

FPCL presents at Better Business Conference



FPCL CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena, addressing the FNU TPAF Better Business Conference at the Holiday Inn, Suva.

AMONGST the guest speakers at the Better Business Conference that took place on 10th March at the Holiday Inn, Suva, was Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena.

The annual Conference was themed *Raising Productivity for Sustainability*, and is organised by the Fiji National University, Training & Productivity Authority of Fiji.

Mr Piyasena was invited to share his knowledge, experience and best practices in aspects of quality and productivity, in achieving sustained competitiveness and relevance in a rapidly changing business environment.

His address focused on *Sustainable Organisational Excellence through Dynamic Leadership - the Modernisation of Fiji Ports*.

He quoted Susan Jeffers, Author of *Feel the Fear and Do It Anyway*, saying,

"Being an effective leader involves having the self confidence to make decisions,

motivating others and assuming responsibility for your actions.

"In a nutshell, to be an effective leader, you have to overcome your fears and anxieties."

Mr Piyasena spoke of the role that participation in the Fiji Business Excellence Awards (FBEA) played in his leadership of the ongoing programme to modernise FPCL.

"FBEA is, and should be, a set of principles and tools that can be used to improve any organisation. Business Excellence is all about making your organisation perform better; produce better profits; achieve success; deliver its aims," he said.

FPCL has applied the fundamental concepts of excellence to all areas of FPCL, namely: Customer Focus; Results Orientation; Management by Process and Facts; People Development and Involvement; Continuous Learning, Innovation and Improvement; Partnership

Development; Public Responsibility, and Leadership and Consistency of Purpose.

He warned the participants that FBEA, like any set of tools, could also be misused and its value diminished or lost.

"Business Excellence is not about chasing awards to fill the trophy cabinet, or logos for your letterhead. Nor is it a theoretical or academic exercise separated from the real work of the organisation," he said.

He said that being involved in FBEA had benefitted FPCL through enhanced innovation, increased customer satisfaction, increased employee satisfaction, improved efficiency and effectiveness, reliability of product and service, and organisational growth - that is - the development of individual employees.

"It is about delivering real bottom line improvements in performance to private and public sector organisations," said Mr Piyasena.

FSHIL manufactures mooring buoys

FIJI Ships & Heavy Industries (FSHIL) has built a reputation within the Pacific region for its work in ship repairs, based upon delivering an excellent product in a timely fashion, according to FSHIL Operations Manager, Mr. Lopeti Radravu.

"As We speak, FSHIL is gradually paving its way forward into heavy industry's new construction & maintenance market, hence, to make this aspect of our business known to the public," he said.

Mr. Radravu said that recent approved design and fabrication of a 20 - 30T SWL - pulling capacity x 3 off - Suva harbor mooring buoys, is a testimony of our capability in our Heavy Industry market. The mooring buoys are linked through anchor chains with sinkers to act as anchors.

Mr. Radravu said that FSHIL is also working to develop the Fiberglass section of the Heavy Industries Department and he expects to unveil these developments later this year.



Mooring buoys being manufactured at FSHIL.

New Director welcomed



FIJI Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) welcomes new Board member, Mr Sanjay Kaba, to the FPCL Board of Directors.

Mr Kaba is a Structural Engineer and holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) degree,

from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. He is a Member of both the Australian Institute of Engineers and the Fiji Institute of Engineers.

Mr Kaba replaces Mr Tom Rickards as the Fiji National Provident Fund (FNPF) representative on the Board.

Port facility security of paramount importance



FPCL Senior Port Facility Security Officer, Captain Jeke Vakararawa (standing), during a workshop session in Yokohama.

FIJI Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) is committed to the security of Fiji's Ports of Entry.

FPCL Senior Port Facility Security

Officer, Captain Jeke Vakararawa, attended a four-week workshop, Capacity Development for Port Facility Security, held at the Japan International

Cooperation Agency (JICA) Yokohama Centre, beginning on the 25th November 2016. The workshop was organised by the Overseas Coastal Area Development Institute of JAPAN (OCDI), supported by JICA and the City of Yokohama Port and Harbour Bureau. (See story, Page 3.)

"The aim of the workshop was to enhance the participants' understanding of port facility security. It also gave us an opportunity to share lessons and discuss any challenges presented by our respective port facility security policies and measures.

"With 95 to 97% of all Fiji's imports and exports coming and going by sea, we need to stay informed about developments in the maritime security sector through discussions with our international colleagues, so we can protect our ports and Fiji can continue to trade freely with other countries," said Captain Vakararawa.

Energy audit recommendations adopted at FPCL

FIJI Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) has taken advantage of the improvements in LED technology with a lighting upgrade throughout its facilities.

FPCL office buildings are no longer lit by the compact fluorescent of tube lights, which have been replaced with LED lighting.

The cost of the new lights is approximately ten times more expensive than the fluorescent light. It is expected that with the savings made in electricity, FPCL should be able to meet and recoup the cost of the new lights within three to four years.

