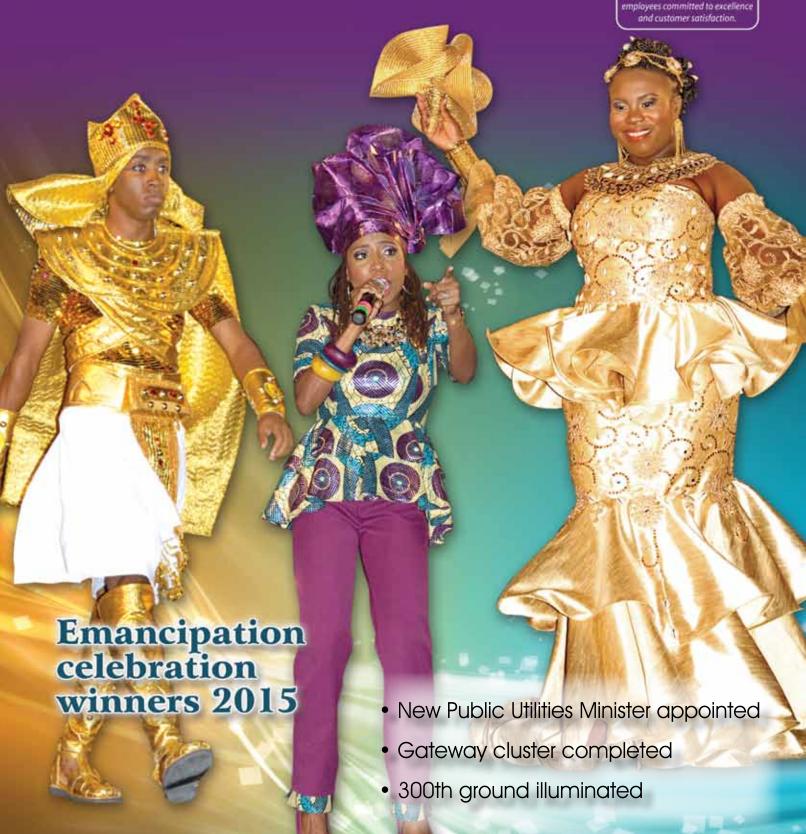


VISION - Leadership in Energy Delivery, Excellence in Customer Service... enhancing the quality of life for all.

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**

#### Changing seasons

As we enter the last quarter of 2015, T&TEC's narrative records four new executive management appointments, even as a batch of dedicated employees retired from service.

Separately, a new Minister of Public Utilities has been appointed; customers in north/West Trinidad are poised to see even more reliability, as the Gateway changeover takes place; and our online portal has been updated. These changes come almost simultaneously, like the shifting of seasons and all that it brings.

We are also reminded of the infrastructural and human resource capacity of the Commission, as the feature on the Information Systems Department details the strategic strength and value of our technological backbone.

Combine all these
accomplishments with
employees' continuing
dedication to the sporting
and cultural fields (Eid,
Emancipation, Beach Football
and Cookout) and the coming
season's forecast promises
good weather for T&TEC.

Read on!

#### SAVE THE DATE

Annual Employee
Recognition and Awards
Ceremony

Saturday 14 November

Children's Christmas Party
TOBAGO

**Sunday 29 November** 

Children's Christmas Party
TRINIDAD

**Sunday 6 December** 

Front Cover - African royalty – the winners of the T&TEC African Emancipation King, Queen and Calypso competitions, Brent Tuitt of Distribution East, Ayesha Scott-Hinkson and Shevelle Primus of Head Office (see story on page 20).

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## T&TEC welcomes new Minister of Public Utilities



The Honourable Brigadier (retd)
Ancil W. Antoine, Minister of Public Utilities

Brigadier General Ancil Wayne Antoine (retd), Member of Parliament for the constituency of D'Abadie/O'Meara, has been appointed the new Minister of Public Utilities, following the September 7 General Elections.

The new Minister has enjoyed one of the most distinguished and decorated careers in national service to Trinidad and Tobago. Having enlisted in the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force in 1973, he moved up the ranks to reach

the highest rung of the military ladder.

In January 2002, the then
Colonel Antoine was promoted
to the rank of Brigadier
and was presented with the
instrument appointing him as
Chief of Defence Staff, Trinidad
and Tobago Defence Force. He
held the position of Chief of the
Armed Forces of the Republic
of Trinidad and Tobago.

Brigadier Antoine also held the prestigious position of Director General of the InterAmerican Defense Board until his retirement in 2011.

Brigadier Antoine's distinguished military service is enhanced with the completion of several career-building training programmes conducted in Canada, United States, the United Kingdom and Israel. A trained administrator, he has also undertaken studies in a diverse range of subjects including Public Administration, Politics, Organisation Theory and Behaviour and Conflict Resolution, Christian Theology and Doctrine.

In addition to T&TEC, Minister Antoine will also be responsible for a number of other agencies:

- TTPost
- TSTT
- MET Services
- SWMCOL
- CEPEP
- WASA
- Water Resources Agency
- MTS
- Regulated Industries
   Commission (RIC)
- Electrical Inspectorate
  Division

### A hat trick of firsts

The longest and largest 132kV underground cable going into Port of Spain has been successfully installed in the country, earning the Gateway project historical reference and bringing down the curtain on this multi-million dollar investment by T&TEC.

The Gateway project facilitates the extension of the supply of electricity from the Bamboo Substation, Caroni, to the Gateway Substation in Port of Spain, via a two circuit system. Commonly referred to as the Gateway Cluster, it consisted of four projects which were under the charge of the Transmission Division, supported by specialised contractors.

Work on the last phase of the project, the transition of the circuits from overhead to underground installation, began in February 2015 with the arrival of Canadian contractor, EHV Power ULC, and specialised equipment. It was history in the making as installation of the largest 132kV cable – a 1600mm² XLPE cable which is just over 4 inches in diameter – began. The duct bank route,



Joint Bay #1 (JB #1) under construction. Location - Port Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (PATT) compound



JB #2 under construction. Location - Maritime Preservation Limited

which starts at Sea Lots to the Wrightson Road 66kV Substation, then across Wrightson Road to Flament Street, terminating at the Gateway 132/33kV Substation, was 1.8 kilometers – marking the second milestone in this phase with the longest cable distance.

Construction of two  $15m \times 5m$ Joint Bays also commenced at the same time.

The construction of the two underground Joint Bays
– a reinforced concrete

encampment at the Port and Maritime Preservation Limited - proceeded with "some delicate manoeuvres" to reduce disruption to the Port Authority and other businesses in the vicinity. Andrea Dhanpaul, Technical Assistant III in the Transmission Development and Engineering Services Department (TD&ES) recalls: "The Port was a hive of activity as work on the Joint Bays, cable installation and jointing had to be coordinated with the activities on the Port and arrival of various cargo ships in order to avoid interruption to the Port's activities. Eighteen lengths



Completed 132 kV joints in JB #1

of cable were installed in a process that was slow, steady and safe. Each reel contained between 565 to 800 meters of cable, weighed 15,010 to 20,390 kilograms and took several hours to be installed. Maintaining continuous two-

way radio communication and continuous monitoring of pulling tension during the operations was critical."

