

For Immediate Release

ZCB Hosts First Low Carbon Wedding

***Horse-drawn bride and groom tie the knot
while 15 couples pledge to build a low carbon family***

Hong Kong • 14 February 2014 — The Construction Industry Council (CIC) and ZCB hosted their first “Low Carbon Wedding” and oath taking ceremony today at Hong Kong’s first zero carbon building in Kowloon Bay. An exceptionally romantic atmosphere was created at ZCB’s unique urban native woodland and low carbon multi-purpose hall for 16 couples with one couple officially tying the knot while 15 other couples pledged to build a low carbon family.

This year, Valentine’s Day is celebrated on the same day as the traditional Chinese Lantern Festival, which made it the perfect date for couples to make a commitment to each other. As the pioneer of low carbon buildings in Hong Kong, ZCB organised its first green and low carbon wedding for a pair of newlyweds. At the same time, ZCB selected 15 nature-loving couples to participate in taking an oath towards building a low carbon family with the goal of encouraging the Hong Kong public to save the environment by leading a low carbon lifestyle.

“The aim of ZCB hosting the first low carbon wedding and oath taking ceremony on this special day is to promote and advocate the new trend of leading a low carbon lifestyle such as a low carbon wedding. Having noticed the environmental damages that traditional weddings may bring to the environment, ZCB decided to offer the ideal low carbon venue and professional wedding services for those who are planning to hold a low carbon wedding. For instance, holding a wedding event at ZCB’s multi-purpose hall can reduce CO₂e emission by 200kg when compared to alternate indoor wedding venues of identical size, equivalent to the amount of CO₂e removed by 8.4 trees in one year, and thus reduces the carbon foot print. We are trying to convey the message to the general public that everyone can organise a low carbon wedding and build a low carbon family,” said Mr. Christopher TO, Executive Director of the CIC during his speech.

At this first low carbon wedding, ZCB transformed the newlyweds into a real-life fairy tale prince and princess for a day by arranging for the couple to arrive at the wedding venue in a horse-drawn carriage. The horse-drawn carriage is not only a low carbon form of transportation, but added to the romance of the event.

To align with the low carbon lifestyle concept, the multi-purpose hall was decorated with butterflies and colourful upcycled art pieces made from used paper, leaflets, posters

and bottles together with glass jars filled with colourful fresh fruit to create a sense of joy and warmth to the hall. Guests were encouraged to take home the nutritious fruit to share the sweet memory of the day and reduce wastage. The outdoor woodland was decorated with large installations made from discarded wooden cases, red packets and banners, creating a romantic atmosphere and further demonstrating how to adopt an eco-friendly and low carbon lifestyle.

The eco-café at ZCB served 16 types of low carbon canapés specially created for the occasion and 100% fruit juice, all made of organic ingredients from local farms.

Newlyweds Vincent and Clara shared their thoughts of the event: “We are delighted to hold our wedding on this special day and participate in ZCB’s first low carbon wedding. We would like to thank the organiser for arranging the grand and classic horse-drawn carriage and allowing us to hold the most romantic and sweetest wedding at this unique native woodland. We have always been supportive of eco-friendly activities and we are hoping to show our commitment in building a nature-loving low carbon family by having this low carbon wedding. At the same time, we hope to set an example of how to live a low carbon life while encouraging people around us to help save the environment.”

The Multi-Purpose Hall and Grassland at ZCB are available for rental. Optional wedding packages including various options of organic food and fresh beverage arranged by ZCB’s eco café and horse-drawn carriage will also be available.

For further details about low carbon wedding at ZCB, please call 2100 9800.

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Photos Download:

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(The link will be expired on 29 March 2014)



Photo 1: Mr. Christopher TO, Executive Director of the CIC, Ms. Salenda LAU, Board Member of ZCB and Dr. LI Guiyi, Director of ZCB with the Newlyweds and 15 couples who pledged to build a low carbon family.



Photo 2: Newlyweds Clara and Vincent arrived at the wedding venue in the grand and classic horse-drawn carriage.



Photo 3: The eco-café at ZCB served low carbon canapés and fruit juice specially created for the occasion, all made of organic ingredients from local farms.



About the Construction Industry Council

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed on 1 February 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and Government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to Government, provide training and registration for the construction workforce and serve as a communication channel for Government to solicit advice on all construction-related matters.

Please visit www.hkcic.org for further details.

About ZCB

Developed by the CIC in collaboration with the Hong Kong Government, ZCB is Hong Kong's first zero carbon building. It aims to showcase the state-of-the-art eco-building design and technologies to the construction industry locally and internationally and to raise the community's awareness of low carbon living. It serves as a platform for the construction industry to share knowledge and expertise in low carbon building design and technologies, and provides the public with a greenery leisure space for enjoyment.

Guided tours of ZCB can be booked online. For further information, please visit <http://zcb.hkcic.org>.

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