



Vol. 27 #2 / April - June 2010

MISSION - To provide a safe, reliable, high quality electricity supply, in an environmentally responsible manner, utilizing best practices, through empowered employees committed to excellence and customer satisfaction.





Editorial

On June 15th, United States President Barrack Obama, in a national address regarding the response to the BP oil spill on the Gulf coast, used these words to describe the situation: "Already, this oil spill is the worst environmental disaster America has ever faced. And unlike an earthquake or a hurricane, it's not a single event that does its damage in a matter of minutes or days. The millions of gallons of oil that have spilled into the Gulf of Mexico are more like an epidemic, one that we will be fighting for months and even years."

The irony that this spill occurred on Earth Day, and one month before World Environment Day (WED) observances has not escaped the attention of many.

Initial media reports stated that the threat of the oil spill to the Caribbean was slight, but the relative unpredictability of the hurricane season is an unknown factor, the effect of which the experts so far have been unable to fully quantify. While the U.S. focuses on recovering from this incident it has served as a harsh reminder that we all need to pay greater focus on environmental protection.

This does not necessarily require national effort- though that too is needed- but individual and corporate responsibility.

At home, T&TEC remains committed to the protection of the environment. We are currently in the process of obtaining ISO 14001:2004 registration and certification for our Environmental Management System (EMS). The EMS is a comprehensive system that will direct our efforts in Water conservation, Energy Conservation, Paper Conservation and Spill Prevention and Response. The measures are detailed in the Waste Management Programme component of the EMS.

Already Distribution Central and Tobago have major projects that protect the environment through Spill Prevention and Response/Mitigation. At the Cove Power Station there is also a system in place for capturing all the waste oil used in the generation process and transferring it to the appropriate agencies for recycling. Several areas also have continuous projects in paper conservation, recycling and waste reduction.

As the Health and Safety Department finalises the EMS for formal introduction throughout the Commission, it is

appropriate to start, if you haven't done so already, thinking about how to get involved on a personal level. Consider it a personal challenge to change the way you operate on the job and away from the office. Review the recommendations from the General Manager in his WED message to employees, and consider this: one carton (10 reams) of 100% virgin copier paper uses 0.6 trees. How many reams of paper does your department go through each month? By reusing or recycling paper, thereby reducing the demand for paper, you can help save thousands of trees annually.

Paper conservation is perhaps the easiest step to take but more and more community level NGO's are being set up to facilitate the recycling of plastic bottles, in addition to those that already recycle paper. Recycling plastic bottles, or, even better, using reusable bottles, can remove an estimated 12,162 plastic bottles from Trinidad and Tobago's beaches annually.

If your department or community doesn't yet have any programmes in place to benefit the generation consider becoming a champion for the cause.

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Welcome to T&TEC's new line Minister



The Electric Family sincerely welcomes Senator, the Honourable Emmanuel George, Minister of Public Utilities - our new line Minister. Minister Emmanuel George has replaced former Minister Mustapha Abdul-Hamid, following the ascension of the People's Partnership into Government after the General Elections of May 24th.

We wish to take the opportunity to pledge our support to Minister George as we collaboratively work towards achieving the mandate of providing a safe, reliable, high quality electricity supply to our customers.

We wish the Minister an enjoyable and rewarding tenure as Minister of Public Utilities.

Look out for our feature on Senator, the Honourable Emmanuel George in the next issue of the **WHAT'S HAPPENING**.

T&TEC joins in national call to Clean Up and Beautify T&T

Hot on the heels of World Environment Day held on June 5th, the nation was called to action by the Prime Minister, the Honourable Kamla Persad-Bissessar, to help alleviate our country's perennial flooding problems.

Sunday June 27th 2010 was declared National Clean Up and Beautify Trinidad and Tobago Day (C&B T&T). Individuals, groups and companies like T&TEC got together to do just that.

Since T&TEC has always been committed to environment preservation, our participation in this drive came naturally. The Distribution Division's contribution to this effort was focused on cleaning up around Area Offices and Substations.

As stated in the Commission's Mission and echoed in our Core Values, T&TEC is ... committed to nation building and the protection and preservation of the environment. We therefore salute the T&TEC volunteers who demonstrated this value on behalf of the rest of us.



The T&TEC crew from Distribution South gear up for the clean up action.



Employees remove debris in front of the Orange Grove Substation.



Employees pitch in to beautify the Palmiste Park in La Romain.

Reform Substation Commissioned



The Reform 132 kV switching station forms an integral part of the 132 kV south transmission programme. The 132 kV switching station was commissioned in December 2009. The site also houses the new Reform 12 kV Substation which was commissioned in March 2010.

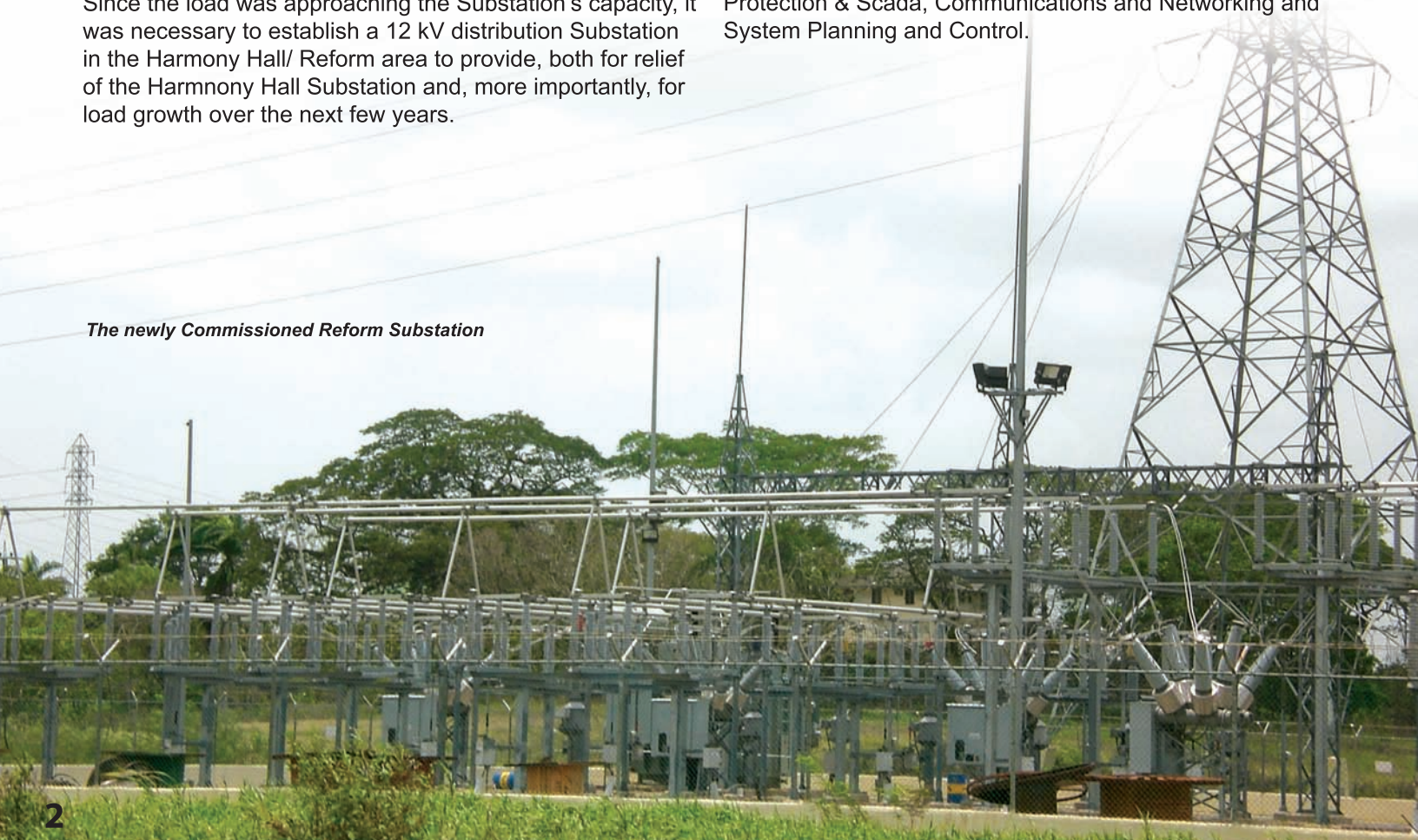
The Reform 132 kV switching station consists of nine 132 kV circuit breakers. Two additional 132 kV circuit breakers would be installed, in the near future, to provide Petrotrin with a 132 kV supply, to cater for the demand which would arise out of the company's refinery upgrade exercise.