Transmission Maintenance
Department cable crews,
working alongside EHV
Power ULC, had a first-time
opportunity and gained
valuable experience in the
preparation, installation,
jointing and termination works
associated with this project.

But even before work proceeded on this final leg, back in 2013 a faltering supply to customers in northwest Trinidad prompted the Commission to institute a temporary redesign, from underground to overhead lines. According to Anil Bujhawan, Senior Engineer, TD&ES, "notwithstanding that arrangement, all efforts were made to fast track the installation of the underground system."

As the project approached its homestretch in July, 12 joints were completed, terminations were installed and the cables were prepared for testing.

Transmission Maintenance
Department Substation crews working alongside EHV and an Alstom Engineer prepared the Gateway 132kV GIS for the high voltage acceptance and partial discharge tests on the cables. Transfer of load to the

The project comprises two 132kV circuits and traverses a line route of 14km, linking the Bamboo 132kV Substation with the Gateway 132/33kV Substation. The Gateway project began in 2008 and was undertaken on a phased basis to minimise disruption to customers. It will improve the reliability of supply to customers in north western Trinidad and caters for future load growth as PowerGen prepares to decommission its Port of Spain power station at the end of 2015.

new 132kV cable took place at the end of September without incident.

## **Executive Appointments**



Rodney Latchman is the
Acting Commercial Manager,
with effect from July 17. His
letter of appointment gives his
confirmation date as October
01. This will be the retirement
date of the incumbent Irwin

Thompson, who is on preretirement leave.

Mr. Latchman holds a BBA (Bachelor of Business Administration), an MBA and has just completed final exams towards a BSc in Information Technology.

His tenure at T&TEC, which spans just over 17 years, began as a Labourer at Distribution South. This preceded several promotions, including Clerk III in the Accounts Department and Distribution Central and Senior Clerk in the Internal Audit Department.

Mr. Latchman's career in Commercial commenced in 2006 when he was promoted to Commercial Officer at Distribution North. He was subsequently assigned to Distribution East in 2009 and, from 2012, acted on several occasions as Senior Commercial Officer. In 2014 Mr. Latchman was transferred to act as Inventory Coordinator in the Supplies Department. That same year he was again transferred to the Commercial Department, at Head Office, and was promoted to Commercial Coordinator, a post he held until his recent promotion.

Acting Information Systems
Manager, Charlene John will
also be confirmed in her
position on November 02.
She has been acting in this
position from July 10 after the
incumbent, Kenneth George,
proceeded on pre-retirement
leave.

Ms. John holds a BSc and a MBA with specialisation in Strategic Planning and is a Certified Project Management Professional. She joined T&TEC in 2000 as a Computer Programmer in the Information Systems Department. Ms.
John was promoted to Senior Programmer in 2001 and System Analyst I in 2009.
Over the next year, she acted at various times as Senior Analyst until her appointment to the position in 2010. That same year, Ms. John was transferred to the Commercial Department to act as Senior Commercial Officer and, after four months was confirmed in the position.





Devecar Basdeo was appointed Internal Audit Manager effective August 12, 2015.

Ms Basdeo, a Chartered
Accountant (C.A., F.C.C.A.),
joined the Commission in
1998 as the Internal Audit
Supervisor. She is also a
graduate of the Institute of
Chartered Secretaries and
Administrators (GradICSA)
and is awaiting her certificate
having recently completed
M.B.A. (Distinction), with
a specialism in Strategic
Planning from the Heriot-Watt
University.

Ms Basdeo held several progressive acting appointments, including Accountant - Financial Services and Accountant- Financial Planning. She was appointed to the latter position in 2006 and later promoted to the post of Corporate Planner in 2011. Ms Basdeo acted as Head-Corporate Support on several occasions from 2012 to 2014, prior to her appointment as the Internal Audit Manager.

Ronald De Silva has been promoted to Risk Manager with effect from August 25. This appointment comes after almost 14 years at T&TEC as Risk and Insurance Administrator.

Mr. De Silva holds a BSc in Economics, Associationship of the Chartered Insurance Institute (ACII) and is a Chartered Insurance Practitioner.

In 2009 Mr. De Silva worked, for a brief stint, as Assistant to the General Manager. He is the former Chairman of the Senior Staff Association.





A composite photo of the Information Systems staff.

## Technology a strategic driver for T&TEC operations

Instant is a word that often describes customers' demand for goods and services. This new norm has been influenced by the information revolution, prompting businesses around the world to respond by incorporating technology into their operations.

T&TEC, because of its wide geographic, intricate business operations and greater customer usage, has introduced and utilised technology in many of its processes, providing a foundation for almost all technical and support departments to perform their functions.

Within the last 15 years the growing investment in hardware and software has resulted in the modernisation of several work functions and the introduction of new services in the Commission's operations. Charlene John, acting Information Services (IS) Manager explained that technology has influenced communication, data management, inventory management, customer relationship management, information and the management of information systems at T&TEC.

Seventy percent of its

Commission's employees

use some aspect of
technology for information
sharing and operations

control

The IS portfolio is expansive with key functions – information technology operations, networking, software services and systems database administration – having far reaching influences in the business progression of the Commission.

With direct influence on several of T&TEC's six strategic objectives, the Department's development of systems that focus on achieving the highest level of customer satisfaction, financial viability and business continuity, speak directly to objectives number three, four and five.

Through its backbone support for recently introduced electronic payment and account management services



like the Customer Web Access (CWA) and Automated Credit Card Payment Facility (ACCPF) for the Commercial Department, the IS Department has supported the Commission's strides in customer service and financial viability, by giving customers hassle free bill payment and regulating cash flow through the automatic payments. Perhaps the most influential objective of the three has been its contribution to business continuity management, with the ongoing roll out of a Geographic Information System (GIS). The ESRI ArcGIS will soon be coupled with the Milsoft's Outage Management System, Porche IVR and the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) System, to provide realtime notification of system disruptions and access to customers' information from any location.

The Industrial Meter Installation Details tracking system (IMID) is a successful example of a technological development that supports all three strategic objectives. The system was developed by the IS Department in 2011 to ensure the timely processing of bills from current transformer-type industrial meters. It is utilised by the Distribution Areas, Commercial Department and the Metering Services Department, Its function is crucial to the Commission's monthly revenue collection from 3664 industrial customers; representing 55 percent of total earnings.

