



Legal Watch

POCB AND DIGITAL ENGINEERING PROFESSIONALS SIGN MOU TO STRENGTHEN GLOBAL COLLABORATION IN CONSTRUCTION, ENGINEERING, AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION



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SUMMARY

The Philippine Overseas Construction Board (POCB) formalized a strategic partnership with Digital Engineering Professionals, Inc. (DEP) through a Memorandum of Understanding signed on 11 March 2026 in Makati City. The collaboration aims to strengthen the international presence of the Philippine Construction, Architecture, and Engineering (CAE) sector, particularly in the Middle East, by promoting Construction, Architectural, and Engineering Design and Services Outsourcing (CAEDSO).

The agreement establishes a framework for cross-border collaboration, focusing on capacity building, technology exchange, and digital transformation. Key priorities include advancing Philippine expertise in Building Information Modeling (BIM) and integrating artificial intelligence (AI) in engineering and construction processes. The initiative also supports broader efforts to expand market access, facilitate high-value business engagements, and position Filipino firms and professionals competitively in global markets. The partnership builds on prior business missions and is expected to drive further collaboration, particularly with upcoming engagements in Saudi Arabia.

ACTIONABLE ADVICE

CAE firms should explore joint ventures and outsourcing opportunities in the Middle East while strengthening BIM and AI capabilities to remain competitive. Companies must ensure contracts clearly address intellectual property, data use, and dispute resolution, and comply with foreign licensing and regulatory requirements.

Banks and investors may consider financing cross-border projects and technology upgrades, while all businesses should implement strong compliance and risk management systems to support international operations.

* Agency Name

Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)

* Issuance Title

POCB and Digital Engineering Professionals sign MOU to strengthen global collaboration in construction, engineering, and digital transformation

* Issuance Date

08 April 2026

* Link

<https://www.dti.gov.ph/dti-archives/dti-news-archived/dti-pocb-digital-engineering-professionals-sign-mou-strengthen-global-collaboration-construction-engineering-digital-transformation>

