago, even in places where it exists and changed circumstances since the structure which is mobile, flexible, and lightweight. The materials used to make this SBM consist of resistant materials that can be used for transportation. The materials include fabrics, leather, and stainless steel. Indirectly, the use of these materials also can be associated with the technology at that time. For example, figure 1 shows the home for homeless in Los Angeles, “paraSITE” which uses lightweight material such as recycle plastic.

![Image of Homeless “paraSITE” in Los Angeles](image)

Figure 1 Homeless “paraSITE” in Los Angeles  
(Source: Echavarria, 2005)

In general, all terms of micro architecture has brought into the same meaning such as small, simple, lightweight, portable, temporary, and etc. There is no permanent record specifically reflects the size of the SBM (Azimin, 2010). According to Azimin (2010), the term micro architecture includes terminology such as small architecture, industrial architecture, lightweight architecture, mobile architecture, portable and nomadic architecture.

In terms of architecture, micro architecture is also applied to demonstrate the function in a more specific and clear. Indirectly, the size of the building also plays an important role for human emotions. Indirectly, it can show the human relationship with the built environment more closely and specifically. Man will be in the “comfort zone” for building functions which meet the daily needs of people. Advantages of small or micro architecture are because it’s small size and simple construction. Humans are more easily interact with their surroundings. According Slavid (2007), the micro-architecture is can be classified small, whether the building has a single function or do something more complex in small spaces. Micro-architecture contains elements of simple, portable, lightweight, and compact.

In Malaysia, hawking is a big part of the informal activities, under the Local Government Act 1976 which means "hawker" means a person who offers goods and services for sale or set up stalls offering items for sale include a moving hawker, static or temporary. At this time, the City Hall classify hawkers through type of buildings they occupied or where they are operating such as stalls (licensed), stalls (unlicensed), kiosk, cafe, night markets (licensed), night markets (unlicensed) and a food court. Moving hawkers also classified as mobile hawkers. In Fact SBM is a branch of temporary architecture.
The existence of hawking activities in Malaysia can be traced as far back as before independence (Stapa, 2000). At that time, street vendors can be seen only in primary locations such as town center. This can be seen through the creation of small businesses such as “cendol”, “ABC” and other sellers have established in the streets and along the sidewalk. The existence of street vendors is tends to be out of control because of the economic rapid growth. Indirectly, it changes the city townscape and brings other problems such as traffic congestion, sanitation issues and abused of facilities (Stapa, 2000).

Figure 2  Mobile street vendors that existed until now in Asian countries such as Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia
(Source: Researcher, 2011)

Public space in cities not only provides a lot of employment opportunities for hawkers but also the development of the informal business system in which they encourage low-income people to take the opportunity to raise their standard of living (Amiranti, 2005). Factors that should be considered in finding ways and living in a better design approach so that it can be used by the community is; business location, the quality of the existing SBM, authorization or permits, SBM aesthetic, functional public spaces used as well as the design for future SBM unit.

TYPES OF STREET FOOD MICRO ARCHITECTURE

Amiranti S (2005) noted that the SBM unit is similar to nomadic characteristics such as the unit is not fixed, often changed locations, moving according to user requirements, temporary and can be modified according to current situation. Azimin (2010) stated that the nomadic divided into two parts, namely ‘traditional nomads’ (NTD) and „techno nomads” (NTK).

TRADITIONAL NOMADS (NTD)

The nomads tradition is not bound by any rules, they are only concerned with the temporary location of its unit and function of their business. Therefore, these groups only need support in terms of license from the authorities to continue the business in „legal position.

This occurs because the requirement is only to complete the business matters and later, the site used for business will reopened for public access. For example, „Nasi lemak. street vendors, newspaper vendors, etc. According to Azimin (2010), it happens because in the past, nomads moving from one place to another for the purpose of survival. It is agreed by Brown (2003; taken from Azimin, 2010) that the existence of NTD
is only concerned with their economic survival and not interested in the location of its business, but at the same time, they claim their rights to do business in the same street.