As the organisation advances with an eye on the bottom line and improved customer service, the IS Department will remain an essential pillar in determining appropriate technology, providing and maintaining information services and the requisite IT infrastructure for its survival.

#### **Strategic Objective**

three: to achieve the highest level of customer satisfaction through excellence in customer service.

#### Strategic Objective

four: to ensure that T&TEC attains financial viability through the application of economic tariffs, cost consciousness and the promotion of a culture of revenue enhancement and protection.

#### Strategic Objective

five: To ensure that health, safety, security, environmental, quality and business continuity management systems are integrated into all of T&TEC's business operations)

## New user-friendly website unveiled

T&TEC's redesigned, modern website, www.ttec.co.tt, went live on August 3. The upgrade facilitates a faster, more convenient means of interaction between the Commission and its growing online customers.

As the number of internet users in Trinidad and Tobago and around the world skyrocketed with the advent of smart phones and tablets, customers have come to expect more services and information online. In order to meet these growing demands, the website had to be revamped to provide easy access to information and offer a convenient way for customers to pay their bills and report problems.

Nichelle Jagdeo, Systems Analyst III, Information Systems (IS) Department, who has oversight for the project, explained that one of the aspects of the website's new design is the upgrade, re-organisation and revision of information and content, and the use of striking, high quality photographs. Another notable improvement in the user-friendly layout is the addition of online services, such as reporting of problems, request for services and subscription to notices.



As to how the new website is managed, Ms. Jagdeo explained that the upgraded site was developed using the content management

with T&TEC's customer service

delivery.

system, Wordpress. "This allows flexibility, so that quick changes and updates can be made on the site through a user interface extended through protocols to persons outside of the IS Department.

The IS Department will continue to make improvements to the new site to ensure it remains current and appealing. For now though, taken together, all the features of this upgrade make for a more responsive, more user-friendly website, which translate into better service for customers.



## Students gain work experience

Three months later, ninety tertiary-level and craft students returned to their classrooms more experienced about the world of work, having completed T&TEC's Vacation Training Programme 2015.

While the young employees were generally placed and assigned duties within their area of study, several of them were given opportunities to participate in Commission events. Denisha Pierre, assigned to Corporate Communications, assisted in customer appreciation day and public lighting activities. Of her experience she said "I appreciated the opportunity to put the theory I learnt into practice and enhance my writing skills."

Ms. Pierre is a second year Literature and Communications Studies student at the University of the West Indies. She is one of four friends who have had previous vacation employment experience together. "Working at the same organisation has encouraged us to keep in contact, share our experiences



Vacation employee, Deneisha Pierre, interviews customers on Customer Appreciation Day. She was assigned to the Corporate Communications Department.

and learn from them", said
Leah-Marie Thompson, who
was assigned to Payments at
Distribution South. Another
group member, Industrial
Relations Department
employee, Latisha Toolsie,
commented on how grateful
she was to make friends
beyond her age group and
be exposed to different work
paths.

On the craft side of the Programme the views were similar. Servol trainees, Mitiaz Khan, Welder and Kaloum Mitchell, Mechanic, were stationed at Distribution North and were among ten craft trainees selected to participate in this year's vacation programme. Mr.

Khan felt privileged to have been chosen to enter the programme saying "I had to meet strict criteria of regularity, punctuality, respect and exceptional performance."

He credited these ethics for making his experience at T&TEC a beneficial one.

As the vacation employees bid farewell to the T&TEC Family on August 28, they left with memories of interesting work and friendly employees. We wish them a successful future.

# Customers give appreciation day thumbs up

As employees of T&TEC, we promise to be accessible and responsive to our customers, serve them with humility and value their comments. Of course, we do this on a daily basis, but for at least one day of the year, Customer Appreciation Day, we give our customers extra special attention.

The day set aside this year for this annual event was July 31. Customers visiting T&TEC's 14 service centres welcomed the customary tokens and, those who paid their electricity bills in full, were given the opportunity to win mini appliances. Other customers, who paid their bills using the Automated Credit Card Payment Facility, were automatically entered into the draw, prompting one customer, Alfred Bibby, to email his thanks for being recognised. Even the former Minister of Public Utilities, the Honourable Nizam Baksh, participated in the day of appreciation with a visit to the south service centre at Cipero Street to pay his bill and engage with staff and customers.

It was a lively atmosphere at all the service centres with lunch time entertainment and special attention from T&TEC staff throughout the day. Most customers were quite appreciative of the experience, expressing how good it is that T&TEC maintains a relationship with its customers and giving feedback on areas that could be improved. Some customers expressed concern about the late receipt of bills from the postal service and emergency response times but all in all, T&TEC received a satisfactory rating for its customer service.

Forty-two lucky appliance winners, including members of staff (who were part

of a separate draw), were announced in the weeks following customer appreciation day. They were as follows:

#### San Fernando Service Centre

Ryann Pierre Vernon Hillaire Ashley Orie Ishmeal Ali Liselle Salazar - Employee Satayash Ramgoolam -Employee

#### **Point Fortin Service Centre**

Sookdeo Sooknanan Reynold Carrington

#### **Penal Service Centre**

Parbatie Cooper Shyra Rosan

#### **Marabella Service Centre**

Nadia Ramsumair-Mahabir Terry Marcelle Carl Khabay



From far left, Wendell Bhagirath, Assistant Area Manager – Administration and Brian Bachoo, Commercial Officer with Vishnu Seetaram, Area Manager – Distribution South (2nd from right) and the hamper winners from San Fernando Service Centre.



Area Manager, Distribution North, Curvis Francois, presents employee, Steve Gomez with his prize.



Members of T&TEC's Aids Committee, Alicia Labadie and Jenelle Forde, were on hand at the Arima Service Centre to share AIDS related information with customers.



The then Minister of Public Utilities, Nizam Baksh, at the San Fernando Service Centre, where he dropped by to pay his bill.



Manager, Tobago Operations, Zainool Mohammed, joins his colleagues (from left) Curtis Panchorie, Sheila Williams and Curtis Harry, for a photograph with the (seated) winners from

#### **Rio Claro Service Centre**

Gangadeen Babooram Christendath Ramroop

#### St. James Service Centre

Bertram Alexander Hayden Hernandez Steve Gomez - Employee

#### **Couva Service Centre**

Sooklal Ramsaran Arjoon Debedial

#### **Chaquanas Service Centre**

Chandra Ramoutar Patricia Kent

#### **Arima Service Centre**

Shurland Hoyte **David Stowe** Collin Blackman - Employee Cornell Graham - Employee

#### **Sangre Grande Service** Centre

Thomas Amede Satnarine Indoi

#### **Curepe Service Centre**

Natalie Mayers Anne Soodoo

Luke Stewart

#### **Tobago Service Centre**

Sharon Davidson Laurel Baird John Quashie - Employee

#### **Head Office Service Centre**

Dadeo Babolal Charmaine Moreno **Hugh White** Audrey Jordan Ashley Elliott-Nicholas Nikesha Ali - Employee

#### **Broadway Service Centre**

Camille Clinton Philius Lawrence - Employee





# GM leads exit interview for long serving employees

The exit interview is an important transition ritual for T&TEC employees as they proceed into retirement. Its purpose is to thank these long serving employees for their hard work and to solicit feedback and suggestions on improvements, given their extensive experience.