Since the load was approaching the Substation's capacity, it was necessary to establish a 12 kV distribution Substation in the Harmony Hall/ Reform area to provide, both for relief of the Harmony Hall Substation and, more importantly, for load growth over the next few years.

The Reform 12 kV Substation project consists of the installation of two – 132/12 kV, 30/40 MVA transformers and an 11 panel switch board with associated protection, metering, communication and other supporting equipment. The Substation will greatly improve the reliability of supply to communities in Gasparillo, Harmony Hall, Williamsville, Mayo, St. Joseph Village, parts of San Fernando and environs.

All 12 kV distribution work, including assembly of the transformers and the construction of the overhead line 12 kV feeders were done by Distribution South. Other Departments that were engaged in this project included: Protection & Scada, Communications and Networking and System Planning and Control.

The newly Commissioned Reform Substation



Farewell to Board of Commissioners

The Commission acknowledges and thanks the former Board of Commissioners of T&TEC for their service.

The nine-member Board has contributed to the legacy of the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission through their leadership, commitment and level of insight as they made decisions that guided the Commission towards the delivery of its Mission to the people of Trinidad and Tobago during the period of their tenure, November 2008 to May 2010.

The former Board of Commissioners of T&TEC was led by Chairman, Professor Clément Imbert; and comprised Hakeem Ahmad (Deputy Chairman); Professor Chandrabhan Sharma, Mr. Sheldon Cyrus, Mr. Zameer Mohammed, Ms. Gina Ferguson-Spencer, Mr. Bernard Mitchell, Mr. Carlisle Jordan and Ms. Ann-Marie Byer.

The power to make it work... in Otaheite

On 25th April, 2010 the new Otaheite Substation was energized. This new Substation would provide a reliable supply of electricity to the largest WASA booster station in the southern part of the country that is currently under construction, S. M. Jaleel, and other Residential, Commercial and Industrial customers in the area.

The Otaheite project entailed the construction and commissioning of the Penal-Otaheite 33 kV and Fyzabad-Otaheite 33 kV overhead transmission lines.

The Otaheite Substation is outfitted with indoor 33 kV SF₆ gas insulated switchgear.

Distribution South's Substation Engineer, explained that the Commission adopted the indoor design due to the space limitations at the site. It is also, no doubt, aesthetically pleasing.



Photos show the Indoor 33 kV SF₆ gas insulated switchgear.



Progress of Gateway Substation

As reported previously, the Commission has embarked on an expansion programme which included extending the 132 kV system into Port of Spain.

On completion of the project, the reliability of supply to the City of Port of Spain and its environs will be significantly improved.

The Gateway project was started in 2007 and entailed the following:

- The construction of a 132 kV double circuit tower line from the Bamboo Substation to the Sea Lots area.
- The construction of a 132 kV underground cable system from Sea Lots to Gateway Substation located at Flament Street next to the Port of Spain Substation.
- The establishment of the Gateway 132/33 kV Substation. The design incorporates both a 132 kV and a 33 kV indoor gas-insulated switchgear.

The Gateway Substation is intended to replace the 40-year old 33 kV switchboard at the Port of Spain Power Station. Lately, there have

been a number of faults on this old switch board, which have affected the reliability of supply to the City.

Needless to say the project has presented numerous challenges to our engineers. One example was the difficulty in finding a suitable line route from Bamboo to Sea Lots- bearing in mind the line traverses wet lands- and dealing with those environmental challenges while adhering to environmental laws.

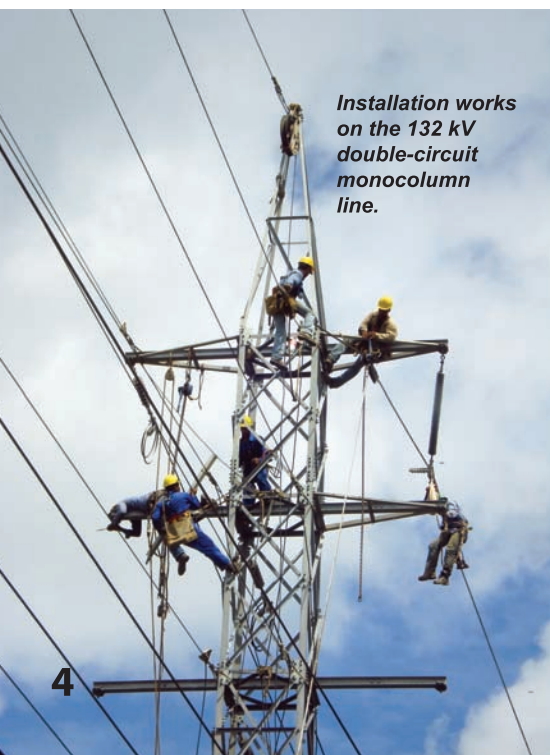
Another challenge was finding a cable route from Sea Lots to the Gateway Substation while considering Developments such as the Hyatt Regency and other large buildings along this route.

Crossing Wrightson Road, Port of Spain with this cable is also a challenge as various services – the city's waste water system and salt water mains, together with, underground telephones and natural gas lines – are buried beneath the route.

While engineers grapple with these and other challenges, the Commission remains confident that they will find acceptable solutions.

At present, the 132 kV line has been installed. Also, a contract for the remaining part of the underground duct work to accommodate the 132 kV cables, in the vicinity of the Hyatt Regency, will be awarded soon. The 132 kV and 33 kV Switchgear have been installed and tested. Work has already started on the installation of two 132/33 kV, 100 MVA transformers, which are already positioned on their respective plinths. Bearing no unforeseen problems with the installation of the cable crossing under Wrightson Road, the Gateway project is expected to be completed by the 1st quarter of 2011.

The success of this project is credited to the Transmission Development and Engineering Services Department who has been charged with the responsibility to design, develop and execute the Gateway Project. Undoubtedly, the Project is a difficult one to execute, but the men and women of this Department have risen to the challenge.



Installation works on the 132 kV double-circuit monocolumn line.



132/33 kV, 100/130 MVA Power Transformer spotted on plinth, to be assembled.



Areva 132 kV gas insulated switchgear at Gateway Substation.

Management Appointments



Mr. Jonathan Cumberbatch has been appointed as Assistant General Manager – Human Resources effective June 1st 2010.

Mr. Cumberbatch's career in Human Resource management spans over seventeen years. He has worked in both the public and private sectors, local and regional, at a number of companies, including Pepsi Americas Inc. and 3M

International. His last position was Director, Human

Resources for the Hilton Group, a position containing variable regional responsibilities.

The new AGM-HR holds a Bachelors degree in Business Management (BBM) with a HR major from Ryerson University, Canada and a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) degree from the University of Oxford-Brookes, United Kingdom. He is also qualified as a Quality Auditor from the Institute of Business (IOB) and has a working knowledge of Spanish.

Mr. Cumberbatch was on the Executive of the Human Resource Management Association of Trinidad and Tobago (HRMATT) for ten years from 1996 holding the position of Vice President from 2004 to 2006. Mr. Cumberbatch has served as a Board Member of the YMCA for five years from 2001 to 2006.



Mr. Richard Sitahal is the new Assistant Area Manager for Distribution South. This appointment was effective from April 1st 2010.

Mr. Sitahal holds a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering. He has attended courses in Job Hazard Analysis/ Risk Assessment, Bid Evaluation Essentials and

Industrial Relations for Managers.

An employee with over 16 years of employment at T&TEC, Mr. Sitahal joined the Commission in 1994 as part of the Engineer-in-Training programme. Mr. Sitahal has worked in the Systems Planning and Control Department, Distribution Central, AGM – Distribution Office, AGM-Transmission Office and the Supplies Department.

Mr. Sitahal has acted as Supplies Manager and Assistant Area Manager, Central.



Mr. Shazard Mohammed has been promoted to Assistant Area Manager. This appointment was effective from May 1st 2010 and he has been assigned to Distribution Tobago.

Mr. Mohammed joined T&TEC as an Engineer-in-Training in 1992. During his 18 years of employment, Mr. Mohammed worked at Distribution East,

Distribution Central and Distribution South. He has acted as Assistant Area Manager at various intervals since 2005.

Mr. Mohammed has a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering. He has also attended various courses including Management of Transformation, Project Management and Root Case Analysis.

Until his new appointment, Mr. Mohammed was the former Vice Chairman of the Senior Staff Association.