Table 1 LOGIC requirements in street micro architecture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual / groups sector type</th>
<th>objektive</th>
<th>Logical space requirements</th>
<th>Temporary urban location</th>
<th>LOGIC requirements in street micro architecture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Nasi Lemak vendor | Nasi Lemak food stall | a) Public space  
b) Place of shelter  
c) Protected from authority action | a) Beside building  
b) Under the trees  
c) Residential / school area | a) Easy, mobile  
b) Umbrella / canopy  
c) Tables, chairs and utensils easily folded |

(Source: Researcher, 2011 and Azimin Tazilan, 2010)

TECHNO NOMADS (NTK)

This group is quite different from the traditional nomads, in which the group is able to use technology facilities, such as communication lines, computers, and speakers in the operation of its business. Technology is divided into two parts, low technology (low-tech) and high technology (hi-tech). Examples of low-tech like speaker are used by traders to promote business and attract customers to drop by the temporary stalls. Although these traders use low technology but it has managed to attract the tourist and local people. Other example is the usage of voice recorders used by street traders, where the trader does not have to repeat the description of the product or item that is sold over and over again but they just need to play back the voice recorder in the form of gadgets. Even the position of the voice recorder does not need permission or a license authorization in its daily operations compared to NTD that require a valid business license (Azimin, 2010).

In addition to low-tech techno nomads, the introductions of high-tech facilities are also increasingly popular in this millennium. Many modern kiosks based in the mall or in the airport are using high technology (hi-tech). For examples of high technology (hi-tech) is full use of the digital computer with internet software to facilitate the process of buying and selling. The kiosks have been upgraded with technology, such as electronic kiosks or interactive kiosk by placing a specially designed computer. Touch screen kiosk is also used as a commercial kiosk to improve the retail industry, reduce paper consumption and increase efficiency and services in everyday business activities (Ismail Stapa, 2000).

Other than traditional and techno nomads, there are also other SBM such as canopy or umbrella structure, booth or half open kiosk, closed cubical structure, 2-3 wheeled cycles (only in excess of 300mm diameter wheels), 4 wheeled structure (only in excess of 300mm diameter wheels), and the complete building structure (not exceeding 400 square feet).

THE NEW DESIGN PERSPECTIVE

SBM features must be small, lightweight, easy to maintain, quick and easy to built, altered or modified (Azimin, 2010). SBM is very economical because it uses the materials that are widely available and easily constructed. The new design perspective in micro
architecture (SBM) can be defined by using recycled materials for cost effective and environmentally friendly.

The current development also emphasizes the use of the materials ‘green’ recyclable or biodegradable materials and indirect challenge of caring for the environment and saves raw materials and low cost. The materials also should be easy to maintain and everlasting. For example, if someone wants to start a business in the field of food, he does not need a big unit but enough with just a modular unit that can accommodate basic goods business and can be added later if they wish to expand the size of its business.

The future design of SBM should be easy to install, modular, easily handling, flexible and easy to maintain. For instance, the seller should be installing their unit easily and indirectly it will save time.

The meaning sustainability in SBM which located in urban areas is that the units must be able to provide comfort to the buyers in specific area. The ideas of sustainability that can be expand in architectural elements such as thermal comfort, cross ventilation; recycle materials, green technology and etc.

![Figure 3: The first solar powered street kiosk in Malaysia that are environmentally friendly (Source: Azimin Tazilan, 2010)](image)

CONCLUSION

The SBM unit enhances the quality of living for the traders by providing the needs of end users in the food sector. Other than that, there are interaction between buyer and seller, this is due to the seller provides a variety of daily necessities to the end users due to the “supply” and “demand”. The character of each unit provides its own definition, specific function, aesthetic and accessibility. Indirectly, the function of each unit of SBM plays an important role in urban streets and their implications in urban space. The units also fostering the local culture among Malaysians of all races. Every race has its own culture and it can be seen from the identity of each unit of SBM. The SBM unit design can be improve to some extent by introduction of green technologies and green materials to make the units become sustainable from time to time. Lastly, the existence of SBM unit kiosk and booth is very important in the development of street culture, especially in urban areas. The existence of SBM units or less will affect street landscape patterns.
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POST OCCUPANCY EVALUATION (POE) AND INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (IEQ) ASSESSMENT: A CASE STUDY OF UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI PETRONAS NEW ACADEMIC COMPLEX

Mohd Faris Khamidi, Suriani Ngah Abdul Wahab Mohd Rodzi Ismail, Norhidayah Mohd Zahari
Civil Engineering Department,
Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS,