An exit interview and luncheon was held on July 16 at the Stanley P. Ottley Building, Mt. Hope and was hosted by General Manager, Kelvin Ramsook. Assistant General Manager - Human Resources, Jacqueline Cheesman expressed appreciation for their service, telling the retirees to "enjoy the part of life you would not have been able to while working. Congrats on this milestone and on reaching this stage healthy and alive."

As the retirees engaged in discussion about their time at the Commission, they addressed their former Heads with compliments and criticisms. Crew Foreman Remy Johnson admitted that despite some concerns, T&TEC was the best place he ever worked. This sentiment was echoed by Substation Foreman Vernon Griffith "... the time I have worked at T&TEC was very nice and I will miss T&TEC too bad". However, he cautioned, safety was a major concern and more safety gear was needed. In response to this concern and a retiree's comment that some senior ranked people behave in an unfavourable manner toward their employees, Ms. Cheesman gave assurance that the Human Resources Department had already started to implement

Above: GM Kelvin Ramsook and AGM Human Resources, Jacqueline Cheesman, with employees preparing for retirement, from I-r, Remy Johnson, Vernon Griffith, Indarjit Ramoutar, Nigel Holder and Shahid Pooran.

preventative and counteractive measures to address the issues in procurement and management through supervisory training and managerial counselling.

The cordial session concluded as Mr. Ramsook thanked the retirees for yeoman's service saying "a generation is leaving that has paved the way for younger ones to come in. The journey of each person was essential to the future of the Commission." His response to the feedback was "we have adopted recommendations from retirees before, and we will do it again."

## Employees encouraged to invest in their future

The three-day sessions on planning for retirement routinely hosted by the Human Resources Department include life cycle financial planning and other advice from internal technicians and external stakeholders. In order to complement this training, the Human Resources Department took the initiative to host a series of Retirement Fairs for employees aged 50 years and over.

One hundred and fifty-six employees from Distributions North and East, Head Office and Mount Hope were invited to attend the first retirement fair on Friday July 10. The two half-day sessions were held at the Employee Wellness Center, Central Warehouse, King Village and featured representatives from the Commission's Pension and Human Resources Departments,

RBC Bank, Republic Bank, Guardian Group, SAGICOR Investments, the National Insurance Board and TATECO

Credit Union. They all provided a wealth of information relating to investment and savings options.

Participants received pertinent information from the Pensions Department on how benefits are calculated at the time of retirement, how EHOP is financed and re-financed and were introduced to Life Certificate Forms which they would need on retirement. Additionally, the Human Resources Department reviewed all the benefits under the Medical Plan that remain available to employees and their spouses after retirement.

The Office of the Financial Services Ombudsman (OFSO)

was also on hand to offer advice on wise spending habits and the prudent financial decisions to make while still employed. The OFSO representative gave advice on having a plan of action for retirement,



not only financially, but emotionally and physically. Employees were reminded that, although it is best to start saving for retirement early in your career, it is never too late to start investing into your future.

The Pension Ready
Department of the National
Insurance Board (N.I.B.)
was also present to check
the contribution records of
employees to ensure they
were up to date. TATECO
Credit Union and the banks
assisted employees to draft
their financial goals and
develop a plan to accomplish
them.

Employees, in turn, were very appreciative of the opportunity to receive the information to begin planning for the next phase of their lives. They left the sessions knowing how to set personal goals, develop a personal financial strategy, plan for the future and transition from an active employee to a retiree.

A second fair is planned for the fourth quarter of this year to accommodate the remaining departments.



T&TEC employees as they participated fully in the Retirement Fair put on by the Human Resources Department.

## A STUDENT'S **MAP TO SUCCESS**

Many people want to achieve a big dream but have no plan on how to do this. Maybe they are afraid of taking risks and are more comfortable playing things safe. Your journey begins with two parts, one requires determination and the other starts with apathy, but the choice is yours. Don't be a quitter!

We encourage you to try this useful pull out - a Road Map to take you to "Success Boulevard". Customise it to fit your specific goal/s and you will be well on your way to achieving success!

Hold on. There's still time

Assessment

#### **WRONG TURN**



**APATHY TRACE** 

the chances you miss when you don't even try

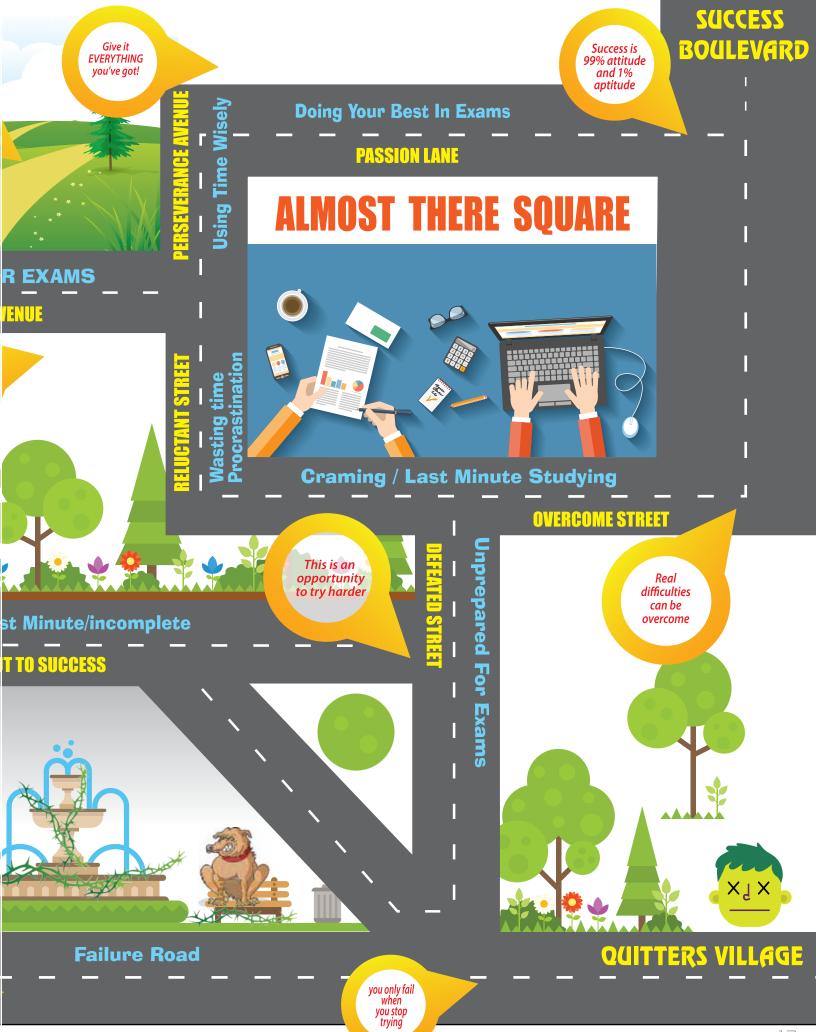


**Assignment Done La** 

To escape fear you have to go through it, not around.



