

CEO's Christmas Message



AS 2013 draws to a close and we enter the festive season, it is a fitting time to reflect on what has been a dynamic year for Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL).

Record dividend

Of particular note is the record dividend cheque of \$3.6 million presented to Government. This represents 50% of FPCL's profit after tax for the 2012 financial year. The company's net profit after tax of \$7.31 million was a 30%

increase over the \$5.64 million earned in the 2011 financial year.

PTL transfer

A major undertaking in 2013 was the successful transfer of the management control of the former FPCL subsidiary Ports Terminal Ltd (PTL) to a 51% shareholding by Aitken Spence PLC. A 49% interest has been retained by FPCL on behalf of the Government of Fiji. This transfer brings the advantage of international experience and expertise to the port operations, and did not result in a loss of employment for PTL staff.

The international arena

As the major Pacific link in the global supply chain, the profile of FPCL was raised through participation at high-level

international events. Notable was the company's presence at the 28th International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH) in Los Angeles, at the Korea Capacity Building for Global Logistics and Maritime Affairs, and at the Port Operation and Management Conference in Singapore.

The region

A member of the Pacific Maritime Transport Alliance (PMTA) governing council, FPCL participated in Cook Islands-hosted 38th PMTA Conference, which confirmed the necessity of being proactive in order to maintain the company's position as the premier provider of seaport services.

The company is already taking steps to address areas critical

to this position, such as the infrastructure Development and Master Plan Consultancy, Environmental Management, IT Development and Networking with Pacific Ports.

Thank you

Meeting the challenges of what has been an exciting and demanding year has been made possible through the commitment and hard work of the FPCL team, thank you for your dedication. We take this opportunity to thank our Chairman and the Board of Directors for their guidance and able support. A merry Christmas and a safe, happy and prosperous New Year to you all and your families.

Vajira Piyasena
CEO Fiji Ports Corporation Limited

Going green a step closer

WITH the Fiji Ports Corporation Ltd (FPCL) Board approval of the Green Energy and Technology Policy and the Environmental Policy, steps have already been taken to implement these in the most efficient and effective way possible.

Mr Eminoni Kurusiga, FPCL General Manager Port Operations, said that one immediate outcome from the recent FPCL Strategy Planning Workshop has been the formation of an

over-arching Green Energy and Technology Committee comprised of seven members from the Management team, representing Suva, Lautoka and Levuka Ports, to oversee implementation of policy.

Initial discussions have been held to investigate the feasibility of installing solar panels as a step towards using green energy.

Carrying out the Environmental Policy is compatible with the role of the FPCL and Fiji Ship &



Heavy Industries Ltd (FHSIL) Occupational Health and Safety Committees, which are taking up this responsibility.

Mr Kurusiga said that he has been advised by the Department of Environment of the areas that must be included

in the Fiji Ports Environmental Management Plan that needs to be designed for roll-out in 2014.

He commended the OHS committees for being pro-active in recycling initiatives and not waiting for the plan to be completed.

Christmas at Muaiwalu

THE festive season is a time for returning to islands and villages for family reunions and celebrating Christmas. The holiday spirit is apparent at the Muaiwalu local wharf with the annual influx of passengers and their goods, along with cargo that seems to increase at the holiday time, seeking space on the local vessels plying the outer islands.

"This time of year is always a challenge for us," said Mr Marika Koroï, Ports

Supervisor, Local Wharf, who has a six-man team covering every shift at the wharf for safety and security.

"But we appreciate the cooperation that the Shipping Agents give us in following our Standard Operating Procedures. Priority is given to vessels coming in to berth and offload passengers and cargo."

With the Lomaiviti II now including Tuvalu in its itinerary, there is an increase of capacity at the wharf. But



Muaiwalu wharf sees increased activity as the holiday season begins.

this space is quickly taken up by the roll-on roll-off and conventional vessels that want

to berth, as well as yachts and fishing vessels wanting to use the facility.



Captain Joji Takape (back row, 6th from left) with delegates of the Ports Operation and Management Conference, Singapore.

UPON return from a fact-finding trip observing the Port of Singapore, Suva Harbour Master Captain Joji Takape, said he had gained "an enhanced knowledge of port operations, especially container terminal operations and yard control."

He said that like Suva, the Singapore Port is essential to

the economic life of an island nation, making it possible to make comparisons between the two.

He said that in Singapore, in the interests of safety, all piloting structures and activities were organised on one platform, as a non-competitive, non-commercial operation.

More cruise vessels for holiday season

AS 2014 approaches, the Security Department is preparing for a further increase in cruise vessel visits over the holiday period

Before arriving at the Port of Suva, cruise ships and liquid bulk vessels such as oil tankers require assurance that the Port is International Ships and Ports Security (ISPS) compliant.

"The increasing numbers of these types of vessel arriving at the Port are proof of the standards of safety and security being maintained, as is the breach-free record held by Fiji's Port," said Captain Jeke



Fiji's breach-free record contributes to increased cruise ship arrivals.

Vakararawa, FPCL Senior Port Facility Security Officer.

2014 will also see a security assessment conducted for all the international ports of entry and the drawing up of a new security plan in preparation for the five-yearly 2014 Security Audit.

Transition from retail to ship repair

MR Ashneel Chand has joined Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries Ltd as the company's Accountant.

He said that although he took up his new post a few weeks after his predecessor had left, the support he received from FPCL Acting General Manager Finance, Mr. Shyman Reddy and other staff and management of FSHIL had

helped to make the transition from his background in the retail industry to ship repairs and heavy industries, "that much easier."

