

# GETTING TO KNOW...

## PEST SUMMIT 2016 SINGAPORE – SOME OF THE PAPERS PRESENTED

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

In his Keynote Address at Resorts World Sentosa, Singapore, John expressed confidence that the pest management industry can survive today's world of rising costs and shortage of suitable manpower. To do so, it has to improve productivity, adopt innovations to solve existing problems and embrace the green technology that is fast emerging.

The rodent infestation that has been making headlines in Singapore, can be better managed if we concentrate our effort in these 5 critical areas:

1. Stop playing the "Blame Game". The management of shopping malls should take a holistic view and be responsible for rodent control and not put the blame solely on their tenants, the Food & Beverage Outlets (F&B Outlets). This is because the rodents will not recognise the space allocated to an outlet and will forage everywhere. The F&B Outlets have the responsibility to improve their sanitation practices and remove all food when they close for the night.
2. Effective and sustainable rodent control is achieved through field training and legwork. Computers and Wi-Fi are meant to monitor their activities, not to replace legwork.



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3. Presently the technician's licence is automatically renewed by NEA at the end of every 3 years. To promote upgrading he recommended that the technician attends a short refresher course before his licence is renewed, every 3 years.
4. The tender system of selecting the successful company based on the lowest tender is outdated. The industry applauds the policy of "Best Sourcing", not cheap sourcing.
5. During their inspection rounds, Enforcement officers should ensure that the food waste disposal capacity is adequate. Rodents are nocturnal creatures and take their meal in the silence of the night before the food waste is disposed in the morning.

The objective of pest management is to achieve "Zero Infestation" inside a designated area.



Rats feeding at night in an overfilled waste disposal bin.