Give it another try



## Hundreds attend Eid celebrations

T&TEC's annual Eid celebration on August 8 was well attended, despite some inclement weather at the start of the Family Day and Grand Expo. The Mid Centre Mall car park was transformed into a layout of creatively decorated tents that offered visitors a wide array of activities. Hosted by the T&TEC Islamic Committee, the venue was also the end point of a car rally which started in the north and south.

Themed "Muhammed (Peace Be upon Him) mercy to Mankind", the celebration featured exhibitions put on by employees from Distribution East, Transmission Division, Distribution North, Head Office, Public Lighting

South, Distribution Tobago and Mt. Hope, which depicted nine dimensions of the life of the Holy Prophet (Peace Be upon Him).

The former Minister of Public Utilities, the Honourable Nizam Baksh; T&TEC's former Commissioner, Jaishama Chadeesingh; and Chairman of T&TEC's Islamic Committee, Haseeb Ali spoke during the formal segment of the programme. Mr. Chadeesingh told the gathering "[T&TEC] sees these observances as important to everyone as it recognises the diversity of our nation, and by extension, our employees."

Throughout the evening,
Master of Ceremonies, Sheik
Hisham Mohammed, created
a lively atmosphere with
his colourful descriptions,
prompting the intrigued crowd
to engage in fun games - go
cart, a petting zoo, horse
riding, face painting and the
kids favourite, the bouncy
castle and participate in health
booths.

Attendees were also treated to a range of entertainment, including story time by Sofiyya Hassanali and a musical performance by popular Islamic singer Raef Haggag.



The first-time Eid Committee car rally and treasure hunt was enjoyed by 20 participants using two routes. South route second place winner, Nichelle Jagdeo shared her team's experiences: "collecting treasures was the best part of the memorable journey, our driver got soaked, we climbed a stranger's mango tree, after getting permission of course, and caught fish with a plastic bag at the side of the highway."

The Family Day and Expo was the final event in T&TEC's Eid celebrations, but a women's seminar entitled Body, Mind and Soul, held the day before at the Stanley P. Ottley Building, Mt. Hope launched the 2015 activities.

Presenter Nadine Abu-Jubara, the US-based President of Nadoonaextreme, advised the audience to "set achievable goals, regulate your metabolism, keep a food journal, eat healthy and exercise often."



The inviting entrance to Distribution Central's booth

#### Results of the Car Rally and Treasure Hunt

NOLLI		
Position	Driver	Navigator
1st Place	Darin Boochoon	Adwin Burrel
2nd Place	Wendel Boodhai	Rian Ramrattan
3rd Place	Marcel Charles	Marina Browne

South		
Position	Driver	Navigator
1st Place	Karima Ali	Aronie Bahadoor
2nd Place	Vishal Rajpaulsingh	Nichelle Jagdeo
3rd Place	Surendra Ramnath	Janice Ramnath

**Area with Most Participation** 





Drummers from the Northwest Laventille Cultural Movement

# Celebrating Africa and its emancipated Diaspora

Any reservations expressed by some about taking T&TEC's gala Emancipation show outdoors, were quickly erased once it got underway at the Trincity Mall Carpark on August 15. The biggest Emancipation celebration ever hosted by T&TEC, featured an amalgam of an Emancipation Calypso Competition, African King and African Queen Competition, and was a fitting way to bring the curtains down on T&TEC's month-long Emancipation celebrations.

General Manager, Kelvin
Ramsook, who encouraged the
venue change, said "it gives
us the space and visibility to
give back to our thousands
of customers", while former
Commissioner Carlyle Dick,
shared the hope "That the
evening would prompt some

introspection and help to make us all better citizens."

Planned and executed by the T&TEC African Emancipation Committee, led by Chairman Ruthvin Charles, the site was transformed into a veritable Emancipation cultural village, complete with food court, a grand stage and throngs of persons dressed in traditional African wear. They braved the inclement weather and gathered to take in the beauty and grace of our queens, the strength of our kings and the vocal mastery of our calypsonians - all portrayed by employees of T&TEC.

Bright yellow costumes and energetic moves in the opening act, a choreographed dance by the Queen and King delegates, received enthusiastic applause from the crowd, setting the stage for other top quality performances. Anticipation was high for the ensuing calypso segment - a new addition to the annual Emancipation programme - consisting of original compositions sung by employees based on Africanrelated topics. Performances included Reparation, by Wesley Brereton; Violence against blacks, by Fellie Noel; Sterling Kent's "The Spirit of (Uriah) Butler"; Curtis Braithwaite's song on Malcolm X and a Nelson Mandela tribute by J'Leise Orr.

In the end, Head Office's Ayesha Scott-Hinkson's thought-provoking rendition of "The Middle Passage" was declared the best among



Wasafoli dancers on stage

the nine contestants. Her presentation, which began with a short video depicting the horrific treatment of slaves during the slave trade, set the tone for a gripping performance that also earned her the People's Choice prize.

Tobago's Nicola Phillip placed second with her instructive "Truth about Gaddafi and Libya", while Distribution South's Bryan Johnson's powerful delivery of "African Liberation Day" earned him third place. His colleague, Marielle Thomas, placed fourth with her emotional presentation "Haiti shall rise."

