



FROILAN C. ROQUE

Refinery Officer IV
Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
Quezon City
CSC Pagasa Awardee, 2008
Individual Category

If you're searching for proof of Filipino ingenuity, you need not look further. The best Filipino engineers and craftsmen are not only found in large companies abroad, but also within government grounds.

Meet medal maker Froilan C. Roque from the Artwork and Medal Subgroup of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas. Roque, who knows the painstaking process of medal making like the back of his hand, devised contraptions that could make his team work a lot faster and better.

"I always explore how to make my job easier. I get bored doing the same thing again and again, and that challenges me to develop better ways of doing things," he said.

He designed and fabricated the Bar Folding Jig that can fold 100 bar pins in three hours, faster than the old process of 100 pieces in 16 hours. The jig was especially useful when the President ordered medals for almost 200 dignitaries of the ASEAN Summit on counter-terrorism in Cebu in 2007 in only less than a month before the event.

Roque also made the Big Sunburst Fixture which can produce rosettes and sunburst shapes attached to the medal bars at a rate of 100 per hour. Without the fixture, they can only make 100 pieces in 8 hours.

Roque's innovativeness has been admired by his superiors and colleagues since 1995, when he was nominated in the CSC Pagasa Award category and won. He was also BSP Employee of the Year in 2003 and 2006, and BSP Suggestion Awardee in 2002.

A proud public servant, Roque confessed, "After graduating from college, I dreamt of going abroad because then, Saudi Arabia was a very lucrative destination. I guess fate didn't let it happen and so I was stuck in government service. But if I were to do it all over again, I would still choose to serve in the government." •