

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In the Name of ALLAH, The Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate

Firstly, praise be to Allah, Lord of the worlds; and peace and blessings are due to Prophet Muhammad saw, may Allah bless him and his family and companions. This thesis is dedicated with gratitude and affection to my late mum, Allahyarhamah Raja Abidah Mansar who is in the process of this research was called by Allah to be with Him. Her encouragements, prayers and love while we spent our life together have given me inner strength to complete this challenging task. My dad, Mohd Isa Abdul Wahit, the person who put the fundament my learning character, showing me the joy of intellectual pursuit ever since I was a child.

My deepest gratitude goes to my supervisors, Assoc. Prof. Sr Dr Anuar Alias and Sr Dr Zulkiflee Abdul Samad for their valuable and close supervision, guidance, comments, encouragement and friendship. They were an excellent coach and motivator. Life as a PhD student of them was a rich learning experiences. Without their continued support and interest, this thesis would not have been the same as presented here. In carrying out the fieldworks for the research, I have received the invaluable assistant and corporation from many individuals, institutions, firms and organisations. Special thanks are due to Puan Hamidah and En Zulkibri (ST), En Fendi (GreenTech) and En Faiz (KeTTHA) for their kind assistance in gaining access to and information on the case study buildings. I am also indebted to the other building project stakeholders, particularly, En. Fadlun Mak Ujud (PjC), En Robani (PjC), Mr Gregers Reimann (IEN Consultants Sdn. Bhd.), Mr Steve Lojuntin (SEDA), En Johari (PPC), Mr Peter Chia (PPC), Mr Hooi (PPC), Mr Tew (PPC) and Mr Alex (PPC). I am also grateful to my thirty pilot study interviewees and one hundred eighty-eight questionnaires respondents and many other contributions who shared their valuable experiences, thoughts, knowledge and time. I wish to acknowledge the Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia, Sultan Idris Education University and University of Malaya for the award of scholarships and study leave. Without these supports, I could not have focused on my research and made fairly smooth progress in the past three years.

Finally, my deepest gratitude and love goes to my dear husband, Dr Mohd Yazid Mohd Yunos for his sacrifices, tolerance, moral support, continuing love and prayers throughout this lengthy journey. Also to my school-aged sons; Huzaifah Aeiman, Umar Salahuddeen and Ishmel Haidar who gave me pleasant distraction that I desperately needed at times. My siblings, friends, colleagues and for those who supported me, I thank you for your patience. Thanks! It's over!