After 11 years of working at Distribution North,

Mr. Kendel Francis, Assistant Area Manager, has been transferred to Distribution Central. This appointment was effective from April 18th.

Mr. Francis holds a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree in Electrical Engineering. He joined T&TEC in 1995 under the

Engineer-in-Training programme. In 1997 Mr. Francis was transferred to Distribution North as Engineer II. After several appointments, Mr. Francis was appointed Assistant Area Manager in 2008.

Mr. Francis acted, for a short time, as Assistant Area Manager at Distribution Tobago in 2008.

Mr. Anthony Ramsumair, Assistant Area Manager, has been transferred to Distribution North from April 1st.

Prior to this transfer, Mr. Ramsumair held the same position at Distribution Support, Head Office.

The holder of a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Mr. Ramsumair also has an Advanced Diploma in Business Administration. He joined T&TEC as an Engineer-in-Training in 1992.

Mr. Ramsumair worked at Distribution North; Systems, Planning and Control Department; and Transmission Development and Engineering Services Department. In 2007 he acted as Assistant Area Manager at Distributions Central and South; later that same year he was appointed to the position.

Photo Unavailable

Employees encouraged to protect the Environment

On June 5th, World Environment Day (WED), we were all asked to heed the call to improve the state of the environment in which we live. Over one month has since passed; can you say that you have heeded that call?

This year's WED theme was "Many Species...One Planet...One Future." In his WED message to employees, the General Manager, Mr. Indarjit Singh spoke about the Commission's plans to have its Environment Management System (EMS) registered and certified under the ISO 14001:2004.

A number of initiatives, born out of the EMS, are specifically targeted towards waste management, and are listed under T&TEC's Waste Management Programme (WMP). The WMP is a tool designed to deal with the handling, storage, transporting, disposal and tracking of all waste created as a result of the Commission's operations.

In the Oct-Dec 2009 issue of the ~~WATS~~ ^{WHAT'S HAPPENING} we highlighted some of the projects - disposal of paper, water and energy conservation - that were implemented by Distributions Central and Tobago, the Areas selected for piloting the EMS.



WED2010
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY • 5 JUNE
MANY SPECIES ONE PLANET ONE FUTURE

The Environment Management System (EMS) is a tool used to manage our environmental obligations and aspirations. It is already being implemented in Distribution Central and Tobago.

Since that time, a number of other initiatives were introduced. These included:

- **The Construction of a Bio-Remediation Site**

Located in the Central Area Sports Club's backyard, this project was completed last February.

The site is designed to relieve the problem of oil pollution, by using living microbes to transform harmful substances into non-toxic compounds. When soil is contaminated, it is excavated and transported to the bio-site. Bioremediation process is initiated with the use of an enhanced microbe liquid suspension. The soil is filled and watered daily so that the bacteria in the Gator Wash will have an adequate amount of air and moisture to live and perform its biodegrading activities.

- **Spill Prevention Programme**

Defective transformers are placed in reused barrels to prevent spills during transportation from the worksite to the waste storage site at Tobago Area's compound. At this point the mineral insulating oils within the transformers are pumped and stored in special containers for disposal.

Maintenance work on all oil-filled electrical equipment is carried out on sorbent mats or with sorbent fabrics to contain spills and leaks.

The Waste Management Programme, under the EMS, will soon be rolled out to all of the Commission's Distribution Areas. Its success will depend on the support and participation of all employees. Be ready to heed the call for environment protection. It is everyone's responsibility. Remember, every act, no matter how small, will contribute towards the preservation of our planet.

IEEE President visits Trinidad

Mr. Moshe Kam, President Elect of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) paid a courtesy call on T&TEC's Senior Executives at Mt. Hope recently.

At a welcome dinner, T&TEC's then Chairman, Professor Clément Imbert, T&TEC's General Manager Mr. Indarjit Singh and other T&TEC officials, presented Mr. Kam with a copy of T&TEC's historical tome, "Electricity in Trinidad and Tobago 1895-2006" as well as the latest copy of the **What's Happening**.

Mr. Kam was on a four day visit to Trinidad on the invitation of the University of the West Indies (UWI) to take part in an accreditation exercise for its Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.



Right: Mr. Moshe Kam is presented with a copy of T&TEC's history book by the Chairman Professor Clément Imbert.



Mr. Moshe Kam (centre) with General Manager Mr. Indarjit Singh (2nd from right) and other members of T&TEC's Executive.

IEEE Caravan in South

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) T&T Section hosted a Teacher in Service Program (TISP) workshop in collaboration with the Ministry of Education on March 13th 2010 at the Royal Hotel in San Fernando.

T&TEC employee, Keron Seebaran conducted sessions at the workshop targeted at Secondary School science teachers of the Victoria District.

The Chairman of the IEEE T&T Section and UWI Lecturer Mr. Fernando Castellanos explained that the aim of the TISP workshop was to build teacher-IEEE volunteer relationships for a sustainable pre-university programme.



Dr. Faizool Muddeen, UWI Lecturer and Treasurer of the IEEE T&T Section with participants during one of the lesson plans "Build Your Own Robot Arm."



RIC revises T&TEC's performance standards



Effective April 1, 2010, the Regulated Industries Commission (RIC) has revised the Guaranteed and Overall Electricity Performance Standards for T&TEC.

The new standards feature higher performance levels; increased penalties and automatic compensatory payments for breaches under all Guaranteed Electricity Standards, except GES 1.

The following is a summary of the new and improved GES and OES.

NEW GUARANTEED ELECTRICITY STANDARDS (GES):

- GES 5 -** Investigation of voltage complaints:
Visit within 24 hrs; Correct within 15 working days.
- GES 6 -** Response to billing and payment queries:
Give a substantive reply to written queries within 15 working days.

IMPROVED GUARANTEED ELECTRICITY STANDARDS (GES):

- GES 1 -** Restoration of supply after unplanned outage:
Restore supply within 10 hours (2 hours quicker than previous GES 1) up to 200% increase in penalty payments for breach.
- GES 2 -** Billing Punctuality for new customers:
Mail first bill within 60 days to Residential and Commercial customers, and within 30 days to Industrial customers (5 days earlier than the previous GES 2).
- GES 7 -** New connection of supply:
Connect within 3 working days (Previous Standard ranged from 3-20 days).

THE FOLLOWING GES REMAIN UNCHANGED:

- GES 3 -** Reconnection of electricity within 24 hours after settling overdue amounts or reaching agreement on payment schedule.
- GES 4 -** 24 hours notice of our inability to keep an appointment.

- GES 8 -** Compensatory payments owed under Guaranteed Standards within 60 working days for Residential and Commercial customers and within 30 working days for Industrial customers.

NEW OVERALL ELECTRICITY STANDARDS (OES):

- OES 3 -** Visit or give a substantive reply when responding to meter problems within 10 working days, 95% of the time.
- OES 5 -** Repairs to street lights:
Repair 100% of failed street lights, with the exception of highway lighting, within 7 working days.
Repairs 100% of failed highway lighting within 14 working days.
- OES 7 -** Response to claims:
Notify 100% of all customers of T&TEC's receipt of claim under Guaranteed Standard GES1, within 10 working days.

THE FOLLOWING OES REMAIN UNCHANGED:

- OES 1 -** Read 90% of Industrial meters every month.
Read 90% of Residential and Commercial meters according to schedule.
- OES 2 -** Mail 98% of electricity bills within 10 working days after meter reading.
- OES 4 -** Give 3 days advanced notice of planned outages 100% of the time.
- OES 6 -** Give a substantive response to written customer queries/requests, within 10 working days and communicate final position within 30 working days.

These standards spell out the accepted quality of service levels that the Commission must achieve. We are therefore required to work diligently towards meeting and exceeding these stipulations. Remember, it is our customers' right to a safe, reliable, high quality electricity supply.

Quality Management

ISO 9001...

A leap in the right direction

T&TEC's quest to acquire ISO 9001 Quality Management System (QMS) certification for its Distribution operations took a positive leap when the pilot project at Distribution South was pre assessed in March this year. ~~WHAT'S HAPPENING~~ spoke to Mr. Vishnu Seetaram, Assistant Area Manager and ISO Coordinator for Distribution South on the recent audit.

The pre assessment of our Distribution operations was conducted by National Quality Assurance (NQA), USA over two days (March 31 and April 1). The NQA team comprised Mr. James E Dozier, General Manager and Mr. Steve Marquedant former General Manager and now Associate Auditor.

In presenting their findings, the NQA team noted how impressed they were by the levels of customer focus and the effort and enthusiasm shown. According to Mr.