"Actually finance and accounting functions/processes remain the same from place to place, only the nature of business changes. It really is just a matter of taking changes as a challenge and

adapting to the new business environment," said Mr. Chand, "But it was a good experience for me to face the crunch straight away since I started off during month-end when monthly management accounts are prepared."

He is enjoying working in a completely different business environment with energetic staff that are customer focused



FSHIL Accountant, Mr. Ashneel Chand.

and finds it "exciting to come to work each day and see the different ships on the slipways."

Strategic planning at workshop

THE FPCL and FSHIL Strategic Planning Workshop included a full agenda of speakers: representatives of Government bodies, maritime industry stakeholders and from the business and manufacturing sectors, as well as FPCL Executive Management.

Their presentations opened discussion on



The FPCL and FSHIL staff with Board Director, Mr Vilash Chand (flr 3rd from left) and CEO Mr Vajira Piesena (flr 3rd from right).

how mutually beneficial relationships could continue to be fostered, optimising business opportunities for all concerned.

The workshop was also an opportunity for FPCL and FSHIL staff to discuss policies, procedures and their implementation in 2014 and beyond.

Fire and evacuation drill at Lautoka



All staff turned out for the fire drill at Lautoka.

THE Port of Lautoka's ten fire wardens attended the second of the two fire and evacuation drills that it is mandatory to have each year.

Conducted by personnel from the National Fire Authority, the drill was also

attended by another 45 Lautoka Port employees.

While fire wardens revised their duties and refreshed their skills, it was also an opportunity for the other staff members to learn what to do in the case of a fire.

From B plumber to Works Supervisor

MR Samuela Vasukira has been appointed as Works Supervisor at Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries Ltd.

He began his career in 1990 at the Government Shipyard as a plumbing and sheetmetal apprentice in the engineering department. Since then he has progressed from Plumber Grade B to Grade A, and in 2011 was promoted to Assistant Estimator.

Mr Vasukira, who comes from Wainibuka, said that his promotion has come about partly because he has taken advantage of the workshops and training opportunities offered by FSHIL.



FSHIL Works Supervisor, Mr Samuela Vasukira.

In his new position as Works Supervisor he creates a link between the workers and the department foremen on one the hand, and management on the other, and is responsible for the schedules booking ships into the shipyard.

New website launched



THE newly launched and upgraded FPCL website makes it possible for staff to access their mail and any documentation they may need to complete their work.

Staff will also have access to Human Resources and will be able to file for leave on-line. FPCL staff have two months in which to update their details on-line, after which they will be restricted to user only access.

A security system controls access to records and documents.

Congratulations Shyman

FPCL Acting GM Finance, Mr Shyman Reddy, is the 2013 recipient of the Young Accountant of the Year Award, an honour bestowed by the Fiji Institute of Accountants.

Nominated by the CEO of FPCL, and with previous employers as referees, the professional body of his peers assessed the documentation showing not only the faster than normal progress Mr Reddy

has made in his career, but also the contribution he is making to both FPCL and the accounting profession as a whole.



Rajnish at home with Fiji Ships



FSHIL Works Manager, Rajnish Kumar, (right) shown here with the engineering team, is familiar with workshops.

Heavy Industries Ltd, Mr Rajnish Kumar brings extensive experience in state-of-the-art technologies to his role.

He has worked for companies as diverse as Goodman Fielder International, Fiji Water, Emperor Goldmines, Pacific Green and British American Tobacco.

"No matter which company, engineers actually doing the job need to be aware of environmental issues," said

Mr Kumar.

Accustomed to working in companies that practice Lean Six Sigma or ISO 9000 systems, Mr Kumar began his career as a Fitting and Machining Apprentice with the Public Works Department, so he felt "right at home" when he saw the lathes in the FSHIL workshop.

"My climbing the ranks in managerial roles has been based on my technical expertise, so I decided to increase my education, and obtained a Masters Degree from University of the South Pacific," he said.

NEWLY appointed as Works Manager at Fiji Ships and

job need to be aware of environmental issues," said

OHS update

ELECTIONS have been held for the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Committees at both FPCL and FSHIL. FPCL staff cast their votes. (Photo top left).



The OHS Committees have initiated a paper recycling programme. Scrap paper is "paid for in kind" with toilet paper made from the recycled paper. Scrap paper is weighed at the recycling plant. (Photo top right)

Atile Sorovaki (standing) is the new Chairman of the FSHIL OHS Committee.



New entry to Suva Port

ENCOMPASSING the North and South gates to the Port of Suva, the exit lanes from the bus station and the Suva Market, the 700 metre Harris Road is one of the busiest and carries some of the heaviest vehicles in Suva.

The rehabilitation work currently being carried out on behalf of the Fiji Roads

Authority (FRA) will see a new road design layout put in place, completely changing the way traffic moves through this part of the city.

In future, trucks to the wharf will come from Walu Bay, around the roundabout at the foot of Edinburgh Drive, and enter the Port of Suva through a designated lane

(May Street).

Renown Street will only allow traffic in from the bus lane, and to exit from behind Williams and Gosling. As well as the new kerbs, islands and bollards being constructed, there will be new traffic lights installed to help direct the changed traffic flows safely and efficiently.



The Harris Road rehabilitation project will change the flow of traffic.

Staff News

Welcome to **Ronald Sue, Port Engineer, FPCL Technical Department,** and to **Seema Kumar PA** for the COO of PTL.



Congratulations to Urakamate Rigamoto on his promotion to **Supervisor Handling.** **Farewell**



and best wishes to **RRW Machine Operator Liva Naituku** who has retired after more than 20 years of service.

Walking for health



Staff at Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries Ltd (FSHIL) have kicked off a fitness campaign with an after-work walk along Walu Bay's Foster Road.