



# Portside Online

DECEMBER 2017

## Christmas/End of Year Message from the GM/CEO



Ag. GM/CEO Trudy Gill-Conlon

The season of goodwill, joy and rejoicing is here once again. It is a time of hope, peace, sharing and celebration surrounded by the most important people in our lives. I take this opportunity to wish all members of the Port Family a blessed and Merry Christmas.

As we reflect on the year gone by, I would like to express my sincerest thanks and appreciation to all PATT employees for your loyalty, dedication and commitment – especially in light of the many challenging times we have faced within the organization and as a nation on the whole.

Let us look forward to 2018 with hope for a brighter and prosperous year ahead. I wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and your families.



## ISPS Training for all Port Employees



Sargent Azeem Ali conducting a session on ISPS

The International Shipping and Port Facility Security Code is better known as the ISPS Code. Over the months of July to October the Port Authority ensured that all personnel were trained on the requirements and procedure of the ISPS code. The exercise was a training of all port personnel who do not directly carry out designated security duties. Its aim was to provide port personnel with the necessary knowledge to detect and deter any threats to the Port facility and ships.

The ISPS Code was implemented after the hijacking of the Achille Lauro, a vessel that was attacked and its passengers held hostage resulting in the death of a wheel-chair bound American citizen.

The training was not only mandatory but proved to be quite informative and beneficial for the employees. Many different security terms were discussed and possible scenarios were given to further drive home the necessity of the code. The training, ably conducted by Estate Sargent Azeem Ali, allowed employees who are not involved in any security duties to become familiar with, as well as aware and cautious regarding the possible threats that can hamper a port facility and vessels. Such incidents have the potential to be a danger to persons, ships and the facility – which can also affect the bottom line of the port business.

## Accountant Racquel Ramsaran Achieves MBA with Distinction



Congratulations go out to Accountant Racquel Ramsaran who, on September 30<sup>th</sup> 2017, was awarded the Heriot-Watt University Degree of Master of Business Administration (MBA) with Distinction.

Speaking with Racquel, it was noticeable how proud yet humbled she was by her experience. When asked what motivated her to pursue the master's programme, she simply stated that she was keeping competitive - as well as it helped that a friend was also studying at the time.

Racquel believes that this experience benefitted her in changing her view on life and the big picture and helped her to adopt a more strategic way of thinking. On an organizational level, Racquel believes that it will boost her leadership skills as it allows her to see what is required to take the Port forward and what is necessary to manage the organization.

Touching on the highlights of the experience, she noted that graduating with distinction was definitely the best feeling. It also gave her a better appreciation for the economics element and she felt as though it changed her business perspective. She noted that it was a great opportunity to network with people from various companies with differing views, as this opened her mind to unique ways of thinking.

As for the future, Racquel plans to continue improving professionally by staying ahead of the game.

## FIRST PATT CHRISTMAS MARKETPLACE



Employees displayed their goods and talents at the market place

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, the Public Relations Department hosted the first Port Christmas Market at the Administration Building, inner courtyard. Participants of the Christmas Market included mostly employees, PATT tenants, vendors from Cruise Ship Complex; and even some relatives of employees came out to showcase their goods and get as many sales as possible.

There were over 12 stalls and several "customers" attended the market to purchase some of the following items made by the talented employees and tenants. Most of the stalls were sold out at the end of the event, and many persons are already looking forward to next year's market place.

The items on sale included:

- Christmas eats and drinks – pastelles, black cake, sorrel, homemade wine and more
- Crafts - decorative cushion covers and place mats
- Clothing
- Handmade jewelry
- Throw pillows
- Souvenir sets
- Makeup
- Handbags
- Accessories
- Decorations
- Floral arrangements

The ambience was one of joy, festivity, and togetherness – with participants and buyers enjoying the event. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive with persons looking forward to similar events in the future. The Market is definitely an event that will be carried on for years to come. The Public Relations department takes the opportunity to thank all those who supported and participated.

## POS CRUISE SHIP SEASON 2017/2018



The MSC Fantasia docked at the Cruise Ship Terminal. MSC line is one of the lines frequently calling in POS

The first cruise ship to arrive in Port of Spain for the 2017/2018 cruise season was the Caribbean Princess on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October. In all, there will be 26 cruise ships calling for the 2017/2018 cruise season, compared to 19 calls for the previous season. The final ship to visit will be the Bremen in April 2018.



Passengers boarding maxis to take them on various tours

The cruise industry is playing a major role in the government's diversification thrust as there are several ancillary service providers benefitting from the cruise ship calls.

Approximately 50,000 passengers will have visited our shores for the season, with most passengers going on various tours throughout the island.

## CMA/CGM PEX 2 SERVICE PAYS A VISIT

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, the CMA/CGM PEX 2 service paid a visit to PPOS, after an absence of over a year.



Empties being loaded onto the PEX 2 vessel

The purpose of the call was to remove empty units from the PPOS terminal. Approximately 2670 units were loaded, which resulted in freeing up storage space on the terminal.

After loading up, the vessel sailed directly from Port of Spain to China.

## \*\*\* PPOS HSE UPDATE \*\*\*

### Haulier Induction Training:

The HSE Department is responsible for conducting Haulier Induction Training whereby all Private Hauliers are informed of PATT site-specific safety requirements and relevant operational procedures prior to being granted access to the Port facility. These sessions are done weekly on Mondays between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and to date, 48 training sessions have been conducted for the year 2017.

**Clean-Up Drive:**

The HSE Department also contributed to the facilitation of the PPOS Clean-up Drive in July 2017, which is recognized internationally as the annual Environmental Conservation and Protection month. All PPOS Divisions were encouraged to gather and segregate workplace waste into color-coded bins and waste bags for disposal with the aim of cleanliness at work.

**Safety Week:**

PATT Safety Week was held in July 2017 at the Cruise Ship Complex and was supported by the participation of various health, safety and environment suppliers and agencies. Port employees received lectures and information, partook in various safety-related activities and were treated to a Zumba Workout session.

**Upcoming Plans:**

In 2018 the HSE Department will visit all departments and conduct site specific safety training with the subsequent issuance of a PATT safety orientation card to all participating employees.

**\*\* Merry Christmas and Happy New Year \*\***