Seetaram, the NAQ singled out the Commercial section for high praise. Some amendments however, were highlighted and timelines were set for effectively implementing the recommendations."

The Distribution South ISO team is currently working on ensuring that these recommendations are implemented, and are confident that they will be ready for final ISO assessment by August this year.

Below: Mr. Vishnu Seetaram and two of the ISO team members - Sacha Lyman and Aronie Bahadoor - at one of their daily meetings.





Mr. George Weekes, the then OWTU President General (2nd from left), leads the first meeting in which the OWTU was recognised as the official bargaining body for T&TEC workers.

T&TEC and OWTU approach 40 year milestone

Forty years is a long time. So when the Oilfields Workers Trade Union (OWTU), in 1969 became the official bargaining body for T&TEC's monthly and hourly-paid workers, one might not have imagined a spell that long. For 23 years prior, between the years 1946 to 1969, the Commission had no less than four unions representing the interests of workers.

But stability came in the form of the George Weekes-led OWTU, which successfully challenged the Federated Workers Trade Union (FWTU) and the Electricity Supply Industrial Union (ESIU) in 1969 for recognition as the Commission's bargaining body.

The next year, 1970, the OWTU led negotiations for improved salaries and working conditions for monthly-paid workers and on December 14th, the first OWTU/T&TEC labour agreement was signed. Seventeen years later in 1987, the T&TEC Board of Commissioners included a union representative for the first time. That person was the then OWTU President General, Errol McLeod.

The OWTU has provided over forty years of unparalleled quality representation for T&TEC workers. And as said by former General Manager of the Commission, Mr. Leo Martin, "...the relationship between the Commission and the union was never a divisive one in spite of the differences which normally accompanied the resolution of industrial relations issues".

On June 19th workers across Trinidad and Tobago recognised Labour Day. It is therefore an opportune time for us to remember the work of the labour movement in Trinidad and Tobago and in particular, T&TEC, especially stalwarts like Mr. George Weekes, Mr. Errol McLeod, Ms. Helen Rambally (T&TEC's first woman employee to have served as an official on the OWTU), and the many others who paved the way for the revolutionary OWTU as we know it.

HSE embarks on Outreach Programmes

The Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Department continues to do its part in educating the public. To this end the Department has embarked on an Outreach Programme designed to educate the public about electricity: electrical hazard identification, effects of electricity on the human body, electrical safety devices, corrective measures, conservation tips, electrical safety awareness with respect to, disaster preparedness – earthquakes, lightning and hurricanes.



Nakeisha Noel, Clerk of the HSE Department, has the attention of visitors to the T&TEC booth.



Kids play the safety and conservation board game.

During the months of February, March and April the Outreach caravan conducted training at Malabar R.C. School; Ramapanlgas R.C. School;

New Testament Church of God, North Oropouche; Sangre Grande Majid Compound; Pembroke Anglican School, Tobago; Cumuto R.C. School;

Manzanilla Community Centre; San Souci Community and Coryal Recreation Grounds.

Praise for Central Crew

On April 7th, 2010 the T&TEC Hot Line Crew completed connection on the PPGPL's 12kV feeder at their Pt. Lisas Plant. Mr. Amir Mohammed, Senior I&E Engineer/Lead I&E Engineer Interconnects, Storage and Phase 1 Electrical Reliability at Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited (PPGL), wrote to the Commission to specially commend the men for their hard work.

He said, "the job, while not a true hot line job, was executed with the same precautions and care as if it was such a task. I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to T&TEC for completion of this job safely. While this may be a regular job for the hot line crew, it was certainly new for PPGPL as such work was never attempted on our system until yesterday."

Mr. Mohammed commended the crew on their continued focus to safety at all times. "At no point was the safety of the Crew or any PPGPL personnel compromised." Additionally he said, "the skill and experience of the Crew, as well as the quality of the job, was of the highest standard and the system was treated as if it were T&TEC's. Finally, the experience of your Supervisor, Mr. Ardene Hart, showed in every way all forms of good leadership and his openness to suggestions from PPGPL and Syleg/Inelectra was highly commendable."

Special appreciation was paid to Mr. Hart for remaining a while longer, while PPGPL's 12kV system was re-energised, to ensure that no problems existed with the new connections.



Mr. Mohammed indicated that PPGPL is looking forward to executing similar work with T&TEC, "especially as our facility 12kV distribution system is in the form of these overhead lines and maintenance (both hot line and de-energised) may be required at times."

Well done Central Crew Members:

Back row from left : Sherwin Francis (Driver Ag.)

Ashram Sankar (Hotline Foreman)

Ardene Hart – Snr. Foreman

Sherwin Baptiste (Hotline Forman Ag)

Adrian Ransome (Labourer)

Front row from left : Dwayne Peters (Hotline Linesman)

Mahendra Sankar (Hotline Linesman)

Missing from photo: Davindra Kangal (Labourer)

Camaraderie, Sportsmanship displayed at 45th Annual Sports Day



Some prayed that their team would reign supreme and emerge victorious at the end of the games. Others prayed for an end to the heavy rains of the few days prior. We all prayed for a fun, injury-free day. Whether or not our prayers were answered, it was an exciting day of battle among the teams who tried to dethrone last year's overall champs, Southern Area Sports Club.

T&TEC's General Sports and Cultural Club's (GSCC) 45th annual Sports and Family Day 2010 was eventful as expected. The big event, originally carded for May 23rd at the Ato Boldon Stadium, was postponed to June 6th at the Larry Gomes Stadium to make way for activities associated with the general elections.

The then Chairman Professor Clément Imbert officially declared the Sports open and encouraged all to enjoy the day in the spirit of friendship and camaraderie for which T&TEC is known. He also thanked all in the Electric Family for the support given to him as Chairman – a job he thoroughly enjoyed.

Sports Day 2010 was one with a few firsts: it was the first Sports day under a new GSCC Honourary Secretary, Mr. Garth Garraway, and the first for our new line Minister, Senator the Honourable Emmanuel George. It was also the first time a miscalculation resulted in the winner of the Roy Mitchell Parade of Teams losing the coveted title hours after being declared the winner.

After colourful presentations from seven teams – the North, South, Central, East, and Tobago Area Sports Clubs; Penal and Port of Spain Training Facilities – Distribution North was named winners of the March Past. Their jubilation ended later in the day however, when the announcement came that due to an error in tabulation, North was incorrectly awarded first place and second-placed Distribution East was the actual winner.

The GSCC Honourary Secretary Mr. Garth Garraway took full responsibility for the unfortunate faux pas, and praised all parties involved for their understanding and incredible display of sportsmanship.

Misfortune aside, it was still a fun day for the Electric Family who came out in their numbers. One highlight was the triumph of "Royal Castle over blue food" according to M.C. Errol Fabien. Last year's tug-o-war champs, the previously

undefeatable Tobago Sports Club, were dethroned by a well-prepared Central Area team.

This year also featured a number of new activities such as the fun aerobics, hop scotch and arm wrestling. The Kids' Power City, which kept the youngsters busy, also accommodated scores of children from various Children's Homes.

The day culminated with the 'Number One Supporter' event – the stands were virtually left empty as employees and their families took to the field in a huge conga line in support of their team.

Congratulations to all winners!

At right

- 1. Score board shows the final overall results.***
- 2. Tobago Sports Club looks regal during their March Past presentation.***
- 3/4. Participants 'tote' each other for a prize.***
- 5. T&TEC kids had a ball in the balloon race.***
- 6. Teams 'cash in' in the "Show me the money" event.***
- 7. Eastern Area Sports Club make convincing avatars.***
- 8. The men fought hard for a seat in the musical chairs.***
- 9. Celebration for team Central Area Sports Club in the tug-o-war.***
- 10. The female musical chairs was quite entertaining.***
- 11. General Manager Mr. Indarjit Singh presents 1st place prizes in the EAW 100m walking race.***
- 12. Penal Training Facility smartly dressed as bees.***
- 13. Members of the Tobago Sports Club make a human tower in "All aboard".***

PENAL T/F	870	1.
MT HOPE	800	
PORT OF SPAIN T/F	860 3 rd	
EASTERN AREA	1080	
TOBAGO	1190 2 nd	
CENTRAL AREA	980	
NORTHERN AREA	930	
TATECO	690	1 st
SOUTHERN AREA	1420	



Sports Day *Scoreboard*

Roy Mitchell Parade of Teams

1st Place – Eastern Area Sports Club
2nd Place – Northern Area Sports Club
3rd Place – Southern Area Sports Club