ABSTRAK

Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) and Indoor Environmental Quality Assessment (IEQ): a Case Study of Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS New Academic Complex is an initiative taken for development of UTP. Universiti Teknologi Petronas are currently looking forward to be certified as green building university. Thus to achieved the mission of the university to meet the benchmarks of GBI standard, this study investigates and determine the level of building performance based on occupants’ satisfaction and indoor environmental quality analysis according to Green Building Index (GBI) and Malaysian Standard MS1525. This project also provides recommendation for corrective plan and way forward should be taken to improve the elements that have not compliance to the standard. The sampling taken from the populations of UTP which are include lecturer, staff and students. Due to the restricted availability of the data; three buildings which is Block 13, 14 and Pocket C were chosen to represent the whole UTP new academic complex. The two methods involved covers qualitative and quantitative aspects which are Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) and analysis field measurement of Indoor Environment Quality (IEQ). POE indicates the satisfaction level of occupants where the parameters need to pass the severity index boundary. IEQ verified the result of POE where six parameters; temperature, relative air humidity, noise level, illumination level, CO2 level and air velocity are measured. At the end of this project, correlation of POE and IEQ reports that noise and illumination level are not meet the standard. Recommendations are provided as corrective plan and way forward to be certified as green building according to GBI rating system.

Keywords: Building Energy Index, Post occupancy evaluation, indoor environmental quality assessment

INTRODUCTION

Background

Realizing the global issues regarding the climate change and global warming happen nowadays, most of the development of the building currently moves towards the sustainability development and green design in order to achieve significant reductions in climate change emissions. Effort to enhance the natural environment, promoting green design, construction, reconstruction and operation of buildings has never been more critical than now as the increasing of greenhouse gas emissions that are fuelling climate change more quickly.

A growing public concern over the harmful consequences of our industrialized societies on our planet and its natural resources is urging communities to reexamine their building practices. Same goes to the management of Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS. Due to the awareness to move forward to be certified as green building university, this project carry out
the study to cover both qualitative and quantitative aspects. Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) and Indoor Environment Quality Assessment (IEQ) will be the main keyword and method used for this study in determining the level of building satisfaction according to MS1525 and GBI standard.

Literature Review

In developed country such as EU and USA buildings the total of energy used up to 20-40% more than industry and transport. Perez-Lombard et. Al (2008). Existing studies of occupant satisfaction and comfort in LEED buildings by the Center for the Built Environment at the University of California, Berkeley, shows high variability, with some buildings rated very positively and others having modest comfort and satisfaction levels. Fowler, K. & Rauch, E. (2008), Heerwagen, J. & Zagreus, L. (2005) Self ratings of performance showed that more than 60% of the occupants believed that lighting conditions (including daylight) and air quality had a positive impact on their ability to get their work done. In contrast, less than 40% said thermal and acoustical conditions were conducive to their work effectiveness. These findings suggest that the impact of interior environmental quality on work performance may depend on the particular interior conditions Rebecca R. et. al (2009)

Study conducted by Watson (2003) indicates that, Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) is a systematic evaluation of opinion about buildings in use, from the perspective of the people who use them. POE are generally aimed at conveying the parameters of buildings that work well and also at focusing on the ones that should not be repeated in future building designs. Studies on indoor environment quality have mainly focused on and examined composition factors of ambient environment. Hikmat H. Ali et al.(2009) carried out technical evaluation on thermal and ventilation conditions PAM (2009), Yoo Bok-heui et al.(2010) analyzed residents perception on indoor air quality Hikmat H. Ali et.al (2009), Kim Young-kyung et al.(1996) carried out technical evaluation on facility noise conditions in apartments Kim, Yong-Kyoung et. al (2010), and Jang Hana et al. (2007) examined residents' subjective evaluation on indoor air conditions of Officetels. Some researchers have combined several factors to conduct assessments Jang et.al (2007). Niklas Fransson et al.(2007) assessed perceived comfort of temperature, relative humidity, and noise level. Niklas Fransson et.al (2007), L.T.Wong(2008) examined the office's indoor environmental quality in four aspects which are thermal comfort, indoor air quality, noise level and illumination level L.T.Wong et.al (2008)

