

HEADLINES

VOLUME 1
THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SOLOMON PORTS
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Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Eranda Kotelawala

CEO's Message,

Dear Reader,

It is indeed a great opportunity for me to come to you with the inaugural volume of "Head Lines", the official news letter of Solomon Ports. This newsletter will reach you every quarter bringing latest news and success stories of our ports in Honiara & Noro.

Learning from the past and shaping the future, today, Solomon Ports is one of the most progressive and resilient ports in the Pacific region. Our shared vision to achieve unparalleled growth and profitability as the only state managed Port in the Melanesian region gave us an opportunity to create a unique proposition in

the Pacific rim and be the only Port to claim landlord, operator and regulator status. This we believe is a unique example to many other smaller ports like us in rest of the world.

A culmination of terrific team work and consistent passion to develop during the last few years helped us to achieve several region's first initiatives which I believe you may read with great enthusiasm thought-out this newsletter. You can also find some of the great community support projects we do as part of doing our bit for the community we live in.

While you enjoy reading our work, please feel free to let us know how you would envision Solomon Ports to be in the future as a thriving economic gateway to Solomon Islands through our feedback email on the last page.

Let's wish Solomon Ports the very best in the future!

Solomon Ports Commisions New 'LED Lighting And CCTV Surveillance System

Solomon Ports commissioned it's first ever 'LED lighting and CCTV surveillance system at Honiara port on Thursday 5th September. Solomon Ports is the first Port in the South Pacific to use 'LED lighting system' in its facilities and operations.

The project is worth SBD \$15 Million and is fully funded by Solomon Ports.

20 LED lighting poles, and over 40 CCTV cameras have been installed inside the international terminal and domestic terminal. The new LED lights are more energy efficient and environmentally safe; it will enhance efficiency in ports operations and productivity output, especially with fast vessel turn-around. It will also ensure the safety and security of SIPA employees, in terms of providing higher visibility during night operations.

Speaking during the commissioning ceremony on behalf of Solomon Ports, Human resources manager Mr. James Gereia said the introduction of the new lights will allow ports operation to operate 24 hours.

"This project fulfills the ISPS requirement by the IMO, and will

Continue on page 2



Prime Minister Hon. Manasseh Sogavare switches on the new lights

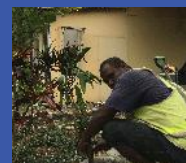
INSIDE



**Solomon Ports Gets
International Recognition**



**New Sweeping
Machine**



**Green Ports Initiative
Progresses**

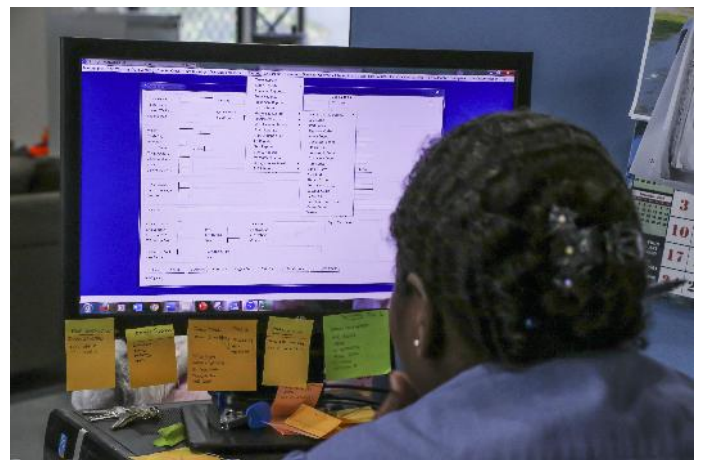
enhance efficiency in ports operations,” he said.
“It will act as a deterrent for any crime, theft inside the port and will ensure the safety for all stakeholders.”
Guest of honor, the Honorable Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare was given the opportunity to officially switch on the lights.
Mr Sogavare was deeply impressed with the new lighting and security systems, saying that this will increase the confidence of the public on Solomon Ports capability in a safe environment for their cargoes.
He said this will also guarantee the safety of imported goods and this marks an achievement for Solomon Ports.



