

IAPH Conference provides platform for global ports

'ENABLING Trade, Energising the World' was the theme of the 30th International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH) World Ports Conference, which was hosted this year by Indonesia Ports Corporation, at the Bali Nusa Dua Convention Centre, Bali, Indonesia.

More than 650 delegates, representing 50 countries, attended the prestigious biennial event, which provides a platform for discussion on, and suggested solutions to, the enormous challenges being faced by ports worldwide.

FPCL represented

Representing Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) at the international symposium was FPCL CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena. Mr Piyasena said that the industry stakeholders consider the high-level conference to be one of the most important to attend. It provides the opportunity to focus on



(L-r) FPCL CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena with IAPH Secretary General, Mr Susume Naruse at the IAPH Conference.

resolving global issues of concern to the international maritime and port industries, while strengthening international relationships.

International significance

This year, the main topics discussed were of international significance, and included

Greenfield Port Projects and the Effect of Special Economic Zones on Ports' Growth; Hinterland Connectivity and Multimodal Logistics; The Evolution of Global Shipping and Shipping Routes; Maritime Transport Network and Port Innovation, and Collaboration

Opportunities to Strengthen Cooperation and Sustainability among Ports.

The conference was especially significant, as it was the first to be held following the adoption of the new IAPH Constitution at the IAPH Annual General Meeting in 2016.

AGM adopts resolutions

This year's AGM, held concurrently with the conference, voted to adopt two resolutions of great importance, namely: the Resolution on "Contribution of Ports to the Mitigation of Climate Change and Its Effects" and the Resolution on "Planning Cyber Security Programme to Reduce Security Risks". A third Resolution, to thank the conference hosts, was also adopted.

Global alliance

With headquarters in Japan, IAPH is the global alliance of the world port community, representing more than 200 ports and some 140 port-related businesses in 90 nations, handling more than 60% of the world's sea-borne trade and nearly 80% of the world container traffic.

Derelicts removed

FIJI Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) has ensured safe access to the Government Shipping Services Wharf at Walu Bay in Suva.

On the 1st of May, the partially submerged Sea Love was winched to dry ground. Last September, the Tovuto was towed and scuttled 1.4 miles South West of the main Suva passage, at a depth of between 250 to 300 metres, at a cost in excess of \$220,000 for the Tovuto, alone.

Despite the significant cost involved, FPCL continues to work on clearing derelict vessels, keeping the harbour clear for ship movement.



The derelict Sea Love winched ashore.



'Relevant' Internal Auditors Conference

The participants and presenters at the Internal Auditors Conference.

THE Institute of Internal Auditors Fiji 2017 Annual Conference was held at the Marriott in Momi Bay, Nadi on the 5th and 6th of May.

Representing Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL), amongst the 170 delegates, were FPCL Acting Chief Financial Officer, Mr Kirtan Lal, and FPCL Risk and Compliance Officer, Mr Ajit Narayan.

Mr Lal said that attending such conferences and workshops is essential to stay abreast with the latest professional developments.

This year's theme of "Relevance" was covered by "renowned local and international speakers, who spoke on topics such as Tone at the Top; Communication; Project Management; Fraud Data Analytics, Risk Management etc." said Mr Lal.

"All of these topics are relevant to FPCL's business, especially in the areas of risk management and project management. Project Management was a key topic that was covered in great detail and great depth. We looked at how we can actually manage the risks, track project progress, track

budgets and audit the quality of deliverables within a given project.

"Also of relevance was the information on Risk Management. This was a more detailed look at the Internal Audit and its functions. Here, we were advised on identifying potential weaknesses in our systems and mitigating those weaknesses through effective risk management.

He said that the information on using data analytics to recognise 'red flags' to identify possible fraud, was of particular interest.

Mr Lal said that he and Mr Narayan had learnt how internal auditors, risks and compliance professionals as advisors, could increasingly add value to employers' and clients' organisations.

"From a holistic viewpoint, it is important for any management to understand the audit process and have the proper policies and procedures in place. In this regard, the important issues of internal control environment, governance and compliance frameworks were also covered during the conference," said Mr Lal.

OHS manual to support ISO certification goals

SINCE joining in January this year, Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) OHS Officer, Mr Lindsay Fong has been working closely with the FPCL Occupational Health & Safety Committees at the Ports of Lautoka, Suva, the local wharf in Suva including Muaiwalu House; at Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries (FSHIL), and Fiji Ports Terminal Ltd (FPTL).

He has conducted a Safety Audit at Lautoka Port and meets regularly with external stakeholders, such as the Operations Manager at FPTL in Suva and with FPTL representatives and Shipping Agents in Lautoka.

