PATT WELCOMES NEW CHAIRMAN: Ret.Colonel Lyle Alexander

The new Chairman of the Port Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, Retired Colonel Lyle Alexander, paid his first visit to the organization on Thursday 15th March, just two days after being sworn in by the nation’s former President Anthony Carmona and receiving his instrument of appointment.

Ret.Colonel Alexander met with Port executives and also took the time to meet with other managers in the Administration Building.

The Chairman is a retired Colonel of the Defence Force and was also appointed by the Prime Minister in 2017 to head a committee to examine the procurement practices and operations of the Port Authority.

We take the opportunity to welcome the new Chairman on behalf of all members of the Port Family.

Heavy Lift Operations Handled at PPOS

Members of the PPOS team once again efficiently and successfully handled heavy lift operations. This time the customer was Caribbean Gas Chemicals Ltd. The operations took place on days - 23rd February and 21st March.

The heavy equipment consisted of modules comprising parts of a platform for a new facility that Caribbean Gas Chemicals Ltd is constructing in South Trinidad. All of the large specialized handling equipment required was supplied by COSCO.

The Ag. CEO Ricardo Gonzales held discussions with the LJ Williams team in order to facilitate the venture; and the go-ahead was given to handle the operations as PPOS has the capacity and infrastructure to handle the request safely.

The operations were led by the Port Captain of the shipping line with the COSCO team, along with the PPOS team. The operations were completed in the given timeframe of three shift periods.
Free Prostate Cancer Screening Offered

The Mobile Unit set up in front the PATT Administration Building

In an ongoing effort to encourage employees to take care of their health, prostate cancer screening was offered to male employees. The service was provided free of charge by the Cancer Society on two days – Monday 26th and Thursday 29th March.

A mobile unit was set up in front of the Administration Building for easy access by employees who wished to take advantage of the screening. Unfortunately, prostate cancer affects many men in our society. Early detection and preventative care are important factors in saving lives, and also avoiding high health care costs.

Several male employees welcomed the service and showed up for the free screening offered.

Cruise Season Comes to an End

The MSC Fantasia was the last of the big cruise vessels to visit Port of Spain for the 2017/2018 season. The cruise ship arrived on Wednesday 28th March, for a one-day visit from 8:30am to 6:00pm. The vessel’s capacity is 4,363 passengers.

The Ministry of Tourism held a splendid cultural show to celebrate this last visit of the MSC Fantasia, which visited our shores a total of nine times for the season.

Cruise Season Comes to an End

The MSC Fantasia docked at the Port of Spain Cruise Ship Complex

Caribbean Princess was another large cruise ship to call in 2017/2018

Cruise passengers shop at the POS Cruise Ship Complex

The Cruise business contributes to economic diversity of the island, as tour operators, taxi drivers, craft persons and other businesses benefit from the passenger arrivals.

The season officially closes with the visit of the much smaller cruise ship Bremen, with a capacity of just 160 passengers, on Monday 2nd April.
The Health Safety and Environment Department held IOSH (Institution of Occupational Safety and Health) training sessions, which is a necessary requirement for the port’s HSE committee, to ensure members are aware of HSE protocol as it relates to their role - and about the workplace in general. It was a one-time training exercise which was previously held for managers.

There were 19 persons in attendance, and all persons received IOSH Managing Safely certification. The training exercise lasted for four days, 2 days per week, from February 22nd to March 2nd.

The training was imperative for participants to understand: that safety is everybody’s business; and the way it impacts all departments within the workplace. All participants were required to complete both theoretical and practical examinations, and the results are pending.

The instructor was Sydney Sears from the Corporate Division of Health Environment and Safety Solutions. The programme is just another initiative to ensure that the organization stays abreast regarding HSE matters and compliance.

**What is the full meaning of IOSH?**

Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) - a British organisation for health and safety professionals.

**The IOSH Managing Safely certificate does not have an expiry date although IOSH recommends that candidates undergo a refresher course every three years.**

On Friday 9th March, a training session was held for employees who drive roll-on/roll-off vehicles off the ships to the vehicle storage area at Spectrum. The main objective was to reinforce safety measures to ensure that vehicles reach the storage area in top condition.

The training was conducted by Jackie Charles of the HSE department. HSE training is ongoing to update and reinforce safety practices in all areas of operations.

Training for Forklift Operators also took place in the first quarter of 2018. The sessions were held on 24th and 25th January, conducted by David Charles of Jaric Environment Safety and Health Services Limited. Operators were updated in new practices, and other benchmark practices were also outlined and reinforced.

A total of 67 employees participated in the Forklift Operators training and certification programme.
The Port Authority of Trinidad and Tobago was invited to make a presentation at the Five Rivers Secondary School’s Career Day on Wednesday 14th March. The Career Day targeted form three students and their parents. Candice Gomez-Baptiste and Morihinze Mulugata of the Marketing Department represented the port.

The Port Authority’s presentation focused on careers that are unique to the port industry such as: Berthing Officers, Equipment Operators and Ship Captains. It was a great opportunity to partner with the school to educate students on how academics can prepare them for actual careers and a rewarding future.

Students and parents expressed great appreciation for the knowledge shared about PATT and its business operations, which exposed them to career options in the maritime industry. The presentation also assisted students in making the appropriate subject choices to prepare them to pursue such career goals. At the end, some parents were themselves inspired to consider careers in the Maritime Industry.