Driven by environmental needs and due to some modification, Green Building Index (GBI) was founded to drive initiative to lead the property industry towards becoming more environment-friendly. The Green Building Index is an environmental rating system for buildings developed in 2009 by Pertubuhan Arkitek Malaysia / Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM) and the Association of Consulting Engineers Malaysia (ACEM) PAM (2009). For indoor environmental quality item, there are 16 area of assessment that each of the area contributes the points for total score for whole item. Carbon dioxide monitoring, thermal comfort controllability system, air change effectiveness, daylight glare control, internal noise level, and post occupancy comfort survey will carry 1 point. According to GBI, EQ16 outlines the requirement that need to be achieved for POE. Occupants' satisfaction must meet at least 80% and if the level of satisfaction does not meet the requirement, corrective action plan need to be developed. In correlation to verified the results of POE, IEQ also be assessed according to MS 1525. It is Malaysian Standard was developed by the Technical Committee on Energy Efficiency in Buildings under the authority of the Building and Civil Engineering Industry Standards Committee. This Malaysian Standard is the first revision of MS 1525:2001, Code of Practice on Energy Efficiency and use of Renewable Energy for Non-residential Buildings, Malaysia, D.O.S MALAYSIAN STANDARD (2007)
Problem Statement

Increasing of global concern towards preservation of environment caused an urge towards energy conservation end efficiency. Thus, Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS make initiative to move forward in order to improve the quality of the building and aiming to be GBI certified building.

Objectives

The main objectives of this project are:

- To study the level of occupants’ satisfaction on UTP building.
- To identify building’s performance according to GBI and MS1525 parameters.
- Proposed the way forward to UTP management in order to meet the benchmarks of GBI rating classification.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Questionnaire Survey: Post Occupancy Evaluation

The frame work is illustrated in Figure 1. It is consists of a systematic sequence of six steps: identify information of building parameters, evaluation of objectives, selection of planning approach, conduction of POE inspection, application of findings and actions in response to feedback. The steps fall within three phases, namely the initial phase, the process phase and the recommendation phase.

Figure 1 Modified Framework of POE from AUDE [13]
The building’s impact on occupant satisfaction obtained through an occupant survey (POE). The occupant survey was addressed indoor environmental quality aspects and administered to the students and staff of Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS. The survey covers three sections of questions which are on demographics, assessment on indoor environment quality and rating and recommendations. The occupant survey investigates the significance of building satisfaction to meet the standard Green Building Index (GBI) requirement. In order to assess the Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS building’s functional comfort and occupant satisfaction; an online survey was carried out on 8th August 2011 for students and 18th December 2011 for staff. The surveys open for one week for responses. Below is the links for online survey:

Students:  
https://spreadsheets1.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dHg5REtuSUFPd0YweHdJaDgwZUNUZWC6MQ

Staff:  
https://spreadsheets.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dHluR2JzQjc0Q2kwdEkxT XkxYy0tWHc6MQ

Field measurement: IEQ

The measurements conducted within 10.30a.m to 3.30pm, and readings taken every 30 minutes interval. Readings obtained were compared to GBI Assessment Criteria and MS 1525:2007 to check on the compliance of UTP system to the standard. Below are the few locations involved in assessment.

![Figure 2 Location of assessment](image)

Parameter involved in this project:

Table 1 Standard Parameter Values [10.11]
In this study, the equipment for the field measurement is AMI 300 Multifunction, Hygrothermometer, sound level meter and solarimeter. AMI 300 Multifunction is used with the specific probes such as air quality probes for measuring CO2 level, temperature and hygrometry. Vane probes measure air velocity and has an accuracy of ±0.5°C and ±0.6% for temperature and relative humidity readings, respectively. The Hygrothermometer is also used for measuring the relative humidity and temperature. Noise level meter is to measure internal noise level while solarimeter to determine illumination intensity for lighting. All these equipments are calibrated before used to ensure reliability and accuracy in the readings taken during the field studies. The environmental parameter data are collected at the measuring points specified at each location. The measuring instruments are read at about 1 meter above the floor level.

### RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

#### Post Occupancy Evaluation - Online Survey (Student)

Post Occupancy Evaluation carried out to students and staff. A total of 80 respondents completed the online survey which is 63 respondents are students and 17 are UTP staff. The data for each questionnaires are automatically collected and been analyzed by using online Google document. There are three part included in the questionnaire which are Section A, B and C. The results of the analysis are tabulated in this section.

#### Section A: Demographics (Question 1-4)

**Question 1: Gender**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondent</th>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>43.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>56.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section A discussed on demographics items which are gender, occupations, age and time spent in building. Out of 80 respondents, 56.25% of the respondents are female and 43.75% are male. If referring only for students out of 63 of students who are response, 60% of the students are female. This is indicates that female students are more concern in answering the survey form compare to male because reality in UTP, ratio between male and female students is 3:1. All of the respondents from students are in range 18-24 years old. For staff, the age is diverging into several stages and most of the staff that is responses is between 25-40 years old which contribute 47%. 59% of staff respondent are PhD holder.