Mr Fong said, "My primary focus at FPCL has been the work that will eventually ensure that the appropriate manual is in place for the OHS committees to use as a "sound and reliable reference" in performing their duties. This is in support of the CEO's goal of having FPCL achieve the ISO 45001 certification on the OHS Management system.

"We are in contact with international cargo, container and cruise liner vessels, their crews and passengers. We need to conduct ourselves in a way that meets international standards," said Mr Fong.



An OHS stakeholder meeting at Lautoka, conducted by FPCL OHS Officer, Mr Lindsay Fong.



FNU students discussing aspects of the analyses project during the presentation by FSHIL at Muaiwalu House.

FNU students assist FSHIL with analyses

FIJI Ships & Heavy Industries (FSHIL) recently held two days of familiarisation workshops for Fiji National University (FNU) Bachelor of Engineering students, giving them the opportunity to conduct a series of analyses regarding the feasibility of the FSHIL project to increase the capacity of the 200tonne slipway to 500tonnes.

"FSHIL also took the opportunity to actively support Pillar 9 of The Peoples' Charter, Making Fiji a Knowledge-based Society: enhancing skills base and vocational training. This gave the students the opportunity to become familiar with FSHIL and our business, as well as the practical applications of the FNU software," said Mr Radravu.



The capsized Southern Phoenix is contained inside the oil spill prevention boom.

Emergency tests FPCL rapid response

A rapid response emergency plan, based on the Corporation's Risk Register and Standard Operating Procedures, saw Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) staff taking swift action to oversee and assist when the Southern Phoenix capsized at the Kings Wharf, Suva.

The Southern Phoenix had been scheduled to depart at midnight, but the fully loaded vessel had begun to list heavily to the port side, after taking in bunkering for the next stage of its journey.

At 1:20am, Saturday May 6th, FPCL Acting Chief Operations Officer, Captain Laisiasa Gonewai, responded to a call from the Harbour Tower, advising him of the request by the Master of the Southern Phoenix for a mobile crane to start unloading the ship's cargo.

It was decided that the angle at which the vessel was listing made it too dangerous for the crew or stevedores to attempt any unloading operations.

Also in attendance at the wharf were the ship's agents and owners and representatives of the Fiji Fire Authority, the Fiji Police Force and the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji (MSAF). Also on standby were the Fiji Navy and FPCL and Fiji Ports Terminal Ltd (FPTL) engineers.

It was established that all crew members were safely ashore and accounted for and that there was no positive 'up righting lever' to bring the ship to its upright position. Because of the ship's stability problems, Captain

Gonewai gave the instructions to cut all mooring lines and to tow the Southern Phoenix away from the wharf to a safe, shallow area at South Anchorage.

The dead ship was cleared from the berth to prevent any damage to the Port infrastructure and also to keep the South Kings Wharf clear for use by cruise liners and tankers.

"It would also have been impossible to use a boom to contain any oil spill, if oil went underneath the wharf structure," said Captain Gonewai.

By 03:20am, tugboats had towed the sinking ship to its present location, in front of the Handicraft Centre. Divers from the Dive Centre assisted in sealing off all fuel outlets and FPCL, together with MSAF, had the oil spill boom in place around the sunken ship. All floating debris and containers were salvaged and taken to the inner Princess Wharf.

While the emergency response was under way, from the centre of Kings Wharf the southern end was closed off, but the north end remained operational. By Sunday evening, the South Kings was cleared for normal operations.

Captain Gonewai said that the emergency and the cooperative effort by all stakeholders had demonstrated the effectiveness of the FPCL Standard Operating Procedures. FPCL, FPTL and MSAF continue to monitor the vessel and have response teams on standby, should they be needed. Meanwhile, FPCL has issued the owners of the Southern Phoenix with the removal order.

Captain reviews 12 years at FPCL



One of many security duties performed by FPCL Senior Port Facility Security Officer, Captain Jeki Vakkararawa during the past 12 years: here, Captain Vakkararawa (centre) and Captain Nicolantonio Palombella (right) sign the Security Declaration for cruise vessel Costa Deliziosa, watched by the vessel's Security Officer, Mr Yogesh Mhatre.

WHEN Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) Senior Port Security Officer Captain Jeki Vakkararawa took up his position with the Corporation 12 years ago his first task was to establish a separate security plan for each of Fiji's Ports of Entry, so that Fiji would maintain compliance with the International Ships and Ports Security (ISPS) Code that had come into being in July 2004. This was in response to the 9/11 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States of America.