LED Poles lights up the international and the domestic terminals

PORT MANAGER MAKING STRIDES

Solomon Port's new terminal operating system 'Ports Manager' is making strides and major improvements in the authority.
The new system is a significant investment for Solomon Ports, was bought and installed by CBS Australia in 2018, is now mainly used for billing and operations.
It aims to improve port operations efficiency, which has been an issue for Solomon Ports in the past years.
Systems Manager Ellison Pade said the new system has brought improvements and instilled greater efficiency for Solomon Ports.
He said the system has modules that helps port operations, which includes yard planning, ship planning and other important areas.
“This system allows us to plan and track containers inside our yard, which allows to monitor and regulate the containers,” he said.
“It also improves ship turnaround, which allows us to operate ships better than before, which now the average turnaround is 36 hours.”
Mr.Pade also said Port Manager also helps enforce tariff regulations and allows Solomon Ports to recover lost revenues.
“This system will help us recover lost revenues that have not been properly tracked before, one example is the storage containers, which was manually tracked in the past,” he said.
“It improves revenue collection, which makes the process more regulated



A Solomon Ports staff using the Port manager Software.

and more transparent.”
Port Manager will be implemented and used at Noro International Port by the end of November 2019.

Solomon Ports Gets International Recognition

Solomon Ports has just recently become a regular member of the 'International Association of Ports and Harbours'(IAPH).
This comes after 46 years of its establishment; which Solomon Ports was a provisional member two years ago.
IAPH is a prestigious organization attached to the 'International Maritime Organization' (IMO) and the 'United Nations' (UN).
A certificate was issued to Solomon Ports on the 8th of August this year, which marks another milestone and achievement in the SOE's history.
Solomon Ports CEO Mr. Eranda Kotelawala said he is pleased that the authority is now associated with a professional association that helps shape the global maritime industry.
Mr. Kotelawala said IAPH advocates for most of the maritime issues, links and builds networks between ports.
He said the association use a lot of benefits to its member ports and serving as a global advocate for the maritime industry.
“The main benefits are networking, being part of some of the global issues, learning best practices from other ports, and also



Solomon Ports CEO Eranda Kotelawala poses with the IAPH Certificate, flanked by SI Ports managers

being connected in terms of training and development,” he said.
“This is also good for us to know about the new technologies other ports are using, so that we can adapt those to our port, and to become a voice for issues we face here in Solomon Islands and around the pacific.”

New Sweeping Machine For Ports

Solomon Ports recently took ownership of a new sweeping machine as part of the authority's move to improve workplace cleanliness and reduce health hazards. The arrival of the new machine makes Solomon Ports the only port in the region apart from Australia to own such machine. The new sweeping machine was bought from 'Conquest Australia' as part of the Ports' move to improve it's working environment.

Systems manager, Mr. Ellison Pade, said the new machine was bought purposely to clean dusts from the port terminals. He said the new machine will not only clean the terminals faster but will also improve work productivity. "The new machines will be used to reduce the level of dusts in the ports terminals," he said. "We are considerate about the health and wellbeing of our staff, and this new machine will provide a cleaner and safer working environment for our workers."



Ports Security Now ISPS Certified

Five security officers from Solomon Ports have recently completed a one-week training at the University of Tasmania's maritime college in Australia. The training was held from the 30th of September to the 2nd of October. The trip was funded by Solomon Ports and was mainly for the five officers to acquire certificate in Port/Port Facility Security officer, and purposely to meet International and ISPS Standards. The five officers are PFSO, Andrew Kilimani, Terence Gaza of Noro Port, Duddley Suimae (Chief Security), John Kiti (Senior Security officer), and Paul Mane (Senior Security officer). Speaking on behalf of the team, Andrew Kilimani said the one-week experience

was a boost for their careers and Solomon Ports in general. Mr. Kilimani said the training will help them to identify areas that needs improvement and to ensure Solomon Ports conduct and maintain its security operations up to international port standards. "This training will assist us in our day to day duties and will

help us to improve our duties as we go along," he said. "We would also like to thank the management of Solomon Ports who made this trip possible and as we all know that sea transportation is the main mode of trade internationally which means Solomon Ports has to provide and ensure it's security meets international standards and that is what we are here to do".

