

Media Release



Hari Poologasundram appointed CEO SMEC and CEO International, Surbana Jurong Group

1 March 2018

Hari Poologasundram has been appointed CEO SMEC and CEO International, Surbana Jurong Group, effective 1 March 2018. In this role, Hari will be responsible for business growth in Australia and New Zealand, South Asia and Middle East, the UK, Africa, and the Americas.

With more than 30 years' experience in the planning, design and management of infrastructure projects and 18 years' operational management experience, Hari is well placed to lead SMEC during this time of business wide transformation.

From a traditional engineering firm, with origins on the iconic Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme, SMEC has become a global player in the consultancy world. SMEC's traditional design capabilities are complemented by an increase of planning and development opportunities made possible by the balance sheet and expertise of Surbana Jurong. "Surbana Jurong is backed by Singapore sovereign wealth fund Temasek and this gives us the balance sheet to be able to compete in and participate more fully in major metropolitan development," Hari said.

With a strong focus on major urban development and master planning processes to drive growth, SMEC will look to partner with sister company, Brisbane-based Robert Bird Group (RBG), which was recently acquired by parent company, Surbana Jurong. Hari commented "Alongside our sister-company RBG and parent-company Surbana Jurong, we can now offer clients specialist urban development expertise, either independently or as a combined entity".

Hari has been an integral member of SMEC's leadership team for more than 20 years. Under his guidance and leadership, he has successfully driven the overall performance and strategic growth of SMEC's Australia and New Zealand operations, first as Regional Director Central and then as Chief Operating Officer.

Hari is a strong advocate for gender diversity and this will be a key focus area in his capacity as CEO. "The biggest challenge to our business growth is maintaining our high-quality teams and to do that we must attract and retain more women. Having a gender balanced workplace brings a pool of different skills and ways of thinking, enhancing our innovative culture" Hari said.

Hari holds a Bachelor of Science (Civil Engineering) and a Master's of Science (Civil Engineering) from City University, London.

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