

## DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF AN OBSERVATORY DOME AND SHUTTERS STRUCTURE

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A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor Engineering (Hons) (Mechanical)

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**MAY 2009** 

"I declared that this thesis is the result of my own work except the ideas and summaries which I clarified their sources. The thesis has not been accepted for any degree and is not concurrently submitted in the candidature of any degree."

Signed: Abff Date: 23/05/2009

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#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

With His almighty, the most gracious and merciful. Million of grateful to Allah S.W.T because enable me to complete this valuable project.

To my parents, for loving and adoring me with every inch of your heart and soul. It is largely because of this extraordinary person that I am able to give back to the world the integrity, warmth, decency, sensitivity, and love that they have instilled in me throughout my entire life. I am blessed and truly grateful for this special gift.

I wish to thank to my Group members under En. Helmi for being so encouraging and supportive to me in all of my literary endeavors and continue support in duration of the thesis preparation until its completion.

To En. Helmi B. Rashid for your soliciting, contribution and helping me to generate the CAD model and affording me the opportunity. You relieve a lot of anguish in completing this project.

Thank you to all my mates for your support, kind words, encouragement, comments and for our thought-provoking conversation. To each and everyone who have shared their beautiful words, lovely thoughts, and heartfelt blessings, and by letting me know that in some way, I made an excellent project. I am both honored and humbled. And, finally, to all of my dear friends and housemate wherever you are, I thank you for your lives of those who will read this report.

#### **ABSTRACT**

The main objective of this study is to design and develop an observatory dome and shutters structure. The dome has been designed to improve and innovate the current design structure. The design of an observatory dome is able to rotate 360° azimuth rotation whereby its dome and shutters opening and closing are designed by using geodesic structure which is different from the current and common shutters design. Basically, geodesic structure is a joining of hundred or more triangles in obtaining a hemisphere shape. The structure has a better strength and toughness compare to the other structures. Thus, the structure has lower possibility to fail, bend or collapse due to the structure design. The designs of the observatory dome and shutters structure were done using CATIA V5R14 software. The material used is mild steel for the structure and aluminum plate as the roof cover. This design and development of an observatory dome and shutters structure will contribute a lot to the aerospace industry indirectly and will also give benefits to the engineering field.

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