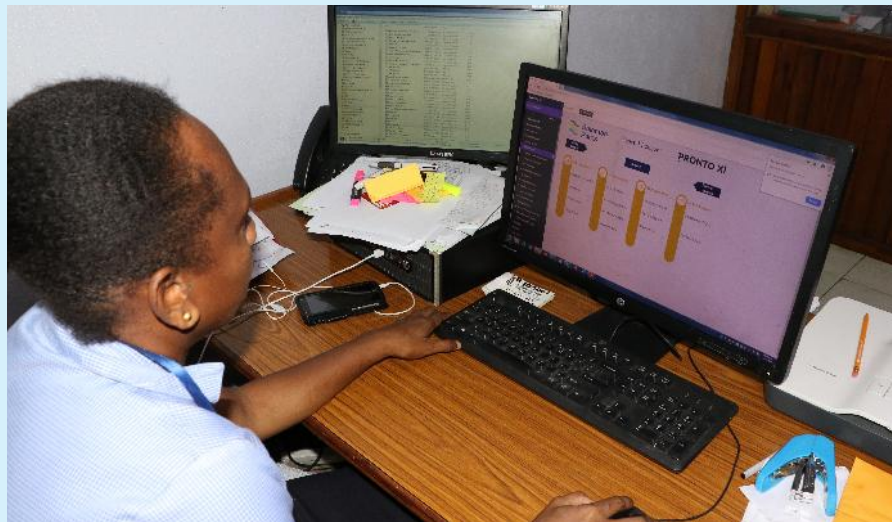


The Senior Security Officers pose with their Certificate

PRONTO GOES LIVE

Solomon Ports is now successfully using 'Pronto accounting software' in its financial activities. The new software was initially installed in 2017 but went into full use as of May this year. The new software covers all of Solomon Port's sub ledgers, accounts receivable, accounts payable, cash office, purchasing, and other sub-sections within the finance department. Finance Manager Mr. George Rausi said the new system is much more comprehensive and has instilled improvements in SI Ports' financial activities. He said the 'Pronto System' is also linked to the new terminal operating system 'Port Manager',

in terms of capturing information, billing, and sending out invoices. "It enforces more of our internal controls, how we do things now is more transparent, robust, more procedural, improved security features, it is faster, and more accurate," he said. "Invoices are sent out on a timelier manner, more accurate, which improves cashflow." Mr. Rausi said the new system also promotes an efficient procurement process, and approvals of payments is done in the system. He said the system is also linked to Noro Port, and the next phase to be implemented is fixed assets, which will be done early next year.



NEW SOLAR LIGHT POLES INSTALLED

Solomon Ports has installed new solar lighting poles around its main operation facilities in Honiara and Noro. Over 200 solar powered lighting poles have already been installed.

Solomon Ports is the first company in the country to install solar light poles in its main operating facilities and residential areas.

In addition to this, the authority will develop a 1 Megawatt solar farm at Noro Port which will power all refer containers used to store Tuna.

This is part of the authority's implementation of the 'Green Port Pilot Project'.

Solomon Ports was selected by the Pacific Community (SPC) to champion the South Pacific's first ever 'Green Port Pilot Project'.

This is aimed at improving efficiency and resilience of port operations and infrastructure whilst simultaneously reducing environmental and carbon footprints.

According to Solomon Ports Manager Engineering Mr. Ronald Ivupitu, Solomon Ports is not only installing the solar lights in the main operation areas but also to residential areas.

Mr Ivupitu said apart from the lights installed at the port's main perimeters, new lights were also installed along the streets surrounding the main ports area and along the domestic terminal.

He said the new poles have already been installed in all of our Solomon Ports residential areas around Honiara.

"Mainly the lights are installed for the security and safety of our employees, plus members of the public who are using residential areas as access to their homes," he said.

"We are also looking at also using solar energy to power our offices in the future, which we are still in our feasibility stage."



Solar Poles at the Domestic Terminal



Solomon Ports Progresses With Green Ports Initiative

Solomon Ports is progressing well in its implementation of the 'Green Port Pilot Project'.

This is aimed at improving efficiency and resilience of port operations and infrastructure whilst simultaneously reducing environmental and carbon footprints.

Solomon Ports was selected by the Pacific Community (SPC) to champion the South Pacific's first ever 'Green Port Pilot Project'.