Question 4: Time spend in building

Table 3 Allocation of time spend in academic building

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondent</th>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>less than 1 hour</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2 hours</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4 hours</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>42.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6 hours</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-8 hour</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more than 8 hours</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the combination analysis, 42.5% of respondent spent 3-4 hours in building. For students most students spend time in building between 3-4 hours a day which contribute to 54%, followed by 19% for 5-6 hours, 13% for 1-2 hours, more than 8 hours is 8%, 5% for 7-8 hours and less than 1 hour is only 2%. However, if focusing only for staff respondent, highest percentage which is 65% shows the staff spent more than 8 hours in building. It can be conclude that most of students not spending much time in academic building. Thus, the performance of the building might not give big impact to student but big matters for staff. Hence the contribution of staff survey is more important and relevant as based line for field measurement later.

Section B: Indoor Environmental Quality Assessment

Comfort and Satisfaction

Questions on interior environmental quality used a 7-point scale with variable end anchors. In the discussion of survey results below, the end anchors indicating problems or discomforts are termed “negative feedback” and the responses toward the positive end are
termed “positive feedback”. For example, in the temperature question regarding controllability over cooling, “no control” is classified as “negative feedback” and “full control” is classified as “positive feedback”. For air quality questions, the air quality give negative effects on work performance, “not significant” is classified as “positive feedback” and “very significant” is classified as “negative feedback”. A copy of the survey appears in the Appendix.

The responses regarding air quality were largely positive, with the close of 65% responding positively regarding the effect of air quality to the work performance and overall items in air quality. Less than 35% reporting negative feedback.

Overall regarding temperature, 38% of the respondents gave positive feedback, on the questions on effect of temperature to work performance and another 23% reported indifference. Based on the chart, approximately 40% respondent are fully satisfied with the temperature level. Less than 10% reported of negative on thermal comfort.
In contrast, approximately 55 – 60% of respondents gave positive feedback when rating the distraction noise from outside the building and background noise, except for effect of noise in work performance, in which case close to 60% of the feedback was mainly negative, respectively.

Lighting

Figure 4 Summary of Noise Level

Figure 5 Summary of Light Performance
For the items in lighting, the chart shows almost 80%-90% of respondents gave positive feedback. Most of the respondents satisfied with the light conditions. However, only 40% agree that quality of light have big impact on the work performance.

The ability to adjust electric light level, room temperature, and room ventilation were also assessed. Over half the respondents, 50% - 71%, reported “Poor or no control” regarding the ability to adjust lighting, temperature, and ventilation (see Figure 5). Personal control over the electric devises is important in order to meet the occupants’ comfort.

Analysis Using Severity Index for Question 5-8 (Parameter Assessment)

Relative index ranking technique is a non-parametric technique widely used by construction management researchers for analyzing structured questionnaire response data involving ordinal measurement of attitudes AUDE (2006), Olomolaiye, P.O. et.al (1987), Holt, G.D (1997), Idrus, A. & M.Sodangi (2010). One form of this technique is the severity index analysis which uses weighted percentage scores to compare the relative importance of the criteria under study. The frequency analysis was first carried out to determine the frequency of responses which were then used to calculate severity indices by means of the formula below. In this study, the seven scale rating is used. Egamenn, M. & A.N. Mohamed (2006), Elhag, T.M.S & A.H. Boussabaine (1999), Ballal, T.M. (2000)

Severity Index \( (I) = \frac{\sum_{} ai \cdot xi}{7 \sum_{} xi} \times 100\% \)

\( x_i \) = variable expressing the frequency of the \( i \)
\( a_i \) = constant expressing weight given to \( i \)
\( i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 \) as illustrated below
\( x_7 \) = frequency of the „very high extend“ response, corresponding to \( a_7 = 7 \)
x6 = frequency of the „high extend“ response, corresponding to a6 = 6
x5 = frequency of the „moderate high extend“ response, corresponding to a5 = 5
x4 = frequency of the „neutral“ response and corresponding to a4 = 4
x3 = frequency of the „moderate low“ response and corresponding to a3 = 3
x2 = frequency of the „low“ response and corresponding to a2 = 2
x1 = frequency of the „very low“ response and corresponding to a1 = 1