2010 Queen of Sports

Saressa Baptiste-Stroude - Eastern Area Sports Club

Most Disciplined Team

Eastern Area Sports Club

Best Team Manager

Foster Giles – Northern Area Sports Club

Denis R. Singh Tug-o-War

Central Area Sports Club

Best Performing Team Overall

1st Place – Southern Area Sports Club
2nd Place – Tobago Sports Club
3rd Place – Eastern Area Sports Club

Orlando Corneilio Memorial 10K Male

1st Place – Desta Francis – Southern Area Sports Club
2nd Place – Franklyn Alexander – Southern Area Sports Club
3rd Place – Jabari Seaforth – POS Training Facility

Ingrid George Memorial 10K Female

1st Place – Candy Superville – Tobago Sports Club
2nd Place – Khadjia Antoine – Northern Area Sport Club
3rd Place – Usha Ramcharan – Northern Area Sports Club

S.P. Ottley Memorial 5K Male

1st Place – Angus John – Southern Area Sports Club
2nd Place – Cebastien Bailey – Southern Area Sports Club
3rd Place – Michael Sobers – Tobago Sports Club

Judith Morris 5K Female

1st Place – Kimberly George – TATECO Sports Club
2nd Place – Adanna Bostic – Southern Area Sports Club
3rd Place – Charlene John – Northern Area Sports Club



With Administrative Professionals in mind

One of the most anticipated weeks in the Commission, well for at least 120 of our female employees, is Administrative Professionals Week. And why not? While we all know of the invaluable contributions of these special ladies, this is one week when they are singled out to feel extra special.

On Administrative Professionals Day (April 21st), 30 Administrative Assistants were enriched by a seminar hosted by the University of the West Indies (UWI) and Metal Industries Company Limited titled "Unlocking your true professional potential." Among the list of distinguished speakers were the Honourable Penelope Beckles, the then Deputy Speaker of the House and Wendy Fitzwilliam, Vice President – Investment Promotion, eTeck.

The Commission hosted an informative seminar the following day at Mt. Hope for all Typists, Clerk/Typists and Stenotypists. The seminar, which dealt with women's health issues, was conducted by the engaging and funny Bernadette Guiseppi, a Registered Nurse.

All Administrative Professionals were later treated to lunch at the Benihana Restaurant at Trincity Mall, where they each received tokens for Spa treatments.

Administrative Professionals Week, formerly Secretaries Week, has been celebrated worldwide since 1952. It was celebrated this year from April 18th to 24th.



Corporate Communications Manager, Ms. Annabelle Brasnell tries to get Faye Henry, former Administrative Assistant II to smile for the camera. Looking on is Rosalind Shairsingh, Executive Secretary II.



Food makes a T&TEC display at the Benihana Restaurant.



The Benihana chef puts on an impressive show for our Administrative Professionals.



Ms. Brasnell presents tokens to the ladies of honour.

NAME

Khadja Antoine
Helen Gibbs-Johnson
Jada Murray
David Williams
Nalene Ramgoolie
Geraldine Dyer
Leon Bourne
Malini Dan
Stacey Griffith
Priya Harrilal
Aneissa Hassanali
Keyon Jack
Marsha Jacob
Crystal Kissoon
Jasinda Lee Hing
Kevin Mahabir
Krista Mohamed
Neera Mohan
Shaheeda Rahaman
Bernel Rennie
Gillian Samuel
Cherron Shim
Ryan Sookoo
Kibwe Trim
Shaffick Ali
Darwin Anthony
Donny Balvin
Jagdesb Bansee
Anderson Beharry
Sieon Bethel
Alvin Bhagan
Rishi Bunsee
Jason Castello
Kevin Garcia
Lance George
Barry Harrinarine
Ryan Joefield
Sherwin Lopez
Mark Mahabir
Matthew Mahabir
Shane Mahabir
Sean Maharaj
Rajesh Mungroo
Yuraj Rooplal
Kevin Seebachan
Vishal Sooklal
Ravindra Sooknanan
Keston Wiggins

Typist
 Typist
 Typist
 Clerk III
 Clerk III
 Stewardess
 Clerk III
 Clerk III
 Clerk III
 Clerk III
 Clerk III
 Clerk III
 Clerk III
 Clerk III
 Clerk III
 Meter & Relay Mechanic II
 Clerk III
 Clerk III
 Typist
 Clerk III
 Typist
 Clerk III
 Clerk III
 Meter & Relay Mechanic II
 Labourer
 Linesman 'C'
 Linesman 'C'
 Labourer
 Linesman 'C'
 Linesman 'C'
 Labourer
 Labourer
 Labourer
 Linesman 'C'
 Messenger
 Labourer
 Labourer
 Electrician 'C'
 Labourer
 Labourer
 Labourer
 Labourer
 Labourer
 Linesman 'C'
 Welder 'C'
 Labourer
 Labourer
 Linesman 'C'

A.G.M. - Distribution
Distribution East
Transmission Maintenance
Distribution South
A.G.M. - Distribution
Distribution South
Distribution South
Distribution Central
Distribution Central
Distribution Central
Distribution Central
Distribution South
Distribution Central
Distribution Central
Human Resources Division
Metering Services
Distribution Central
Distribution South
Human Resources Division
Distribution South
A.G.M. – Distribution
Distribution Central
Distribution South
Metering Services
Distribution Central
Distribution South
Distribution South
Distribution Central
Distribution South
Distribution South
Distribution Central
Distribution Central
Distribution Central
Distribution South
Distribution Tobago
Distribution North
Distribution North
Distribution North
Distribution North
Distribution North
Distribution North
Distribution North
Distribution Central
Distribution South
Distribution North
Distribution North
Distribution North
Distribution South



PROMOTIONS

NAME

Marvin Cuffie
Krishna Nandlal
Samraj Ramnath
Suresh Singh
Nigel Boochoon
Sideek Mohammed
Stacey Jack
Jenelle Hazzard
Charisse Ryan
Raymond Williams
Christopher Laldeo
Norbert Ramsahai
Curtis Ellis
Nizam Mathura
David De Bourgh
Dennis Samm
Bernard Lewis
Tarran Ramsook
Simon Craig
Evor Billy-Peters
Charmaine Baptiste-Smith
Lee Cummings
Krishna Lal
Aliaster Purcell
Debbie Alleyne
Neil Pinchilia
Sarfraaz Ali
Natalie Du Pont-Winston
Allison Oliver
Garvin Lalchan
Danraj Ramcharan
Reena Redoy
Dexter Harris
Michael Providence
Roger Clarke
Christopher Hylegar
Vashtie Seereeram
Aleicia Maharaj
Hema Balwah

POSITION

Engineer II
Engineer II
Linesman 'B'
Linesman 'B'
Linesman 'B'
Electrician 'B'
Clerk I
Administrative Assistant IV
Human Resources Assistant
Electrician 'B'
Electrician 'B'
Linesman 'A'
Linesman 'A'
Driver – Dist. Line Truck
Driver – Dist. Line Truck
Driver – Dist. Line Truck
Linesman 'A'
Linesman 'A'
Crew Foreman
Section Leader
Human Resources Technician I
Supplies Clerk
Linesman 'B'
Linesman 'B'
Senior Clerk
Estate Corporal
Estate Corporal
Assistant Storekeeper
Senior Clerk
Electrician 'C'
Technical Assistant III
Clerk II
Linesman 'C'
Technical Assistant II
Technical Assistant III
Human Resources Technician III
Senior Clerk
Senior Clerk
Technical Assistant II

AREA/DEPARTMENT

Distribution Central
Metering Services
Distribution South
Distribution South
Distribution South
Distribution South
Transmission Dev. & Engineering Services
Commercial
Human Resources Division
Distribution South
Distribution South
Distribution South
Distribution South
Distribution South
Distribution South
Distribution South
Distribution South
A.G.M. – Distribution
Human Resources Division
Supplies
Distribution South
Distribution South
Supplies
Secretarial
Secretarial
Supplies
Transmission Dev. & Engineering Services
Distribution North
Systems Planning & Control
Distribution East
Distribution North
Distribution North
Systems Planning & Control
Human Resources Division
Supplies
Distribution Central
Systems Planning & Control

MOVING ON

NAME

Mitchum Babooram

Blaize Vidale
Fahim Mohammed
Dothan Thompson
Stephen Blackman
Usuf Islam
John Tang Yew
Dunstan Gibbs
Raphael Ramirez
Harry Seerattan

POSITION

Transport Labourer/Lorry Loader/
Borer/Lift Combination
Estate Constable
Jointer 'A'
Linesman 'A'
Crew Foreman
Communications Supervisor
Assistant Area Manager
Estate Sergeant
Crew Foreman
Line Foreman

AREA/DEPARTMENT

Distribution South
Secretarial
Distribution North
Distribution East
Distribution South
Communications
Distribution Tobago
Secretarial
Distribution North
Distribution Central

Spotlight On...