Already the New LED lights have already been installed within the Solomon Ports complex, providing quality lighting and more brighter lights to both international and domestic terminals.

The LED lights are energy efficient compared to the conventional light bulbs and Solomon Ports is anticipating cost saving in lighting.

Solomon Ports has received positive feedbacks and comments from ship operators' vessel owners and the general public since the lights were first installed early this year.

New solar lighting poles have also been installed in the port of Noro and Honiara.

In implementing this new initiative, Solomon Ports is also striving to improve its workplace environment.

Solomon Ports had engaged 'Solo Enviro beautification' to plant trees and palms around the ports perimeters and terminals.

Systems manager Ellison Pade said the aim is not only to beautify the

ports area, but it is mainly to absorb CO2 and other harmful gases being emitted by the port's operations.

"This pilot project is about managing energy efficiency use in the ports operations and the maritime industry," he said.

"We are currently analyzing our fuel usage and consumption in terms of lighting as well as equipment's used in our operations."



A Solo Enviro worker planting flowers outside the administration office

Tariff Information Workshop

Solomon Ports has conducted a 'Tariff information workshop at the Heritage Park Hotel on the 9th September for various departments within the authority.

The workshop is aimed at informing SIPA staff on the chargeable services provided at the port to customers.

A total of thirty personals from the Finance, Operations, and harbors division attended the one-day workshop.

Three key issues were identified during the workshop, which were; Understanding the tariff system, identify services that have been ignored and identifying new services.

Finance Manager Mr.George Rausi conducted the event, stating the importance of tariff collection to Solomon Ports.

Mr.Rausi said staff have to understand that all services provided by Solomon Ports is chargeable and must be utilized.

"Often some of our workers do services that should be charged but were not aware, and were also ignored and not recorded," he said.

"This workshop is made so that they know every service is chargeable through tariff, so they can also provide information about these services so that we know, and that we continue to generate income."

He also stated that an outcome of the workshop was that a 'Tariff committee' will be formed.

"Our objective is to be self-sufficient, so to do that tariff is a huge cornerstone for that," he said.



Solomon Ports officers who attended the training.

Weigh in motion improves efficiency

The newly installed weigh in motion system is now improving efficiency at Solomon Ports and is making a difference.

The new WIM system was acquired and installed by Malaysian company 'Quatriz ITS' last year.

Solomon Ports is the only Port in the south pacific to use and operate such weighing system, making it one of the leading ports as well.

The WIM system is designed to capture and record truck axle weights and gross vehicle weights as they drive over a sensor.

Systems manager Mr. Ellison Pade there has been huge improvements since the system was installed, in terms of efficiency, accuracy and timeliness.

He said in the past, all containers were weighed using a 'Weigh bridge', which he said was slow, manually operated and time consuming.

"Now that we have this system, containers trucks will not have to remove the containers, they will just drive through and then instantly we have all the data we need," he said.

"Although we had a few minor issues, the WIM system is going really good, and we have seen a huge improvement since it was introduced."



The WIM System at the main Port entrance

NEW OFFICE FOR OPERATIONS

Solomon Ports operation department has now moved to a new home as of early this year.

The new operations office now houses the thirteen staff within the operations department, which was previously used by Kitano company over the past two years. Assistant Manager Operations, James Kabini said the new facility is an improvement for the operations department. He said the new office has more modern equipments and technology that allows them to monitor their daily activities. "We now have monitoring systems for us to monitor the yard and container movements, which we did not have in the past," he said.

"In the previous office most things were done manually, we now have screens and computers that allows us to work in the office and at the same time monitor our operations on the screen."



The new operations office

New Pre-Fabricated Offices

Several prefabricated container houses are now being constructed and ready to be installed inside Solomon Ports areas.

A total of thirteen of these houses were constructed, which most have already been completed.

Carpentry Supervisor Donald Taona said the completed offices have been installed around ports compound.

"Some have been installed at the domestic terminal, which is now being used by the domestic security officers," he said.

"Most likely the construction and the pre fab houses will be completed this this month (October)."

Mr. Taona said one pre fab houses will be sent over to Noro International Port in the Western province at a later date.