Masters of Ceremonies, Shabaka Kambon and Morisha Ramsome kept a commentary on the Queen and King show that followed. In pairs, the nine men and nine women regally portrayed intricatelymade African-inspired styles, bringing the crowd to their

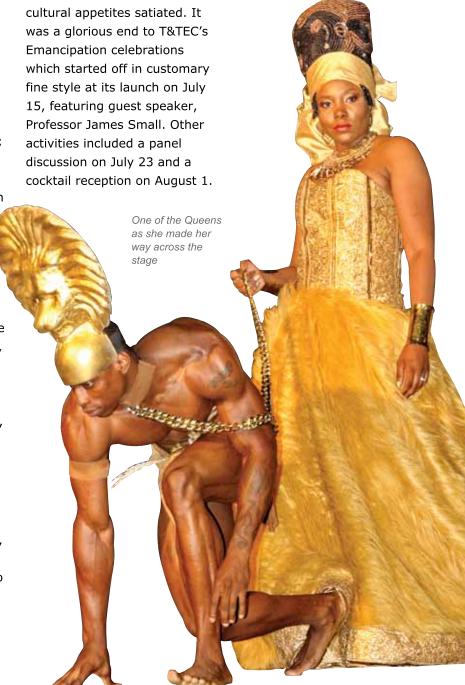




Above:The runners up and dignitaries flank the winning Queen, Shevelle Primus; King Brent Tuitt and Calypsonian, Ayesha Scott-Hinkson.

feet in appreciation for the intricate designs. In the end the results were: Crowned Queen and the People's Choice - Shevelle Primus of Head Office, in her gown "Khalifa". Second to fourth places went to Tobago's Quencyann Tobias; Transmission's Passion Patrick and Mt. Hope's Alicia John-Ackie, respectively. Distribution East's Brent Tuitt, as Pharaoh, King of Egypt, captured the King title. His entrance of a dance, borrowed from the Michael Jackson video, "Remember the time," placed him above second placed Andre Archibald of Distribution South, Ryan Louison of King Village who placed third and fourth, Lindell Brooks of Tobago. People's Choice was Chuma Isi, of Distribution North.

Quality entertainment by the 2 Cents Movement, Northwest Laventille Cultural Movement, Wasafoli and the headlined act, King David Michael Rudder, added to the milieu. Those who remained until the last note was sung and last morsel of food consumed, left with their



## Women of love, light and power

Presentation of awards was among the agenda items at the Electrical Association for Women's (EAW) 54th anniversary celebrations and 46th annual conference held at The Fortay Restaurant, Clifton Hill Beach Resort on June 27. The event was held under the theme "Acquiring excellence through Team Spirit." The Arima Branch received the Stanley P. Ottley Award for Excellence with the other top award, the Collin Matthew Award for Community Service, bestowed upon the Siparia Branch.

Feature speaker, Marilyn John De Gale, retired Manager, Patient Services and Quality Improvement, South-West Regional Health Authority (SWRAH) focused on the 'Five traits of team building' - commitment, consensus, communication, empowerment and shared responsibilities. She reinforced some of the many benefits that can be derived from working in teams. On an individual level, "team members experienced a sense of accomplishments... and see and understand their team's output and how it related to

the organisation's output as a whole. For an organisation, teams can make significant contributions to growth, development and profitability."

T&TEC's Assistant Corporate Communication Manager, Clare Cooper-Vincent, extended greetings on behalf of the organisation. She referred to the group as 'women of love, light and power' and commended them on their work in sensitising and educating consumers about the safe and economical use of electricity. She challenged the Association to be creative towards increasing its membership, suggesting that technology be used as the catalyst for attracting young members leading to the formation of a youth arm.

The evening ended with a scrumptious dinner, renewed friendships and members motivated to move with their goals for another year.

Asst. Corporate Communications Manager, Clare Cooper (far left) with the members of the EAW's Central Executive team.



## Central Area scores in SIS League



Player Sekon Alves receives his medal.

The Central Area Sports Club gave a strong showing at the recent Industrial Football League hosted by Super Industrial Services. The event took place on July 30 at Gilbert Park, Couva and included a number of teams representing several companies from the Point Lisas Industrial Estate.

Captain Ryan Stroude led T&TEC's Central boys to victory in all their games, including the opening day's round-robin competition, to make it to the final match against Arcelor Mittal. The team gave a valiant effort but in the end went down 1-0 against the men of steel.

Their \$6000 winnings and the prize for the most goals scored capped off a credible performance by the Central boys.

Well done, guys!



Central boys in action at the Industrial Football League.



Football dexterity at play in the rain

## Beach Football and Cookout

The Tobago Sports Club was a dominating force at the General Sports and Cultural Club's 13th annual Hubert Maingot 5-a-side Beach Football and Cookout competition. The competitions ran simultaneously as three teams participated in the cookout competition and seven teams in the football competition.

The event was held at Maracas Beach on June 27 with a cookout menu that could rival any Chinese restaurant and a beach made for some fancy footwork. It was a day of laughter and camaraderie as teams gave their best efforts to the encouraged cheers of supporters.

The Northern Area Sports Club proved to have the best Chinese chefs with their winning version of fried chicken, chicken wantons, chow mein and fried rice.
The football competition took
an interesting twist when
Tobago's two teams, after
topping their respective
groups, battled it out in a
friendly faceoff for first and
second place.

## Here are the official results:

#### Cook-Out

1st Place - Northern Area Sports Club 2nd Place - Tobago Sports Club

3rd Place - Mt. Hope Sports Club

#### **5-A-Side Beach Football**

1st Place - Tobago Sports Club 2nd Place - Tobago Sports Club Above: The judges about to sample the fare from the Tobago Sports Club

Below: The winning chefs of Northern Area Sports Club





## Employee Update

Appointments, Promotions, Moving On and Accomplishments

#### **PROMOTIONS**

#### **NAME**

Adelle Joseph Akin Pritchard Anderson Abdullah Anderson Beharry Andrew Spencer Ann Marie Braithwaite Niles

Antoinette Forde Arnold Carrera Ayanna Mitchell Benedict Andrew

Calliste La Croix Carlene Branche - Dick

Casandra Noel Che Hall Christian Sandy Chrystal Kanchan Cleavon Joseph Cleon Patrick

Cliff Orr Curtis Harris Daaron Khan Dane Mc Kenzie Daniel Lively Denise Badree Derek Gomez Devecar Basdeo

Dexter Mahabir Dexter Seecharan Dion Ewing Donny Balvin Dorson Stewart Ettiene Maingot Gabrielle Bernard Gerard Noel Hollis Peters

Ilan Telesford Jacon Salick Joel Badrie Johnathan Hinkson

Kaleem Mohammed Karan Soorajbally Keafe Sennon Kent Weekes Kern Nibbs Kern Chase Kern Julien Kevon Bryce Kelya Williams Keon Mc Neil **Keston Wiggins** Kevin Greene

Kris Jacob Kyle Moona Leanna Gobinda Leon Abdullah Leslie Hobson

Loren Bavne Marielle Thomas Marlon Rampersad

#### **POSITION**

Technical Assistant III Technical Assistant III Linesman 'A'

Linesman 'B'

Human Resources Officer II

Clerk II Section Leader Crew Foreman Clerk II Linesman 'B'

Substation Foreman Senior Clerk Subsection Leader Electrician 'A' Senior Clerk

Communications Mechanic I

Mechanic 'C' Electrician 'C' Mechanic 'A' Crew Foreman Linesman 'A' Mechanic 'C'

Linesman 'A' (Hotline) Senior Legal Officer Linesman 'A' Internal Audit Manager Crew Foreman

Line Foreman (Hotline) Technical Assistant III Linesman 'B'

