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PPP for Ports Terminal Ltd

WITH the signing of the agreement by Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL), on behalf of subsidiary Ports Terminal Ltd (PTL), with Sri Lanka based Aitken Spence PLC, the ports operations at Suva and Lautoka are now to be managed by a Public/Private Partnership (PPP).

At the signing, the Honourable Prime Minister, Voreqe Bainimarama said, "We share the same vision to make these container terminals world class, to radically overturn the inefficiencies of the past and apply best practice to eventually establish them as the leading ports and maritime logistic centres in the Pacific."

The Prime Minister said that



(Left) FPCL Director, Joeli Cawaki, Aitken Spence PLC Director Parakrama Dissanayake, the Honourable Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama and Attorney-General, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum after the signing of the agreement. (photo courtesy of Fiji Sun).

Fiji Port's alliance with Aitken Spence PLC was undoubtedly one of the most significant PPP agreements the Government was forging as it reformed a range of sectors in Fiji, with the global record showing that where there is better efficiency and productivity on the wharves,

imports become cheaper and exports become more competitive.

He said that 88 of the top 100 performing ports in the world are managed through this type of partnership.

Dr Parakrama Dissanayake, Chairman of Aitken Spence

Maritime Ltd and Director of Aitken Spence PLC, said that the company is delighted to have established this agreement with FPCL and the Government of the Republic of Fiji.

"We see immense opportunities for the private sector to spearhead Fiji's vision, to exploit its strategic geographic position and skilled human resources, to become the premier regional maritime hub," he said.

Aitken Spence PLC, Sri Lanka's largest maritime logistics company, has an international presence and a proven background in cargo, container, supply chain and courier management, with installations in six countries in Africa, the Middle East and South East Asia.

IAPH impacts international issues

MORE than 500 delegates gathered for the 28th Conference of the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH), hosted by the Port of Los Angeles, USA, to discuss wide-ranging issues that impact maritime policy and the development of international trade.

Amongst the 88 port directors and executive management in attendance, from Asia, Europe, Africa, Mid-East, Australia and the Americas, were Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd Board Director Commander Joeli Cawaki and CEO Vajira Piyasena, who took the opportunity to engage in an international dialogue on issues impacting Fiji's ports.

During the week-long conference a draft resolution was formulated, recognising

that overweight or incorrectly documented containerised cargo may pose serious risks to the safety of vessel navigation, to port operations and/or to road transportation.

IAPH members called for compulsory rules requiring shippers to weigh containerised cargo and make correct declarations, and encouraging governments and relevant agencies to establish effective legal requirements and controls to ensure the rules are enforced.

Ports are investing considerable resources to accommodate the increasing size of cruise vessels. The cruise industry provides economic stimulus for the ports, generating cruise-related businesses and job



Fiji Ports IAPH delegates (left) CEO Vajira Piyasena and Director, Commander Joeli Cawaki, at the conference in Los Angeles.

opportunities,

With the increase of ship size, the IAPH members are calling on the International Maritime Organisation to prepare new, strict, safety codes to eradicate fatal accidents, such as happened when the Costa Concordia ran aground, January 2012, off the coast of Tuscany, Italy and nearly 100 people lost their lives.

Dedicated to fostering

cooperation amongst ports and harbours and to promoting the vital role they play in the world's economy, IAPH is a non-profit global alliance currently based in Tokyo, comprised of nearly 200 member ports from 90 countries and 150 maritime companies and institutes. With consultative NGO status at the United Nations, it is recognised as the only voice speaking for ports around the globe.

Lautoka plans ahead



Passengers using the Lautoka local wharf will soon have sheltered seating provided.

THE 2010 to 2028 Maintenance Plan for the Port of Lautoka includes the ongoing dredging schedule, land reclamation and the building of facilities on the local wharf for the benefit of the travelling public. With a declared depth of 10 metres needed for the berthing of large ships, the

Port of Lautoka Maintenance Plan includes a five-year dredging cycle to keep the international harbour at the declared depth.

“Mud from the rivers draining into the harbour causes the sea floor to silt up. This is an on-going occurrence, although it is worse during adverse weather events such as cyclones or excessive rain. Hence the need for an on-going dredging plan,” said Port of Lautoka’s Acting Harbour Master Captain Penitiko Yauvoli.