The pre-Fab Offices

Community support

SOLOMON PORTS FUNDS KURUKURU'S AIRFARES

Solomon Ports is proud to support the country's national futsal team, the Kurukuru's, with an amount of two hundred and twenty-one thousand, three hundred and fifty-two dollars (SBD\$221,352) in their World Cup Qualifiers preparation.

The amount met the team's airfares when they flew out to Noumea, New Caledonia on the 7th October for the OFC Futsal World Cup Qualifiers.

A cheque was handed over to Solomon Islands Football Federation President Mr. Willie Lai by Solomon Ports Finance Manager Mr. George Rausi.

Whilst receiving the assistance, Mr. Lai said SIFF management and the Kurukuru team are grateful for the sponsorship.

He said the team's aspiration was to defend their Oceania title and qualify for the FIFA Futsal World Cup.

"The team is working really hard and we appreciate the support that Solomon Ports has given to the team and Futsal in general over the years," he said.

"We would like to thank the Chairman and Board of Solomon Ports for the support that have been giving to futsal, a game that is growing amongst the wider communities throughout the country."

Meanwhile, Solomon Ports Finance Manager, Mr. George Rausi said the SOE is happy to support the team's World Cup qualification

campaign.

He said the partnership in supporting Futsal started in 2016 when Solomon Ports funded the team's trip to the Futsal World cup in Colombia, and the recent youth Olympics in Argentina last year.

"Futsal is a growing code of football throughout the country especially amongst youths in schools, villages and Solomon Ports wants to support a game that is loved by the populace."



Finance Manager George Rausi hands over the cheque to SIFF President Willie Lai

Solomon Ports Assist National U17 WC Prep

Solomon Ports is proud to support the country's national U17 team in their preparation for the 2019 FIFA world cup in Brazil with an amount of SBD\$8000.

This will go towards the team's raising of funds to meet travelling costs and the team's game preparation for the world cup.

SIFF technical director Moses Toata received the assistance on behalf of the team.

Mr Toata said the team is grateful for Solomon Ports in recognizing the team and assisting their preparation.

He said the timely assistance is important for their preparation as the team is now raising funds to assist their travelling costs to Brazil.

"We would really like to thank Solomon Ports for their support not only for this team but also to futsal, and generally assisting the development of football in Solomon Islands," he said.

Meanwhile, Solomon Ports Finance manager, Mr.George Rausi handed over the cheque and reiterated the SOE's support to football in the country.

He said Solomon Port will continue to support football in the country because it is the national game.

"We also supporting the country's national futsal team in their preparation for the futsal world cup qualifications, and now are also assisting the national u17

team," he said.

"All in all, Solomon Ports is really happy to support football in the country and we will continue to provide support in the future."



Finance Manager hands over the Cheque to the team.

SOLOMON PORTS SUPPORTS MOTHERS UNION IN MALAITA

Solomon Ports recently handed over SBD\$10,000 to the Mothers Union of the Dioceses of Malaita in supporting their fundraising drive to build their new resource center in Auki.

The new resources center will be called the 'Gwendolyn Resources centre' and will be used by women from the diocese from all over rural Malaita when they visit Auki.

It will also be the main training centre for all women within the diocese, which is a total of 7000 women around Malaita province.

In receiving the cheque donation, Malaita Province Diocesan president Ms.Catherine Lamani thanked Solomon Ports for responding positively to their appeal.

"We really want to thank Solomon Ports for recognizing the plight and need of our rural women, this donation is a step forward in our commitment to help our women," she said.

"Most of our members are rural women and are self-reliant, this new facility will help our future plans, especially in working with our women."

Meanwhile, Solomon Ports Systems manager Mr.Ellision Pade said the SOE is happy to support such initiatives, especially in promoting leadership for women.

"Solomon Ports as an SOE is owned by the government which also mean is owned by the people of this country, so we are happy to give back to the

community," he said.

"I think this is a positive thing for our women, and we are happy to support such initiatives that are formulated and driven by women."



Systems Manager Ellison Pade hands over Cheque to Ms.Catherine Lamani.

SOLOMON PORTS ASSISTS THE FIGHT AGAINST CERVICAL CANCER

Solomon Ports has joined the fight against cervical cancer in the country with a kind assistance of \$10,000 to Solomon Islands Planned Parenthood Association (SIPPA).