The lighting at the Port of Suva and the Port of Lautoka has also been upgraded, with the installation of metal-halide lighting replacing the high-pressure sodium lighting in the



Metal-halide lighting produces better visibility with reduced energy consumption.

container sections of the two wharves.

These changes follow the comprehensive Energy Audit that was conducted in partnership with Pacific Community (SPC) who engaged Consultant, Mr Bruce Rowse, of 8020Green Pty, to carry out the audit in

the second half of 2016.

FPCL CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena, said that the Corporation would continue to incorporate good energy management principles into the policies that govern FPCL and FSHIL.

Cruise vessel challenges met



Tour operators must remain within their designated areas at the Port of Suva.

Depending upon the size of the vessel, between 500 to 3,000 tourists (as well as the ships' crews that may number as many

as 1,000), disembark with each cruise liner visit to Fiji's Ports of Suva and Lautoka, according to FPCL Senior Port Facility

Security Officer, Captain Jeke Vakararawa. "Not only are the numbers of visitors increasing with the larger cruise vessels arriving these days, but the liners are now staying for up to 48 hours, giving visitors time to travel further afield.

"Port Facility Security Officers need to be additionally vigilant. We pay special attention to ensure that visitors stay within the safety zones and walkways marked out for their convenience and safety.

"The training tour operators and vendors receive to qualify as licensed port users and ID holders includes not harassing visitors and remaining within their designated areas. Failure to comply would result in the cancellation of the offender's user license," said Captain Vakararawa.

Comprehensive OCDI security workshop

THE four-week Capacity Development for Port Facility Security workshop held at the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Yokohama Centre, beginning on the 25th November 2016 was attended by 18 participants from 12 countries, namely; Fiji, Cambodia, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kiribati, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Timor Leste and Tonga.

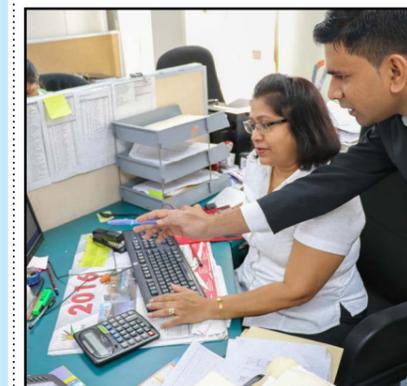
The main organisers of the workshop were the Overseas Coastal Area Development Institute of Japan (OCDI), supported by JICA and the City of Yokohama Port and Harbour Bureau.

The in-depth training included country presentations by all participants; an introduction to Maritime Security in Japan, presentations by the U.S. Coast Guard on the International Port Security Programme and lectures on the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and the ISPS Code.

The practical aspect of the course included exercises and drills in Port Facility Security Assessment; Planning and Equipment; a Communication Exercise, and Audit and Inspection.

The participants visited the Japanese Coast Guard Museum as well as the Ports of Yokohama, Hakata, Hiroshima, Kobe and Osaka.

Accounting system upgrade for improved efficiencies



FPCL Accounts Payable Officer, Ms Mohini Lingham and Acting Chief Financial Officer, Mr Kirtan Lal, discuss the new accounting system.

ON the 20th of February, the Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) Finance Department went 'live' with its accounting system upgrade.

First initiated in September 2016, the upgrade from Dynamics Navision 2009 to Dynamics Navision 2016 was "long overdue," said Acting Chief Financial Officer, Mr Kirtan Lal.

"As the Microsoft Dynamics Navision product has evolved with three versions being released; Nav 2013, Nav 2015 and now Nav 2016, it was necessary for the vendor, Eclipse, to migrate our accounting system through the two preceding versions before the installation of the Dynamic Navision 2016 system could take place.

FPCL IT Systems Administrator, Mr Pratik Sen, was responsible for liaising with Eclipse during the installation and migration of the successive upgrade.

Mr Sen said, "The Dynamics Navision 2016 is very good Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software. It enables strict control of processes and accounts, but is flexible enough to allow for customising the management of information, the workflow and the users' roles.

"Although training and support by the vendor were needed for the initial set-up, the product is easy to navigate and to export to Excel and has easy-to-learn and use account schedules. During the upgrade process the vendor provided any necessary software changes we needed for the FPCL reporting process."

Continued support includes the ongoing upgrade of the software by the vendor, so that FPCL maintains a cutting-edge platform for its accounting system.

"The Dynamics Navision 2016 system prides itself on having "richer and more intuitive functionalities. These in turn are contributing to improved performance efficiencies by the end users. We are in the process of fine-tuning the system and we expect to close the upgrade project by the end of March," said Mr Lal.

Fiji pilots experience E-navigation



FPCL Acting Harbour Master, Suva, Captain Laisiasa Gonewai (2nd from left); course facilitator, Mr Don Cockrill, Secretary General, U.K. Marine Pilots Association (6th from left) and FPCL Harbour Master, Lautoka, Captain Penitiko Yauvoli (3rd from right) with the other course participants in Singapore.