Severity boundary lines: = Σ SI/ n n is the numbers of element or criteria involved

The Severity Index would enable the user to prioritize the criteria in the study. Criteria with highest severity index (%) will be ranked topmost while criteria with the least severity index (%) will be ranked at the bottom. For this project, the seven point scale was transformed to relative importance indices for each criterion, using the above method to obtain the ranks of the different criteria. These ranking enabled the researcher to cross-compare the relative importance of the criteria as perceived by the respondents. However, the mean and standard deviation of each individual criterion are not appropriate statistics to evaluate the overall rankings because they do not reflect any relationship between them. As such, all the numerical scores of the identified criteria were transformed to severity indices (in percentages) to determine the relative ranking of the criteria. The result for this project being analyzed according to main four parameters involved which are air quality, temperature, noise and light.

Air Quality

![Figure 7 Overall Severity Index for Air Quality](image)

Table 4 Overall Severity Index for Air Quality
The result on assessment of air quality aspects are presented in table above. From the result obtained in table, it shows the ranking according to the important element criteria to evaluate air quality of the building. Three topmost satisfied criteria are air humidity, smell, and air freshness. Based on the figure 12, criteria (a), and (f) are lower than the severity boundaries, thus these three elements need to be improved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Questionnaire</th>
<th>Severity Index (%)</th>
<th>Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Effects of air quality of the building to the work performance</td>
<td>59.82</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Freshness</td>
<td>67.32</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Humidity</td>
<td>78.21</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Smell</td>
<td>75.00</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Movement</td>
<td>64.29</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control over ventilation</td>
<td>36.43</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall SI for air quality</td>
<td>63.51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 8 Overall Severity Index for Temperature

Table 5 Overall Severity Index for Temperature
Based on the bar chart, the control over cooling is not satisfied and below the boundary lines. Changes and way forward need to be planned in order to solve the problem and to give occupant the ability to adjust the temperature that suit with them. Controlling over the temperature is important because each person feel comfort differently reflect to their physical, gender, and ages.

### Noise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Questionnaire</th>
<th>Severity Index</th>
<th>Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Effects of temperature of the building to the work performance</td>
<td>45.36</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Level of temperature</td>
<td>72.86</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Control over cooling</td>
<td>31.07</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall SI for temperature</td>
<td>49.76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6 Overall Severity Index for Noise
Results show that noise is very significant to the work performance. From the severity index shown in the table, 50.18% indicates that the distraction from noise of building give impacts on performance. Both distractions of noise from outside and also background noise significant to the respondent.

Light

Figure 10 Overall Severity Index for Light

Table 7 Overall Severity Index for Light

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Questionnaire</th>
<th>Severity Index</th>
<th>Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Effects of light of the building to the work performance</td>
<td>49.46</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Level of natural light</td>
<td>79.64</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Level of glare from sun/natural light</td>
<td>76.79</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Level of artificial light</td>
<td>82.50</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Level of glare from artificial light</td>
<td>81.79</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) The effectiveness of blinds/shutters in blocking out natural light</td>
<td>65.00</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Control over artificial light</td>
<td>57.14</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall SI for Light</td>
<td>70.33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The high value of severity index shows that most of the respondent reported positive feedback regarding lighting. The three topmost satisfied criteria in lighting that affect the building performance are the level of artificial light, glare and level of natural light. There are aspects that need to be improving which are the effectiveness of shutters and control over artificial light.

Severity Index for all parameters
All four parameter have been gather in the bar chart to show which of the parameter are most affects occupants' satisfaction on the building performance. According to the table, the top ranking is light which is 70.33% followed by air quality. The SI boundary is 59.874%, thus noise and temperature is not passing the value. The overall POE will be verified by the results of IEQ and this is been included in further discussion. Improvement must be taken into consideration to make sure the noise level and thermal comfort meet the requirement standard.

**Section C: Response of satisfaction and Recommendation**

Do you satisfy with the indoor environmental quality of UTP building?