The donation took place at Solomon Port's head office in Honiara, where a cheque was handed over to SIPPA Executive Director Mr. Ben Angoa.

The assistance will go purposely for SIPPA to fund the rollout of its cervical cancer program in the provinces.

In handing over the funds, Solomon Ports Finance manager Mr.Geroge Rausi said the SOE was happy in helping out the fight against cervical cancer in the country and especially improving the health of women.

"I believe this assistance will help our women out there and other stakeholders out there regarding reproductive health," he said.

"Anything for the wider community, Solomon Ports as an SOE is happy to help, whether it be in health or other areas, and we look forward to working closely with SIPPA in the future."

Meanwhile, SIPPA Executive director Mr. Ben Angoa said the assistance was timely and will greatly contribute to their fight against cervical cancer across the country.

Mr.Angoa said Solomon Ports was the first organization to respond to their appeal.

"This assistance will help our work because most women out in the provinces lack the facilities and information needed, so we are taking our program out there to our women," he said.

"The number of cervical cancer cases in the country is going up and we are grateful that Solomon Ports has stepped in and recognized this problem that is affecting our women."



Finance Manager George Rausi hands over the Cheque to the SIPPA team.

SOLOMON PORTS SPONSORS MISS SOLOMON ISLANDS PAGEANT SHOW

Solomon Ports has officially handed over SBD\$70,000 to Miss Solomon Islands Pageant show and was also announced as the Gold sponsor for the event.

This also makes Solomon Ports the major sponsor for this year's edition, which the SOE has over the past years supported.

The cheque was handed to Miss Solomon Islands event Manager Ms. Joyce Konofilia by Solomon Ports Finance manager Mr. George Rausi, flanked by five of the six contestants. Ms. Konofilia said Solomon Ports is the first and major sponsor for the event, which meant a lot to the organizers and the contestants.

She said they were happy to have Solomon Ports onboard and were looking forward to working close with the SOE in the upcoming Miss Solomon Islands pageant shows.

"We are really appreciative of what Solomon Ports has given us, and its not the first time, in 2016 they were the platinum sponsor, and hopefully they will continue to support the pageant in the future," she said.

"It's not all about glamour, these girls are advocating for issues that are affecting them on a reality basis, and this is a platform that really promotes young women."

Meanwhile, Solomon Ports Finance Manager Mr. George Rausi said the authority was happy to support the pageant show and helping young women become role models in the country.

"Solomon Ports is happy to support these confident young women, and to help them

advocate for issue that are really affecting our people, our women and communities," he said.

"This pageant show will help these young women have confidence and become role models to other young women out there."



Finance Manager hands over the Cheque to Ms Joyce Konofilia and the MSIP Contestants

SOLOMON PORTS ASSISTS REMOTE RURAL SCHOOL IN MALAITA

Solomon Ports has stepped in to assist Gounabusu Community High School in East Kwaio Malaita Province to complete its form six and dormitory buildings.

A donation of SBD\$19,833 worth of materials was handed to the school's representatives.

Gounabusu Community High School is situated in the heart of Sinaragu Harbour and enrolls over five hundred students, which the school is also looking at expanding its capacity to cater for the increasing number of students.

The School is now currently raising funds for the completion of a two-storey classroom for form six building, and a girl's dormitory.

School Chairman Shadrac Lasimae thanked Solomon Ports for being the first company to respond to their appeal, which he said was a huge boost in their plan to complete the buildings.

He said the people of Kwaio believe that education is the only way forward in improving their standard of living and that this assistance is a step forward in their plan.

"We wish to thank the management of Solomon Ports for recognizing our appeal, which is a good way to give back to the rural people of this country," he said.

"We want to construct these building so that we create more opportunities for our children, which we believe will bring back benefits in the future."

Meanwhile, Solomon Ports Systems Manager Mr. Ellison Pade while handing over the cheque reiterated the SOE's support to the country's educational sector.

He said Solomon Ports was happy to invest in education and especially to rural communities in the country.

"We understand the challenges that rural communities endure when it comes to raising funds to build classrooms, and we understand that education is an important investment for the country," he said.

"This support will go towards the purchasing of materials that this school needs for the completion of their buildings, which we are happy to support them."



Systems Manager Ellison Pade hands over the Cheque.

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