Dredging also takes place

every five years at the Lautoka local wharf, on a schedule that rotates a year ahead of the international port’s programme.

Reclamation of land, opposite the land leased to AMEX, is also due to take place this year.

Captain Yauvoli said that travellers using the local wharf will soon have seats under a covered waiting area, and there is the possibility of developing rental space for food vendors, thus providing the public with a service while adding to the port’s revenue stream.

Stevedores learn legalities



that impact their work on the wharf, 15 newly recruited stevedores spent time in the classroom with representatives from the Fiji Revenue and Customs Authority (FRCA) and the

Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF) as a part of their training.

To better understand the legal Acts and Decrees

Muaiwalu berths a challenge



Accommodating the additional vessels using the Muaiwalu II facilities requires careful planning.

MANAGING the increased number of vessels using the berthing facilities at Muaiwalu Wharf has become somewhat like fitting the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle together, as fishing vessels that cannot be accommodated at Kings Wharf are berthing at Muaiwalu.

Fiji Ports Supervisor, Local Wharf, Marika Koroi, said that if there is insufficient room at Kings wharf, which is an international Port of Entry, then the fishing ship’s master must contact the Immigration Department for permission to berth at Muaiwalu II Wharf, so

disembarking crew members with foreign passports can be processed.

This additional demand has to be juggled with the expectations of local shipping companies whose passenger/cargo vessels serve the outer islands.

“Local conventional vessels berth along-side the wharf, and need more room, unlike roll-on roll-off vessels that berth with the stern adjacent to the wharf,” said Mr Koroi.

Despite the challenges they are facing, Mr Koroi and his team make sure that incoming vessels have space to berth.

A sign of the times

ALL throughout the work areas at Fiji Ships and Heavy Industries, the members of the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Committee have placed signs reminding everyone of the need to wear the correct safety gear.

All employees are trained in OHS and have their safety gear supplied by the company.



Wearing his safety goggles, fitter - machinist Keleto Duruvesi demonstrates good OHS work practices at FSHIL.

Security awareness important

THE International Ships and Ports Security (ISPS) code was one of the important subjects covered by Senior Port Facility Captain Jeke Vakarakawa at the recent training attended by Apete Tamani, promoted

to Supervisor, and stevedores Malakai Banuve, Sovea Mocevakaca, Inia Raiyawa, Josaia Milamila and gearman Apete Camaibau who have been employed as permanent staff.



FSHIL maps business processes



FSHIL Senior Estimator Navitalai Ratukalau (standing) and staff discuss how to determine the success of a business process.

SIGNIFICANT progress has been made at Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries Ltd in applying the principles of the International Standards Organisation (ISO) 9000 -2008 Quality Management System to the organisation's business processes and procedures.

Beginning with mapping out an overview of FSHIL's core business, Middle Management and Supervisors traced

the general process that takes place from the time a customer first makes an enquiry until the final account is settled. All procedures that feed into this process, including any variations that might occur, were closely examined.

"In the interests of efficiency and cost-effectiveness, we are using the Business Process Mapping method to find ways

to streamline our processes and deliver a more timely result for our customers," said FSHIL Human Resources Officer, Makereta Taoui.

Each Department within the company - Slipway, Engineering, Steel, Registry/ Administration, Estimation and Finance - will also undertake a review of their functions and efficiencies. The Estimation and Slipway Departments have already completed this process.

FSHIL Works Supervisor, Matai Vasu, said that the Works Process Mapping gave a more detailed look at the administrative side of scheduling bookings and the paperwork generated, as well as the physical preparations on the slipway such as wooden

block preparation and slipping and de-slipping of vessels.

"I am positive that the final outcome will be very beneficial in streamlining our works processes to be more efficient and productive, and help increase our revenue earnings" said Mr Vasu.

FSHIL Senior Estimator, Navitalai Ratukalau agreed. "Estimation Department staff have completed a description of daily works processes to be completed, duties and responsibilities of departmental sections, and how to determine the success of a business process.

"This process mapping can be used to understand all the parts of a business, so we can complete the process with greater efficiency," he said.