Electrician 'A' Linesman 'B' Clerk Typist Electrician 'C'

Foreman - Line Clearer

Linesman 'B'

Linesman 'A' (Hotline) Linesman 'A' Subsection Leader

Clerk II Electrician 'C' Linesman 'B' Linesman 'A' Linesman 'A' Electrician 'A' Electrician 'B' Electrician 'B' Clerk II Welder 'C' Linesman 'B' Linesman 'A'

Human Resources Officer II

Clerk II Linesman 'A'

Linesman 'B'

Line Foreman (Hotline)

Crew Foreman Clerk II Welder 'B'

#### **AREA/DEPARTMENT**

Transmission Maintenance Distribution Tobago **Distribution Central** Distribution South

Human Resources Department

AGM - Distribution Distribution North Distribution East Distribution South Distribution Central Transmission Maintenance

Distribution North

Distribution East Distribution Tobago

Supplies

Communications Department Transmission Maintenance **Distribution Central** 

Distribution Tobago Distribution South Transmission Maintenance

Distribution Tobago

Distribution North Corporate Secretary Distribution Central Internal Audit **Distribution South** Distribution South Distribution Tobago Distribution South Distribution Tobago Distribution Central **Distribution Central** Distribution Central **Distribution Central** Distribution South Distribution North Distribution South

AGM - Distribution Supplies

Distribution Central Distribution South Distribution South Distribution South **Distribution Central** Distribution Central Distribution Central AGM - Finance Distribution South Distribution South

Transmission Maintenance

**Distribution Central Industrial Relations** Commercial Distribution South

Distribution South Distribution South Distribution South Distribution South

## **Employee Update**

Appointments, Promotions, Moving On and Accomplishments

#### **DEPARTURES**

David Webber Dwight Cruickshank **Everod Williams** Indarjit Ramoutar Jerome Paul John Lennard Julien Isaac Larry Goodridge Leeberth Belle Matthew Pascall Michael Richards Mynee Maharaj Nigel Holder Paula Self Philip Pierre Premchand Rajkumar Remy Johnson Stanley P. Jones

**POSITION** Estate Corporal Senior Foreman Dr - Vehicles < 25000 Lbs. Driver – Aerial Lift Truck Crew Foreman Driver – Aerial Lift Truck Meter Reader Substation Foreman Linesman 'C' Estate Constable Estate Constable Clerk Typist Estate Corporal Estate Sergeant Maintenance & Services Assistant Foreman – Line Clearer (T) Crew Foreman **Estate Constable** 

AREA/DEPARTMENT Security - Distribution Central Distribution Tobago Distribution North Distribution South Distribution East Distribution North Distribution North Distribution East Distribution East Security – Distribution East Security - Distribution North **Distribution Central** Security - Head Office Security - Distribution East Distribution Tobago Distribution Central **Distribution East** Security - Mt Hope

See intranet for full list of Employee Update.

## Mc Kree passes on

The T&TEC Family was again thrown into mourning with the news that Senior Foreman Kenneth Mc Kree passed away.

Mr. Mc Kree, who had been at hospital receiving continuous care after suffering second degree burns in an accident in June 2014, died on September 18, 2015. At the time of the accident he was attached to the Northern Area.

Fifty-two year old Mr. Mc Kree joined T&TEC in 1984 as a

Labourer. He saw progressive appointments through his tenure, from Linesman 'C' to 'B' (Hotline) and then Linesman 'A'. In 1994 he was promoted to Crew Foreman and his appointment as Senior Foreman was made in 2004. He was well regarded as a dedicated worker and amiable colleague.

Mr. Mc Kree leaves to mourn his parents, Henry and Nellie Mc Kree (his father, a former employee of T&TEC); his wife Jacqueline, son Jaden,



daughter Kelly and step daughter Leigh Ann Davis (both employed with the Commission).

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Mc Kree family as they go through this difficult time.

May his soul rest in peace.

## Community safety improved with more lights

Safety, security and a quality way of life were the propelling factors behind the installation of street lights by T&TEC's Public Lighting Department at two major roadways - Farm Road Extension, Curepe and Connector Road, Charlieville.

The 23 poles, 23 lights and four transformers along 900 meters of the farming community of Farm Road Extension, were installed over a record-breaking five days. At a commissioning ceremony on August 17, T&TEC's Chairman, Susilla Ramkissoon-Mark said, "Farmers can now get to their properties in relative safety, at early morning and late evening...and get their produce to market, allowing T&TEC to contribute to our national food security." The historic event was witnessed by the then Minister of Trade, Industry, Investment and Communications, the Honourable Vasant Bharath, T&TEC's General Manager Kelvin Ramsook and members of the Curepe Farmers Association.

T&TEC's Public Lighting
Department, executing
agency for the national Public
Lighting Programme, also
installed brand new lighting
infrastructure along Connector
Road in Charlieville, providing
drivers with enhanced road
use. The lights were funded by



Former T&TEC Chairman, Susilla Ramkissoon-Mark and former Minister Vasant Bharath, joined by members of the Farm Road Farmers Association and other residents of Curepe, shake hands following the commissioning of the lights on Farm Road Extension.

the Ministry of Public Utilities and were commissioned on July 28.

Reports are that the project, which took six weeks to complete, has also improved the safety and security of users of Connector Road, a main artery that connects Pierre Road to Chaguanas Main Road, Felicity. It involved

installing seventy-three 150-watts streetlights along fifty-eight 12-meter poles on the western side of the roadway.

A similar project was also completed along Soogrim Trace, Endeavour, Chaguanas on August 27.

# Mahaica Oval 300th recreational facility illuminated

Almost two years after the 200th recreation ground was lit in Malgretoute, Princes Town, another landmark under the Public Lighting Programme was achieved when T&TEC illuminated its 300th recreation ground at the historic Mahaica Oval, Point Fortin on September 1.

Congratulations for this milestone came from the Mayor of Point Fortin, Alderman Clyde Paul; then

Minister of Public Utilities, the Honourable Nizam Baksh and T&TEC's General Manager, Kelvin Ramsook, who were joined by satisfied residents to stick a commemorative cake.

The project was executed and managed by T&TEC's Public Lighting Department in just under two months and was funded by the Ministry's Public Sector Investment Programme.



## **Employees CEM qualified**

Four employees of T&TEC are among the first group of local professionals to be qualified by the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE) with the Certified Energy Manager (CEM) designation.

Senior Manager, Rates and Regulatory Compliance, Gerard Emmanuel-Rodriquez; Senior Engineer, Shastri Gayadeen; Technical Engineer I, Keron Seebaran and Clerk III, Anya Narine-Maraj joined their counterparts from Petrotrin, Industrial Plant Services Limited, PCS Nitrogen and the Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs, among others, to attain the prestigious credential, awarded by the United States-based Association.