"When I took up my position, there was one, over all, blanket plan for all Ports of Entry. My first task, starting in 2005, was to separate all the Ports of Entry and then create a security plan appropriate for each one: Suva, Lautoka, Malau, Vuda, and all the smaller facilities like the one Fiji Gas has at Suvavou, or the one for discharging of bitumen at Rokobili. Each one required a separate, detailed security plan," said Captain Vakkararawa.

"All the Ports of Entry, even the newer ones like Rotuma and Wairiki are fully SOLAS compliant. I have been able to train security people within FPCL and FPTL, as well as outside companies.

"I have had the privilege of assisting with audits within the region, first with team audits, then training auditors, then becoming a lead auditor of an auditing team. Contributing at that level has been a source of great satisfaction to me."

"I would not have achieved any of this without the support of the CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena, the Management team, all FPCL Departments, the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji, the Ministries of Defence and Foreign Affairs, border agencies and the shipping companies," said Captain Vakkararawa.

STAFF NEWS

Welcome aboard to:

Senior Port Facility Security Officer, Captain Neumi Radobui; Safety Assistant Suva, Ms Diviya Jotika Kumar; Safety Environment Support Staff Suva, Mr Sanaila Nabukelevu and Support Staff Finance Suva, Ms Niketa Nandani Raj.



Captain Neumi Radobui



Ms Diviya Jotika Kumar



Mr Sanaila Nabukelevu



Ms Niketa Nandani Raj

FPCL congratulates

Captain Laisiasa Gonewai upon his appointment as Acting Chief Operations Officer.

Farewell and best wishes to Captain Sepeti Mokoniwaqa (Jeke) Vakarakawa - Senior Port Facility Security Officer, who retired in June. (See story, this page).

Staff prepare for Quality Circles competitions

FIJI Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) employees have engaged in the Quality Circle (QC), an initiative with the National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC).

FPCL Human Capital Services Officer, Mr Anare Leweniqila, said the five QCs will compete in-house to represent FPCL at the national competition at the 22nd Annual Convention on Quality.

The outstanding team at the National Convention will travel to Singapore to attend the International Exposition of Team Excellence.



(L-r) FPCL Operation Assistant, Ms Sera Ieli; Support Staff, Wharf Attendant, Ms Laisani Tagilala; NTPC Quality Service Officer, Kavinesh Sami and FPCL Human Capital Services Officer, Mr Anare Leweniqila, discussing the Quality Circle competition at the Harbour Master's Tower.

Mr. Kavinesh Sami, NTPC Quality Service Officer, explained that these circles are set up to deal internally and creatively with challenges by following a systematic framework.

More space for exports at Lautoka



SHED 2, at the Port of Lautoka, has been demolished to increase space for containers by 2291.634 square metres. This is in response to the demand created by containers awaiting export, especially to markets in the United States of America.

FSHIL manufactures fibreglass boats



FIJI Ships & Heavy Industries Ltd has begun the manufacture of six metre (191/2ft) and seven metre (23ft) fibreglass boats, with each vessel fitted with all the necessary safety gear to meet the Marine Safety Authority of Fiji (MSAF) and the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention safety standards.

FSHIL Operations Manager, Mr Lopeti Radravu, said that FSHIL looked forward to completing the MSAF swamp tests of the fibreglass vessels.

FPCL farewells Captain Jeke



(L-r) FSHIL Operations Manager, Mr Lopeti Radravu; FPCL Senior Port Facility Security Officer, Captain Jeke Vakarakawa; FPL CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena and FPCL Acting Chief Operations Officer, Captain Laisiasa Gonewai, at the farewell function.

ON behalf of the management and the Board of Directors, Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena, thanked Captain Jeke Vakarakawa for his long and excellent service, "which is an example to us all," and wished him a long and happy retirement from his position as FPCL Senior Port Facility Security Officer.

Captain Vakarakawa had been responsible for maintaining "the most vital area of International Ships and Ports Security (ISPS) compliance without any issues or any questions from shipping lines - this is a major achievement," said Mr Piyasena.

Revamped website coming soon

FIJI Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) IT Officer, Mr Premeet Nand, said that the Corporation website revamping project that began earlier this year is nearing completion, with a new look and features that will enhance the user's experience.

The website will also create greater flexibility for FPCL staff, making it possible for them to access and use internal applications, such as the Employee Self Service (ESS) facilities, from external sources.

The second phase of planned website improvements will enable ship repair customers to make slipway bookings with FPCL subsidiary, Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries Ltd "within a fully automated environment."

Mr Nand said, "We are also working on developing a chat box, so that interested parties can obtain information using this facility."