Sophia Clarke

Sophia Clarke was the Finance Department's Best Performing Employee for 2009. "I was pleased and surprised", she told **WHAT'S HAPPENING**. "It is quite an honour to be selected".

Sophia is a Clerk II attached to the Accounts Department on special assignment, since 2008, with the PeopleSoft Project.

"I enjoy my job. I like learning new things and applying it to become better at my tasks". This attitude has earned Sophia high praise from her colleagues and Departmental Head. In fact, Sophia has been credited with coming up with the design for the new payslip for employees and pensioners.

Sophia joined T&TEC in 2005 as a Clerk III in the Accounts Department assigned to the Salaries "section" in Payroll. "My responsibilities, as part of the Payroll team, were to ensure that all aspects of the monthly staff's pay were accurately and timely entered and checked". No small feat, as this included all transactions involving Earnings - overtime, travelling subsistence, special duty, acting; Deductions - loans, taxes, insurance; Appointment of new and permanent employees; Temporary extensions and promotions; Calculation of accrued leave and other benefits,

Distribution of payslips; Answering queries; ensuring that money is sent to the bank and reconciled and ensuring that reports to the Areas were completed. "The list is extensive," she said. Sophia has acted on several occasions as Senior Clerk in this Department.

This intimate understanding of the Payroll System meant that Sophia has been able to make significant contribution to the development and implementation of the new Employee Management Information Service (EMIS) Project which is being rolled out throughout the Commission.

Sophia holds a Diploma in International Computer Studies and Peachtree Accounting. She is a Member of the Supervisory Committee of TATECO Port of Spain Credit Union, elected to serve for the 2010/2011 term.



Garth Blenman

It was a bit difficult to catch up with Assistant Cable Foreman Garth Blenman. As part of the crew working on repairs to the Bamboo/Wrightson Road 66kV numbers 2 and 3, he has been quite busy.

The exhaustive repairs, which began in January, are expected to last until July. They are being conducted by Canadian consultants, Extra High Voltage Power.

When **WHAT'S HAPPENING** finally met with the friendly Garth, he hardly looked like the bustling man with almost 30 years service at T&TEC. In fact, when asked how he felt about his long service, he said "I have enjoyed every moment of it."

continued on page 19



Garth Blenman

continued from page 18

Garth clearly loves his job. It was no surprise then that he was selected as one of Distribution North's Best Performing Employees for 2009. As an Assistant Cable Foreman, he has to plan all cable-related jobs, dispatch crews and supervise the cable work throughout the country.

Garth also assists in training new employees in cable work. This is the part of the job that gives him the most fulfillment. "Being able to impart my knowledge

of cable jointing, namely terminations and splicing, to the younger persons coming into the Commission is a source of great joy and pride to me. As far as I know, T&TEC is the only place that teaches and hones this skill."

Garth's teaching of cable jointing is what inspired him to go back to school at the age of 45 in 2006, to earn his certification in Applied Electrical and Electronic Engineering. "It wasn't easy, but I got a lot of support from my family".

TATECO Launches Website At AGM



The TATECO Credit Union Co-operative Society held its 55th Annual General Meeting on March 21st. Twenty-five (25) officers were elected to serve on Committees for the new term 2010-2011.

Chief Secretary of the Tobago House of Assembly, the Honourable Orville

London attended the AGM and launched the Credit Union's Website.

The new website was in response to numerous requests by members who wished to access TATECO on a 24-hour basis. Visitors to the site can access information on all the Credit Union's products and services.



The Honourable Orville London, Chief Secretary of the Tobago House of Assembly is greeted upon his arrival. With him is TATECO President Mr. Herman Noel.

The following elected officers will serve on the Board of Directors for the new term:

Executive

Mr. Herman Noel	-	President
Mr. Foster Giles	-	Vice President
Ms. Ann Marie Forbes	-	Secretary
Mr. Kester Sealey	-	Assistant Secretary
Mr. Carlyle Clarke	-	Public Relations Officer

Directors

Mr. Philius Lawrence
Mr. Peter Leacock
Mrs. Evor Billy Peters
Mrs. Roma James
Mr. Fellie Noel
Mr. Ashmore Quashie
Mr. Norman Bobb

For a detailed list of elected officers, please check the Intranet.



Members cast their votes during the election process.

T&TEC welcomes Vacation Employees

Two batches of students, employed in 6 week cycles, form part of this years' vacation programme.

We all know that T&TEC's core business is about electricity. So, for many prospective engineers in the electrical field, a career at T&TEC is desired. No surprise then that among the applicants for places in the Commission's vacation employee programme were a number of students pursuing qualifications in Electrical Engineering.

A significant number of vacation employees are also reading for degrees in a multitude of other disciplines - Biology, English, Law, Behavioural Science and even Government Studies. These vacation employees attend a variety of institutions including the University of the Southern Caribbean (USC), University of Canada, College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT) and of course, the University of the West Indies (UWI).

The first batch of vacation students attended an orientation session on June 4th at the Port of Spain Training Facility. Facilitator Karen Joseph of the Human Resources Division covered areas such as business etiquette and quality customer service. The vacation employees were also briefed on the structure and history of T&TEC and our Vision, Mission and Core Values. Tommy Boodoo of the Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Department dealt with office and general safety awareness.



Patrina Sutton (1st row, 2nd from left), vacation employee assigned to the Corporate Communications Department, joins her colleagues from the first group of vacation employees for a group picture.

These vacation employees were assigned to all Distribution Areas and Departments for a period of six (6) weeks. The second batch of vacation employees is expected to join T&TEC in mid- July for a 6 week cycle. In all approximately 80 students will benefit from T&TEC's vacation programme.

It is anticipated that upon completion of their stint at T&TEC these young people would have gained valuable experience about the electricity supply industry and also be better equipped to permanently enter the world of work at the end of their studies.

Did you know?

About transferring an account following the death of a customer.

Here is what is required:

- ✓ Proof of ownership of premises to be connected. e.g. Title Deed, Deed of Assent, Deed of Gift, Deed of Mortgage, Deed of Lease.
- ✓ A letter from an Attorney-at-law confirming that the letters of administration/probate has been applied for and that the applicant is the Administrator/Executor of the Estate.
- ✓ The Meter number and meter reading and date, as near possible to the date of transfer.
- ✓ An arrangement for the settlement of balances in the name of the deceased depending on the circumstances.

T&TEC Remembers



POORAN KISSOON, Senior Foreman, Distribution Central passed away on June 16th. A forty year veteran with T&TEC, Mr. Kisson joined the Commission in 1970 as a Labourer rising through the ranks to hold positions at Distribution South, Distribution North and Distribution Central. He was assigned to

Distribution Central as Senior Foreman in 2004. Mr. Pooran was due to retire in January 2011. The Board, Management and Employees extend sincere condolences to Mr. Kisson's wife, Rajdaye, daughters Nadira and Nirmala and the Kisson family.

Ave-Ann awarded for time management



On April 26 – 27, 2010 seven employees attended an innovative time management programme entitled – New Habits New Goals. It was conducted by Mr Francis Wade of Framework Consulting Inc. The course was designed to help participants upgrade their time management systems and change their daily habits gradually and progressively, to produce noticeable improvements in their effectiveness on the job. Participants were able to analyze the level at which they were currently

managing their time according to certain criteria and symbolized by a series of coloured belts – white, yellow, orange and green; white representing the lowest level. At the end of the training Ave- Ann was awarded a yellow belt for her time management techniques. She is the first person who has ever been awarded a belt above the level of white on this training programme which has been conducted locally and internationally.

Junior Achievers PALANCE

Junior Achievement (JA) of Trinidad and Tobago is a non-profit organisation that has been involved in economic education nationally since 1970. JA is an organisation that inspires and prepares young people to succeed in a global economy.

T&TEC contributes to Junior Achievement through a yearly donation and by providing mentoring assistance. This year the T&TEC sponsored company is called Palance.

We are not referring to JW and Blaze's Road March hit. It was the name chosen by the Junior Achievers for the T&TEC sponsored Company, which participated in the Annual JA trade fair held on April 9th at Woodford Square in Port of Spain.