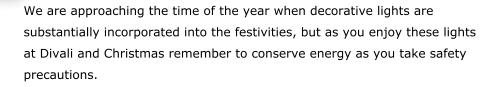
Speaking for the group, Mr. Emmanuel-Rodriquez said that "The CEM Programme is an extensive one that covers from energy pricing and auditing to energy efficiency, and as such would have tooled participants with the technical knowledge and skills required to design,

cost and manage systems geared toward improvement of energy use."

The CEM credential, incepted in 1981, is the most widely recognised Energy Management certification around the world, with over 14,000 active CEM professionals.

Congratulations to them all on their achievement.

## Watty Safety Tips:



Here is a table of average electricity usage and some tips to guide you in conserving energy. To calculate your own usage, change your figures based on your consumption. Use same calculations for both indoor and outdoor lights.

#### **EXAMPLE CALCULATIONS:**

ITEMS / DESCRIPTION	HOURLY ENERGY CONSUMPTION (Watts)	DAILY ENERGY CONSUMPTION FOR 5 HOURS PER DAY (kWh) (Wattage x Hours used per day) ÷ 1000	BI-MONTHLY ENERGY CONSUMPTION (kWh) Daily kWh consumption x no. of days (60)	BI-MONTHLY COST (TT\$) Bi-monthly energy consumption x utility rate (\$0.26)
6' Christmas tree [Incandescent]				
100 mini lights = 40.8 watts 6 strings = 40.8 x 6	244.8w	(244.8 x 5) ÷ 1000 = 1.224	.224 × 60 = 73.44	73.44 x 0.26 = 19.01
Large Static Snow Globe	150w	$(150 \times 5) \div 1000 = .75$	.75 x 60 = 45	45 x 0.26 = 11.70
Wreath – lit with 1 string of 50 bulbs				
1 string of 50 mini lights 2 strings of 50 mini lights	20.4w 40.8w	$(20.4 \times 5) \div 1000 = .102$ $(40.8 \times 5) \div 1000 = .204$	.102 x 60 = 6.12 .204 x 60 = 12.24	6.12 x 0.26 = 1.60 12.24 x 0.26 = 3.18
Wreath - lit with 5 strings of 50 LED bulbs				
5 strings of 50 bulbs (.07watts)	17.25w	(17.25 x 5) ÷ 1000 = .086	.086 x 60 = 5.16	5.16 x 0.26 = 1.34
9 ft Garland 2 strings of 100 mini lights (Incandescent)	81.6w	(81.6 x 5) ÷ 1000 = .41	.41 x 60 = 24.6	24.60 x 0.26 = 6.40
Garland-LED 2 Strings of 50 mini lights	6.9w	(6.9 x 5) ÷ 1000 = .0345	.0345 x 60 = 2.07	2.07 x 0.26 = 0.54
Incandescent Mini Lights (Outdoor trees)	1004.5w	(1004.5 x 5) ÷ 1000 = 5.023	5.023 x 60 = 301.38	301.38 x 0.26 = 78.36

#### Total Bill:

TOTAL:

400 kWh x \$0.26 1-400 kWh at \$0.26 TT ce nts per kWh \$104 401-1,000 kWh at \$0.31 TT cents per kWh 464.68 kWh x \$0.32 \$148.70 = **Customer Charge** over 1,000 at \$0.37 TT cents per kWh

\$6

\$258.70

### Letters



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

May 01, 2015

Manager, Distribution Tobago

I wish to extend our sincerest thanks and gratitude for the speedy removal of LP #415 to the opposite side of the road reserve. With these transmission lines removed, we are now able to safely and happily proceed in comfort with the extension of our dwelling.

I also wish to compliment you on the tree trimming and clearing work embarked on within the last months. Inevitably these improvements have proven extremely beneficial not only to the residents but to our thriving Tourism sector which plays an integral role in income generation within Castara and environs.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

Fitz Herbert Taylor Castara, Tobago

May 26, 2015

The General Manager,

On Friday 22 May at 10:00 a.m., I was informed that a prior job request was completed and to contact the Point Fortin Branch Office, where I learnt the procedure would take at least two hours to complete.

On Monday, May 25, at 10:00 a.m., I visited the Point Fortin office and was greeted by Ms. Hilary Duncan. I informed her about the nature of my visit and presented her with

the relevant documents, she was assisted by Ms. Sherry Ann St Louis Coutain. Twenty five minutes later, after being informed of some other services your organisation provides, and that both the Marabella and Penal offices were operated on Saturdays, I was told to pay at the Cashier, given the date for the connection and informed the transaction was completed.

I was surprised at both the professionalism and the time to complete [the transaction]. In my thirty three years of operating, this was by far the best service I have ever received from a public service company.

I wish to commend your staff for service provided and being results oriented.

Cuthbert Fullerton D Eattery, Point Fortin

July 21, 2015

Manager, Distribution Tobago

. . . . . . .

On July 20 T&TEC changed a rotten wooden pole situated at # 19 Riseland Gardens, Tobago. It was replaced with a brand new galvanized pole.

After the cables and wires were relocated by the cable and telephone companies onto the new pole, I must say "thanks a lot for a job well done!" to T&TEC for removing the old pole which was attacked by termites and leaning outward over the street.

Regards, Jens Helmark, August 17, 2015

Manager Distribution North

I wish to highlight the exceptional service of your employee who truly understands your company's goal of being customer focused. I was very impressed with the support and service provided by Mr. Avinash Panday and wish to put on record my high commendation and appreciation for his efforts.

On August 6 at about 12:35 p.m I reported that I was experiencing power cuts throughout the morning. The officer who took my call reported that there were no other calls or complaints. However, a T&TEC service truck arrived at my home at about 9:35 p.m. that night and a burnt wire in the meter panel was found and my power supply was immediately disconnected. On August 7, Mr. Panday promptly assisted my electrician to get my records updated with T&TEC Inspection so that I could be reconnected that same day.

Mr. Panday's level of service and his deep commitment to excellence in customer service greatly impressed me. Here was someone willing to go the extra mile and give the assurance needed to a truly stressed out customer.

I wish to thank Mr. Panday who truly deserves to be commended and rewarded for providing outstanding customer service and support well beyond the expectations of my past experiences.

Marie Ayoung – Chee Maraval

## ISO Certification for North

Distribution North now follows Distribution Central to receive ISO 9001:2008 certification, following the completion of audits by the National Quality Assurance (NQA) USA this year.

T&TEC's General Manager, Kelvin Ramsook, was on hand to join with Northern Area Manager, Curvis Francois and employees as they received the ISO certificate on

September 23. He congratulated all involved for achieving this latest milestone for the Commission.

North is the third Distribution Area, after South and Central, to be awarded ISO 9001 registration. Certification is valid for three years from September 10, 2015.