FIJI Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) Acting Harbour Master, Suva, Captain Laisiasa Gonewai said that he and Captain Peni Yauvoli, Harbour Master Lautoka, attended a three-day course in Singapore, fully supported by FPCL, from 27th February to 1st March this year.

The training was in accord with IMO resolution A960: Recommendations on Training and Certification and Operational Procedures for Maritime Pilots other than Deep Sea Pilots.

"We were privileged to attend a course conducted by Secretary General,

United Kingdom Marine Pilots Association, Mr Don Cockrill," said Captain Gonewai.

During the course, Captains Gonewai and Yauvoli had the opportunity to experience E-navigation, the latest technological development in marine pilotage.

"This consists of a Pilot's Portable Unit (PPU), which is a laptop or a tablet device, that is loaded with navigation software inter-connected with GPS. This makes it possible to carry out pinpoint navigation, with a margin of error of between two-and-a-half metres to five metres on either side of a vessel," said Captain Gonewai.

Captain Gonewai said that Pilotage and marine pilots are an essential element of the global maritime industry. Pilots' responsibilities include ensuring and enhancing the commercial efficiency of the port while also ensuring the safety of navigation within ports - thereby protecting port infrastructures, local marine environments, and the safety of those living and working within the ports and its waterways.

Establishing improved inventory controls



FPCL Stock Controller, Mr Malkesh Chand, reviews the FPCL inventory.

AS part of Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd's (FPCL) ongoing commitment to improving internal processes and controlling expenditure, the Corporation has employed Mr Malkesh Chand as Stock Controller, under the Finance Department.

Mr Chand brings to this position experience as an Application Support Analyst, gained during his time with Sterland Computing, as well as two and a half years experience in stock control with Vinod Patel, Nadi. He also holds a Diploma in Finance.

"I am well-versed in the inventory function of the software, thanks to my time working as an Application Support Analyst," said Mr Chand, who joined FPCL on the 19th of December last year.

Mr Chand is working currently with the FPCL Engineering Department to implement a system that is expected to better manage the use and reordering of essential parts and he is providing a monthly stock-take of FPCL crane parts.

"Once this system is established, I will be working on developing full inventories of all items held by each Department, under the direction of FPCL Acting Chief Financial Officer, Mr Kirtan Lal," said Mr Chand.

"I am also responsible for issuing each Department's monthly stationery allocations, according to budgeted quantities, and keeping the managers informed of their Departments' requisitions against budget," said Mr Chand.

STAFF NEWS

FPCL farewells and thanks: COO, Mr Eranda Kotelawa and Port Engineer,

Mr Ronald Sue, for their valuable contributions to the Corporation.



Officer, ITC, Suva;

Welcome aboard to:

Premeet Krishan Nand, IT Project



Jone Ramacake Maravou, Operations Coordinator, **Joeli Tupua,** Port Pilot and **Sairusi Qalobula,** Trainee Pilot, both at the Harbour Master's Office, Suva.



OHS Officer Suva; **Waisiki Baleitokou Tabua Curuqara,** Pilot Boat Engineer and **Kalivati Tudrau,** Deckhand, both at the Harbour Master's Office, Suva.



Farewell also to: Remesio Mata, Support Staff Cleaner, Property Management and **Jai Nandan,** Support Staff Engineering Handyman, both of Suva.



Korean delegation visits Fiji

A six-member delegation from the Korean Research and Maritime Institute visited Fiji mid-February on a fact-finding survey mission, to explore business possibilities, particularly in the shipbuilding and ship repair industry sector.

The delegation met with a number of shipbuilding and ship repair companies on a one-to-one basis, the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji and the Ministry of Transport.

FNU training for support staff



Mr Tevita Rokodaveta, and **Mr Anal K Kumar,**



both Support Staff Welders and **Mr Sumit Kapoor,** Support

Staff Electrician, employed in the Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) Port Engineering Department are attending the Electrical Wireman's night classes at Fiji National University.



Modernising local wharf operations



THE Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) undertaking to modernise its facilities and operations extends to the Narain Jetty.

During the busy December-January holiday period, FPCL worked closely with the Land Transport Authority (LTA) to weigh trucks before they entered the Narain Jetty gates and boarded local, inter-island vessels.

Trucks boarding local vessels can carry the following weights on board local vessels: 10-wheeler, 28.5T; 12-wheeler, 35T; 6-wheeler; 17.5T.

FPCL will be also enforcing strict control on all vessels berthing at the Jetty and Ship owners will be expected to provide accurate loading and unloading schedules.

"Vessels that are not loading or unloading will have to move to anchorage in the harbour," said FPCL CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena.

Mr Piyasena said that by adhering to their correct schedules, inter-island vessels berthed at the wharf would help prevent congestion.

He said FPCL had been very flexible with local ship owners' requirements, but that this, along with practices such as carrying out ship repairs at the Jetty, would come to an end.

"The efficient management of vessels and crowd control will come at the cost of this flexible arrangement with ship owners," said Mr Piyasena.