Fifteen year old Abigail St. Louis of Bishop's Centenary explained to ~~WHAT'S HAPPENING~~ the rationale for the name, "Palance was chosen because of the high spiritedness of the students in our group. Our members have come from schools all over the country. Although we are of different ages, when we first met, the energy was high and we had a lot of fun".

Mohan Jankie, 15, of Queen's Royal College and another member of Palance said of his JA experience, "I got to make friends, run my own business and express my talent."

The Palance booth was patronized by several eager buyers including Corporate Communications Manager, Ms. Annabelle Brasnell. On sale were jewelry, t-shirts, belts and hand-decorated stationery. The revenue earned from this sale will be shared among the Palance team with a portion going to a local charity.



A prospective customer at the Palance booth.



Some of the novelty items on sale.

OWTU and T&TEC in Negotiations

The Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC) and the Oilfields Workers' Trade Union (OWTU) commenced negotiations on May 11th for a new collective agreement for T&TEC's hourly and monthly workers for the period 2009 – 2011.

The T&TEC team was led by its General Manager, Mr. Indarjit Singh and comprised members of the Senior Executive, the Industrial Relations (IR) Manager, Ms. Hallima Ali, staff from the IR Department and the Acting Manager, Human Resources, Ms. Jennlyn Raphael.

The OWTU team was led by President General, Mr. Ancil Roget and included Executive Vice President, Mr.

Peter Burke, several Executive Trustees and Branch Officers.







The General Manager, Mr. Indarjit Singh began the meeting with a brief overview on the Commission. He told the meeting that the current financial viabilities of the Commission was significantly influenced by large capital works and generation expenditure. Mr. Singh presented a copy of T&TEC's revised strategic plan to Mr. Roget.

Parties agreed to conduct negotiations in a spirit of mutual cordiality and co-operation since both parties are committed to completing negotiations in a timely manner.

What's in a shape? Compact Fluorescent Lamps

Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) are modern types of light bulbs that work like fluorescent bulbs, but in a much smaller package. They produce little heat which makes them less of a fire risk and are very efficient (about 300-400% more than incandescent bulbs). CFLs normally last between 7,500 to 10,000 hours, about 10 times more than a standard incandescent (750 to 1,000 hours).

CFLs come in many shapes and sizes - Spiral Lamps; Tube Lamps; Incandescent A-line fluorescent; Globe fluorescents; Candelabra, Post or Bullet shape fluorescents and Outdoor reflector fluorescents

Bare Products		Covered Products			Reflector Products
Mini-Spiral or Twist	Tube or Universal	Incandescent/ A-line	Globe	Candelabra, Post or Bullet Shape	Indoor and Outdoor
					

Spotlight on safety...

T&TEC Safety Rules - Section 7.0 - Dress Code, Item 7.4 states "Footwear must be worn at all times. Shoes must be close toed and have support strap at the heel. No open toes shoes and slippers will be permitted".

WHAT'S HAPPENING correspondents canvassed the streets of Port of Spain looking for shoes at Moses Shoe Collection and Kristina's, which fit this criteria and these are what they found...



Doing our part to conserve water



Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Public Utilities, Ms. Jacqueline Ganteaume-Farrell, delivers the feature address at the opening of the exhibition.

The harsh drought conditions experienced during this year's dry season re-focused our thinking about water usage. T&TEC, like the rest of the nation, joined WASA's call to conserve.

So it was an easy response when T&TEC was asked to join with the Ministry of Public Utilities, the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA), the Meteorological Services, the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM), Forestry Division and Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago (TSTT) to observe 3 significant days in March - World Forestry Day (March 21st), World Water Day (March 22nd) and World Meteorological Day (March 23rd).

An exhibition, held at the Mid Centre Mall Car Park, Chaguanas over 2 days - March 22nd and 23rd - was used to mark the occasion.

T&TEC's booth, comprising educational games for children and informative slideshows and pamphlets for adults, kept visitors busy and well-informed about the importance of water conservation and how water is used in power generation. This booth

VOX POP: Why should we observe World Water Day?



"Seeing that most of our freshwater supply comes from our forests, it is important to sensitize the public about the consequences of forest fires and of course, the importance of water conservation." **Kishan, Forester I, Forestry Division.**



"It is good to be involved in an activity like this to raise awareness about the importance of water conservation. We

must all be cognizant of the effects of the present water shortage." **Gervon, TSTT.**



"We should all conserve water because we need to consider those who do not get a steady supply." **Colleen, student.**



was coordinated by the Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Department.

At the formal launch of the Exhibition, Mrs. Jacqueline Ganteaume-Farrell, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Public Utilities told the audience

"water is the source of all life...access to a clean, reliable supply of water is a basic human right." Let us use this commodity wisely and help conserve the environment.



Visitors to T&TEC's booth play the conservation board game.

Risk Assessment and Job Hazard Analysis – vital tools in the prevention of workplace accidents

“Risk Assessment, a requirement of the OSH Act, allows us to put in place proactive measures for planning, managing, supervising and executing all works in the Commission.” *Mr. Indarjit Singh, General Manager.*

T&TEC’s Risk Assessment document (2009) defines a risk assessment as “the process of systematically identifying hazards and estimating their consequence and probability of occurrence to arrive at a risk level to guide and apply the necessary control measures.” To successfully complete this process and improve employee safety, the Commission requires that a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) be conducted before any work is done.

The issue of Job Hazard Analysis is timely as the theme for National Safety Week 2010 (April 26th to April 30th) was “Securing the Future: emerging risks and new patterns of prevention in a changing world of work.”

In his Safety Week message to employees, General Manager, Mr. Indarjit Singh reminded us to place work safety high on the agenda. As he said, “investment in the safety and health of our employees must be seen as integral to fulfilling T&TEC’s mandate to its customers, the nation and ourselves.”



Employees must be aware that along with the usual risks associated with working in the electricity industry, other hazards are also present. These include working in designated ‘hotspot’ areas, crime and violence, use of illegal drugs, smoking in public spaces, natural and man-made disasters and infectious diseases.

Supervisors have a responsibility to observe these steps to prevent the incidence of workplace accidents.

Job Hazard Analysis is relevant because it:

1. Identifies job hazards
2. Determines safety rules/procedures to be followed
3. Determines PPE to be used
4. Identifies all sources of energy/supply
5. Ensures that hazards are controlled
6. Ensures that all PPE are worn before work starts

Electrical Safety Awareness

To coincide with National Safety Week, T&TEC held a Safety Awareness text competition to test the public’s awareness of electrical safety and to educate others. The competition was aired on CCN TV6. Celise Patrick-Alfred was the first place winner and Victoria Joseph and Sheena-Ann Ramsaroop both won consolation prizes.



Test your electrical safety knowledge:

- (1) Someone in your family is receiving severe electric shock from an electrical appliance in your kitchen. What is the very first thing you should do?
 - a. Quickly grab them by the arm and yank them away from the appliance.
 - b. Push the appliance away from the person that is receiving the shock.
 - c. Turn off the power at the main panel.
 - d. Call 999.
- (2) You are planning to paint the outside of your house and there is a power line nearby. What do you do to stay safe?
 - a. Maintain a fifteen (15) feet distance and inform TTEC if you must come closer to the power line.
 - b. Use fibre-glass ladders and plastic tools.
 - c. Cut power at the main panel by turning off the main switch.
 - d. Use scaffolding with wooden planks and avoid contact with the metal parts.
- (3) According to the electrical regulations, how often should your electrical wiring be re-inspected?
 - a. Every five(5) years
 - b. Every fifteen(15) years
 - c. Every ten(10) years
 - d. Re-inspection is only necessary when there is a problem.
- (4) One safe work practice whilst working around electrical equipment is:
 - a. Wear jewelry
 - b. Use conductive ladders
 - c. Use insulated tools
 - d. Wear keys or key chains on your clothing
- (5) A live electric line has fallen on your car. What is the safest thing you can do?
 - a. Come out of the car and attempt to move the power line
 - b. Exit the car slowly
 - c. Crawl
 - d. Stay in the car until help arrives
- (6) If you are required to use portable electrical equipment you should do all of the following EXCEPT
 - a. Use dry hands to plug and unplug equipment
 - b. Adjust or alter the three prong plug to match a two prong outlet
 - c. Ensure that power cord is in good condition and appropriate size.
 - d. Avoid standing on wet surfaces.