**Table 8 Overall Severity Index for all parameters**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Severity Index</th>
<th>Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air Quality</td>
<td>63.51</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature</td>
<td>49.76</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise</td>
<td>55.89</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light</td>
<td>70.33</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI boundary</td>
<td>59.87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 11 Overall Severity Index for all parameters

Table 9 Summary of Satisfaction Level
In overall, 79% of respondent satisfy with the indoor environmental quality of UTP building. Thus, this POE does not meet the EQ16 of GBI requirement. In this case, UTP management need to develop a plan for corrective action when the survey results indicate that more than 20% of occupants/workers are dissatisfied with the overall comfort in the building. This plan should include measurement of relevant environmental variables in problem areas. However, referring to the results on students’ survey, it shows that level of satisfaction meets the requirement. Unfortunately, in this case the responses from the staff give big influent on the final results as staff spent more time in the building compare to student. Suggest improvements that can be made to improve the quality of indoor environment for UTP’s building.

There are 92 totals of responses on this question which is covers several aspects. Thus all of the responses had been classified according to the category to make it clear. Due to some repetition in the suggestion provided by the respondent, the filtration had done and below is the summary of the responses. Miscellaneous include all response that are not related to indoor environmental quality are not be included in this report.

Table 10 Distribution of suggestion of improvement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air quality</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parameter: Air Quality

1. Have control over air conditioner
2. Improve air ventilation
3. Provide more air-conditioner to get more fresh air
4. Plant flowers around the buildings that give good smell.
5. Install fan and air con together
6. Improve the existing ventilation system
7. Oxygen pumping into the building
8 Fragrance in room should be applied
9 Improve air circulation, improve air conditioning so that can feel the existence of the air conditioning

Temperature/ Thermal comfort

1 Improve room temperature
2 Plant some small trees or flower in the class
3 During class, adjust the temperature to make the room more cold and suit to the occupant.
4 Provide full control for the air conditioner temperature
5 Control on the temperature inside the building
6 Control over HVAC output in the rooms
7 Effort should be made to install thermostat in each individual

Light

1 Adjustable light system in class
2 Improve lighting
3 Use white light and more energy saving light bulb
4 More natural light must be provided
5 Start changing the current lighting system with T8 and LED.

Noise

1 Provide better duct noise control
2 Revise on the design on glass wall that low in sound proof and distract concentration
3 Improve noise proof to reduce the distraction from next door

Rank of three top most satisfied parameter (Staff only)

Table 11 Rank of topmost satisfied parameters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Rank 1</th>
<th>Rank 2</th>
<th>Rank 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air quality</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In summary, the top three of satisfied parameter are:

1. Light
2. Air Quality
3. Temperature

This rank is not very reliable since only contributed by staff which is only 21% from overall respondents. However, this result still can take into account to verify with the IEQ assessment.
Study on Working Environment (Staff only)

Table 12 Problem/symptom in relation to working environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problems/symptoms</th>
<th>Yes, often (every week)</th>
<th>Yes, occasionally</th>
<th>No, Never</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Fatigue</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Heavy headed</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Headache</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Nausea/dizziness</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Difficulty concentrating</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Itchiness, burning, eye irritation</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Irritated, stuffed up or running nose</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Hoarseness, dry throat, cough</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Dry or reddened facial skin</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j) Flaking/itchiness in the scalp/ears</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k) Dry, itchy, red skin on the hands</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staff were been asked in the survey regarding the problems/symptom of illness during last three month. As seen in Figure 17, the leading illness symptoms experienced often is fatigue 18%, followed by difficulty in concentrating and running nose. 94% of respondent stated that never experienced flaking/itchiness in the scalp/ears in last three month.
Indoor Environmental Quality Assessment (IEQ)

Table 13 Overall Result of Indoor Environmental Quality Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>C1</th>
<th>C2</th>
<th>14-02-09</th>
<th>14-03-14</th>
<th>14-03-00</th>
<th>Environment Lab</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temperature</td>
<td>23-26°C, min: 22°C</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO₂</td>
<td>≤1000ppm</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relative humidity</td>
<td>≤70% (55%-70%)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise Level</td>
<td>&lt;40dB(A)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Velocity</td>
<td>≤0.7 m/s</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light</td>
<td>300-500 lux</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The measurement of IEQ is carried out to verify the result of POE and determine the exact value for each parameter. Based on the overall result obtained for indoor environmental quality assessment, out of six parameter been tested, noise level and light intensity does not meet the GBI and MS 1525 requirement. Reading for average temperature, relative humidity, CO₂ level and air velocity indicates that each element will contribute 1 point for GBI rating scores. According to POE result, two parameters which are temperature and noise did not pass severity index boundary, means the most unsatisfied parameter. However, IEQ shows that temperature of the UTP building meet the standard which is in range 23-26°C. IEQ shows that noise level and illumination level for light are not compliance to standard. Noise level remains in unsatisfied level according to POE and also verified in filed measurement.