Pirate hostage Captain and CEO compare notes



Fiji Ports CEO Vajira Piyasena (left) meets hostage survivor Captain Richard Phillips.

UNTIL his dramatic rescue by Navy Seal snipers on board the USA Navy's USS Bainbridge, in April 2009, Captain Richard Phillips spent four days as a hostage to Somali pirates after his ship the Maersk Alabama was hijacked.

Captain Phillips was the keynote speaker at the 28th IAPH World Ports Conference in Los Angeles.

Fiji Ports CEO Vajira Piyasena said it was interesting to talk with Captain Phillips, and while recalling his sailing days with US Lines in the mid-1980's, mentioned to Captain Phillips about his experience in Somali waters.

"We sailed in that area, and often visited Somalia's main Port of Mogadishu. It was not a dangerous place to visit, even at night. It is interesting to note how times have changed," said Mr. Piyasena.

The draft Resolution on Piracy adopted at the conference included the recognition of the positive effect of naval operations in high risk areas and the need for appropriate policies to cover Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel and their weapons on board in high risk areas.

Strategic management skills for supervisors



Principles of change management were amongst the topics discussed at the workshop.

FIJI Ports Training Officer Anare Leweniqila said that it is necessary for staff members at the supervisory level to understand the importance of strategic planning to build organisational capacity and develop the company's intellectual capital needs by recruiting, selecting, motivating, developing, appraising and retaining suitable employees.

Along with principles of management, human resource planning, change management and supervision, these were some of the issues under

discussion at the recent Strategic Management and Leadership Training for Supervisory level staff members of Fiji Ports and subsidiary companies during the two-day workshop conducted by Premishushil Prasad, HR/ IR Training Officer, National Training and Productivity Centre, Fiji National University.

"These are timely topics for Fiji Ports staff to take on board," said Mr Leweniqila. "We need to be prepared to meet the highest standards of productivity and performance."

Well-ordered work space for FSHIL



The FSHIL workshop is organised for greater efficiency.

STEEL, welding, sparks - though work carried out at Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries Ltd is heavy, hot, and potentially dangerous, the workshop space is kept as clean as possible. The impact of the

5S project carried out last year by FSHIL staff to improve productivity through having clean and well-ordered work spaces continues to be effective, with all staff contributing to the effort.

Variety at Suva's Port

A cable-laying ship registered in the Kerguelen Islands, a satellite tracking ship from China, and a deep seabed mineral exploration vessel from Korea. Adding to the increasing cruise and cargo vessel traffic, these ships also brought variety of purpose when they berthed at Kings Wharf in Suva.



The Isle de Re at Kings Wharf, Suva.



Water blasting to clean the wharf surface at the Port of Suva.

Clean-up for World Environment Day

ALTHOUGH wet weather hindered the original plan of cleaning up Fiji Ports' buildings and facilities at the end of the week of World Environment Day, the delay did not dampen the enthusiasm of all the Fiji

Ports staff who met Saturday morning, a week later, to scrub, polish, water blast and carry away rubbish, so making their work environments cleaner, safer and healthier, and more attractive.

Staff News



WELCOME aboard to new staff **Akosita Ranukai,**



Finance Cashier, Nazia Begum,



Revenue Cashier, and Asenaca Vakatale, temporary assigned at

FCPL Head Quarters.

Congratulations to **stevedores Malakai Banuve, Sovea Mocevakaca, Inia Raiyawa, Josaia Milamila** and **gearman Apete Camaibau,** previously Registered Relief Workers now employed in permanent positions.

Congratulations on their **promotions** to **Apete Tamani,** Supervisor, and **Deepika Mala,** Accounts



Payable 2.

Farewell to **Ulaiasi Tine, RRW**



Stevedore, and best wishes for his **retirement.**



Parking fees a possibility?

With so many vehicles making use of the car park at Muaiwalu Wharf II, charging parking fees could be a useful revenue stream.



Departing Board Chairman, Mr David Kolitagane (3rd from right), is farewelled by the Fiji Ports Board and Management team.

Ports farewells Chairman

FIJI Ports recently farewelled Chairman Mr David Kolitagane. At the informal gathering to wish Mr Kolitagane well in the

future, he was also thanked for his contribution to the company during his tenure with the Board.