Answers 1. c 2. a 3. a 4. c 5. d 6. b

T&TEC footballers mentor students

It is no secret that the Commission takes sports seriously. But it should be known that our sportsmen also take what they do seriously. So when T&TEC footballers Joel Bailey and Kevon Neves were asked to participate in Naparima College's Career Fair, they readily accepted the opportunity to fly the T&TEC flag high.

At the fair, Joel and Kevon imparted their knowledge of the game of football, and how sports in general could positively impact on the lives of the eager students from Naparima Boys and Girls Colleges, ASJA Girls College, St. Benedict's College and Presentation College. The Career Fair was held in April at the Naparima College Gymnasium.

Meet our footballers:

● Joel is a former student of ASJA Boys' College and Naparima College. He is a graduate of the Wheeling Jesuit University in West Virginia with a BSc. in Marketing. At present, he is pursuing an Executive Masters degree in Sports Management. His international football career spans stints with soccer teams Columbus Crew, Baltimore Blast, Cleveland Force, Montreal Impact, Vancouver Whitecaps and North Carolina Railhawks. He has made 4 international appearances for Trinidad and Tobago's Senior team.

● Kevon is a 24-year old graduate of the University of South Florida where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Interpersonal and Organisational Communications. The former St. Anthony's College student took his high school to 3 British Gas National Intercol titles, 2 Big Five titles and several North Intercol and North League titles. After an impressive college soccer career he held a stint with Koping FF of Sweden where he finished as top goal scorer. Affectionately called 'Netta' by his friends, he has also represented Trinidad and Tobago at the under-20, under-23 and senior levels of football.



Kevon Neves (left) and Joel Bailey (right) discuss their careers with two students

Pensions Corner

Here is what's new from the Pensions Department.

ENHANCEMENT OF PENSION PLAN BENEFITS

• Increased Monthly Pensions

Our May 2010 payroll is anticipated to significantly reflect the impact of the following provision:-

"Basic pension shall be increased by five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per month from January 2006. Effective 1st January 2007, 2008 and 2009 pensions shall be adjusted annually in accordance with changes in the Retail Price Index (RPI) capped at five percent (5%) per annum, subject to the maximum payment allowed under the Pension Plan."

• Employee Home Ownership Plan (EHOP) Loan Facility

Our Trustee, Republic Bank Limited (RBL) has been instructed to implement the following provisions:- Effective from the 1st March 2010 the EHOP loan limit shall be increased to \$750,000.00 for all eligible members.

The existing EHOP Rules remain intact. Copies of such Rules can be sourced from the Pensions Department and/or viewed on the Intranet.

Existing mortgagors are reminded that all requests for refinancing of existing facilities must be directed to the Pension Plan Committee through the office of the Pension Plan Administrator.

The interest rate applicable shall be reduced from five percent (5%) to three percent (3%) with effect from January 1, 2006.

The retroactive benefit arising from the implementation of this reduction in the interest rate will be applied to outstanding balances held to members' accounts.

Where members' balances have been fully repaid, however, not for refinancing purposes, direct refund settlements will be processed to the members concerned.

• Bridging Loans

Members who are eligible for long term loans under our EHOP facility are advised that RBL has agreed to provide bridging financing on same with an eight percent (8%) rate of interest per annum.

This offer is not extended to other loan arrangements.

• Evidence of Life

Many Pensioners made an effort to comply with the requirements for life certificate at the end of March 2010. Thank you.

Remember the second quarter submissions of Life Certificates are due on 30th June 2010.

• Nomination of Beneficiary Form

Several members have submitted notices of 'Change of Names' arising from recent marriages. You are reminded to review and update your Beneficiary Forms, as necessary, to ensure that they reflect your wishes. Minors can be nominated as beneficiaries.

If you need additional information on any of the above or on any matter concerning Pensioners, please contact the following employees in Pensions Department via email or by telephone:-

- **Christine Morrison-Joseph**, Pension Plan Administrator – Extensions 5000/5001 and cjoseph@ttec.co.tt.
- **Charmine Shoy**, Supervisor – Extension 5002, and cshoy@ttec.co.tt.
- **Colleen Lodge**, Sub-Section Leader – Extension 5003.

Word Search - Protect Our Environment



- ATMOSPHERE
 CONSERVATION
 FIRE
 FOREST
 GLASS
 GREEN
 OCEAN
 OILSPILL
- PLANET
 PLASTIC
 RECYCLE
 SEEDS
 TREE
 WATER
 WILDLIFE



ENVIRONMENTAL TRIVIA

See if you can correctly answer the following environment-related questions.

1. The greatest danger facing most endangered species is...
 a. Habitat Loss
 b. Disease
 c. Hunting
 d. Capture for the pet trade
2. Which of the following wildlife species CAN be kept legally as pets under the Conservation of Wildlife Act CH 67:01?
 a. Squirrel
 b. Macajuel
 c. Yellow-crowned parrot
 d. Red Howler Monkey
3. Which of the following substances is NOT biodegradable?
 a. Food refuse
 b. Paper
 c. Sawdust
 d. Styrofoam
4. What chemicals have been banned in most of the world because of their role in destroying the ozone layer?
 a. DDT
 b. Chlorofluorocarbons
 c. Peroxides
 d. Metal oxides
5. Which of the following is NOT a renewable resource? (Renewable resources are naturally replenished in a reasonable amount of time)
 a. Fish
 b. Wild Mushrooms
 c. Timber
 d. Gold
6. The average temperature around the world has climbed during the previous century due to global warming by this much:
 a. 2 degrees Fahrenheit
 b. 1 degree Fahrenheit
 c. 3 degrees Fahrenheit
 d. 4 degree Fahrenheit

Answers: 1. a, 2. a, 3. d, 4. b, 5. d, 6. b

Letters

The following are excerpts from some letters and emails that have been received over the last quarter.

Thanks ...from APETT

As the 50th Anniversary year of the Association of Professional Engineers of Trinidad and Tobago (APETT) comes to a close (March 2010), I wish to sincerely thank T&TEC for contributing to making two of our special activities overwhelming successes.

These activities were the publication of our Special Issue Journal on the theme of 'Engineering Infrastructure for Sustainable Development' and the final APETT Presidential Lecture on 'Engineering Education - Impact on Industry and the Individual' by Professor Clément Imbert.

T&TEC's contribution to sponsorship and assistance in the promotion of the events certainly helped us to spread the important message that we all need to protect and care for the environment as we build and develop Trinidad and Tobago and the Region. Also, through the Engineering Education Seminar, you helped APETT to promote the importance of safety in industry through professional standards, and to assist young persons interested in pursuing a career in engineering. We thank you for helping us to make that difference!

T&TEC is really a shining example of a forward-thinking 21st century corporation!

Regards,
Hannah Wei-Muddeen
President - APETT

March 19, 2010

Another satisfied customer...

Excerpts from an email received from Ms. Janak Maraj

I would like to express my complete satisfaction at the level of customer service I recently received at your Park St. Office. Usually I dread having to deal with any public utilities; however, on this occasion your CSR staff has given new hope.

I recently went in to get the entire inspection process done for a temporary connection, expecting nothing less than to spend the entire day in a slow moving line and being completely frustrated, to my shock, from the moment that I sat at the CSR "pooling" area, several of your staff, at many different times, kept following up on people's queries.

I must single out specifically, two very pleasant ladies Ms. Bria Hosein and Ms. Sasha Sadoo. They were very efficient and pleasant, giving all the details about my transactions. I am happy to say, that I did get my connection in order and without fuss from the "field" team as well.

So, once again thank you to your CSR staff for their great work.

Ms. Janak Maraj

Calendar of Events

July

24th

7-A-Side Football

30th

Customer Appreciation Day

31st

All Fours One Day Competition

August

Emancipation Day Celebrations

5th – Sept. 23rd

Inter-Area Football League Competition

November

56th Employee Awards and Recognition Ceremony

28th

Children's Christmas Party
– Tobago

December

1st

World's Aids Day

5th

Children's Christmas Party
– Trinidad

Words of Inspiration

*Unless you are willing to launch
out far from the sight and safety
of the shore
into the deep beyond your
present comfort zone,
you will never know what you are
capable of becoming or doing,
nor will you ever discover the
new horizons
and greater dreams your heart is
yearning for.
– Dick Innes*



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

1. Eastern Area's rhythm section formed part of the festivities.
2. From speech band to hopscotch, a Tobago representative goes through his paces.
3. Watty greets a little fan.
4. The Northern Area Sports Club "Mad Hatters" goes through \ their routine.
5. The Penal Training Facility leads teams in the "Movements".
6. Employees battle with huge beach balls in this novelty event.
7. Muscle men in action in the arm wrestling contest.