Noise

For noise level, only one room that pass the requirement. Based on the observation, the sources of the noise distraction for the lecture theatre (Pocket C) comes from the machine functioning in IT and Media Services (ITMS) control room. For the lecture room, lab and lecturer room, the distraction comes from the blowers of air cons that produce high level of noise. The contribution of outdoor noise to indoor noise levels is usually small. Beside, a
sound level within a building caused by an outdoor source obviously depends on the source's intensity and the sound level reduction afforded by the building. Since the design of UTP’s building is façade glass, it seems not afford sound reduction much. By the observation, if students talking while walk along the pathway outside the lecture room, still can distract people in the room.

Light

Regarding the light intensity level, most of the location of the assessment did not meet the MS1525 requirement. According to MS1525, lighting for working interior for general offices is between 300-400 lux, while for class room 300-500 lux. However, the readings taken shows the illumination levels exceed the recommended value. This is most probably due to the exposure of the room towards the natural light (sunlight).

Rooms that facing directly to the sun path record high illumination level because sunlight contains high intensity of illumination e that will affecting the reading taken in the room. This is also because the lecture rooms have no effective blinds or shutters and the design of UTP’s building that built by façade glass allows the utilization of sunlight during the day. For the light in Pocket C, high intensity of light create thermal and too much glare affect the occupants’ comfort. 94% of respondents claim that there is too much glare from artificial light. The assessments verify the result of POE.

By referring the figure above, lecture room 13-02-06 with switch off light condition shows the utilization of sunlight during the day. However, not all part of the room expose to the sunlight, thus during a day the light still need to be turn on. In that case, the illumination intensity does not compliance with the standard. There are also no shutter been install for some room. Hence, the excess of illumination provide heat and uncomfotred condition to occupants.

Light in lecture theatre also exceed the recommended illumination level. Respondents claim that too much glare provided by the light and it generates heat that makes occupants felt uncomfortable during the class lecture. By observation, the light in lecture theatre also makes shadow on work surface. Hence, study on characteristic of light that will be install need to take into attention.

CONCLUSION
In conclusion, based on the results of field measurement and post occupancy evaluation, it shows that some improvements need to be provided for the elements which are not passed the severity index boundary and verified by indoor environmental quality assessment. In nutshell, Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS have great potential to meet GBI certified level that will position university to high level. Out of six parameters only noise level and light illumination level need improvement to meet GBI requirement.

Management of UTP specifically Health safety and environment (HSE) department need to plan corrective plan and initiative to improve the current building performance in order to be certified as green building. Some recommendations are provided in this report in correlation to assist HSE department.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Parameter: Noise

Indoor noise levels often are influenced primarily by internal noise sources such as appliances, cooling and ventilating equipment, and people. However, many outdoor noises may still annoy people in the room more than indoor noises do. In this study, for lecture theater Pocket C, sound absorber should be installed to make sure the noise level requirement achieved. For other lecture room, the doors must to be ensuring close and air conditioned blowers should be covered with sound proof material. Due to the façade glass as wall of the building, additional shutters should be installing to reduce the distraction sound from outside.

Parameter: Light

Health and Safety department need to revise the illumination level for each light in the office and class room in general. Light with high intensity and exceed recommended amount create much glare and affect the occupants" comfort. Light that had been installed need to be suitable with the usage of the space, the area of work space and the heat energy produced to ensure its meet occupants" satisfaction and building performance. In utilization of sunlight during a day, there are still not have sufficient illumination that required user to switch on the light. Hence, the personal control over light should be implementing where user can adjust the amount of illumination intensity that is needed with the existing of natural light. This also promotes energy saving and UTP can reduce the electricity consumption and bills.

Personal control over temperature

According to post occupancy evaluation, up to 72% of respondents claim that occupants have no control over temperature which affect work performance and felt uncomfortable. Corrective plan need to be planned in order to solve the problem. The proper ventilation and cooling system control should be installed. The introduction of automated control for air-conditioning temperature with regards to the occupant present and activities will help to solve this situation. The occupant also can avoid distraction when they were in building by wearing proper clothes.

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