

HEADLINES

VOLUME 9 OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SOLOMON PORTS

JUNE-AUGUST 2022



SIPA GETS INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

SIPA GETS INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION



SIPA Chairman, Mr. Johnny Sy, pose alongside representatives from award winning ports during the awards event.

Solomon Ports has won the 'International Association of Ports Harbours' Sustainability Awards 2022 in Vancouver, Canada on Wednesday 17th May at the IAPH World Ports Conference.

Solomon Ports was awarded the winner of the 'Community Building Category' for its 'Renewable Energy for a Sustainable Community' entry submission.

The award is in recognition of SIPA's ongoing efforts in reducing carbon emissions in its operations and its ongoing efforts in assisting rural communities around the country have access to clean green energy using Solar power.

Solomon Ports has been actively implementing sustainable energy initiatives at the Honiara, and Noro Port, by switching to more energy efficient solutions in its operations. It has also been actively reaching out to rural communities around the country, providing Solar powered lighting systems for schools, markets, community halls, streets, and homes.

So far SIPA has assisted six communities in Western, Isabel and Central Province, and will continue to rollout the initiative to the rest of the provinces, which is anticipated to be completed by the end of this year.

A total of 53 ports and collaborative projects entered the IAPH Awards this year, raising the total port projects in the IAPH database to 237. Out of the hundreds of submissions, SIPA was selected into the final three, alongside Freeport Riga Authority of Latvia, and Johor Port of Malaysia, which SIPA eventually

was selected as the winner.

This is the first time for Solomon Ports and a Pacific Island Port to win the IAPH Sustainability awards and being recognized at such internationally prestigious level since officially becoming a member of the IAPH in 2019.

SIPA's Board Chairman, Mr. Johnny Sy was in attendance to receive the award on behalf of SIPA and extended the Port's acknowledgment to the IAPH for their recognition of SIPA's initiative.

"On behalf of Solomon Ports, I would like to say that we are so honoured to have our work recognized in this way by International Association of Ports and Harbours and the World Ports Sustainability Program", he said.

"Many hours went into our Initiative in helping rural remote communities in the Solomon Islands have access to light, using renewable energy sources, particularly using Solar energy, and it means so much to us to have our work that we are so passionate about and committed to, being recognized at this level."

He said SIPA is aiming to further develop this Green Port Initiative in further reducing its carbon footprint, and promote the use of greener energy alternatives.

"We aim to reach out to all the provinces, even the remotest corners of the country, which we have done over the last couple of months, and we will continue to rollout this initiative to people in the remote areas who don't have the privilege in accessing any forms of light at all," he said.

HONIARA PORT WELCOMES NEW PILOT BOAT



Honiara Port Pilot Boat, Pilot Bravo.



Chief Guest, Deputy Prime Minister, Hon. Manasseh Maelanga poses inside Pilot Bravo, flanked SIPA executive, and board members.



SIPA Harbours staff, poses in front of Pilot Bravo.

Solomon Ports in June welcomed the arrival of a new Pilot Boat at Honiara Port.

A commissioning ceremony was held at the Honiara Copra Wharf at Honiara Port on June 17th. The new Pilot boat is called the “Pilot Bravo”, which measures at 12 meters in overall length and outfitted with double Yamaha 250 Horsepower outboard engines.

The event was attended by Deputy Prime Minister, Hon. Manasseh Maelanga who was the guest of honour, SIPA board of directors’ representatives, SIPA Executive management and staff.

The new Pilot boat will replace the ‘Tandai’ Pilot boat, which will be transferred down to Noro Port in the Western Province to replace the previous Pilot Boat, which is currently being repaired in Honiara.

‘Pilot Bravo’ is expected to improve the Port’s capability in transporting our Maritime Pilots to inbound and outbound vessels accessing the port of

Honiara.

Speaking during the ceremony, Deputy Prime Minister, Hon. Manasseh Maelanga took time to acknowledge the SIPA executive management and staff for the safe delivery of the new boat.

Hon. Maelanga said the arrival of the new pilot boat marks another major achievement for Solomon Ports and the Port of Honiara.

“This new pilot boat is a timely addition to the harbours team, who will be facilitating the transfer of our marine pilots to incoming cargo vessels in a safer, and much quicker manner. This will improve the safety of our pilots, harbours staff and assist the safe passage of incoming cargo vessels to Honiara Port,” he said.

“Despite the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, Solomon Ports continues to remain resilient in both its investments and service delivery. The arrival of this new boat will surely be a boost to SIPA’s

service delivery capability and will instill more confidence from customers and other key stakeholders alike, in SIPA’s capability to deliver efficient and up to standard service here at Honiara Port”.

He also reminded SIPA Harbours staff and officers who will be working on board Pilot Bravo to carry out their duties with pride and serve the best interests of the Port.

Meanwhile, SIPA Harbour Master, Captain. Percy Biliki spoke on behalf of the SIPA Executive management and acknowledged the presence of Deputy Prime Minister Maelanga.

Captain Percy also took time to highlight the significance of pilot boats in facilitating proper and safer pilotage services in Ports.

Deputy Prime Minister Hon. Maelanga and invited guests were also invited for a tour inside the boat, where they were taken for a brief 10 minute test run inside the new boat along the Honiara Coast.



NORO PORT WELCOMES NEW LASHING CAGES

Solomon Port's Noro Port in Western Province officially received its brand new Stevedores "lashing cage" in July this quarter.

A team from Honiara travelled down to Noro to officially handover the cage and did a presentation to the operation team before a Maersk chartered vessel berthed at 1100hrs on Saturday morning 25th June 2022 for cargo discharge and loading of tuna products for export to overseas market.

These lifting cages are designed and will be used to improve the safety of the stevedores and facilitate access to container twist locks, further optimizing the process of cargo operations.

It will be used during shipping operations to lift stevedores onto vessels when unlocking containers for unloading and lowering stevedores into cargo holds safely.

A presentation was conducted by Mr Gravis Sie, who is the stand-in for Manager Operations – Stevedoring and Quay Operations, allowed them to familiarize with the cage and were shown a video demo on how to use the cage during cargo operations.

Noro Port Manager, Captain Chris Sade highlighted during the presentation that Noro Port is truly proud to receive such equipment that will certainly boost the safety standard of the stevedores and that the operations will be transpired in a safer working environment.

Apart from the on-going development of Noro Port, this equipment will further strengthen the upgrading of equipment for efficient productivity at the Port.



Solomon Ports now has three (3) 'lashing cages' in total, with two cages now operational at Honiara Port, and now one for Noro Port.

Solomon Ports is the second Port in the Pacific region to have such equipments in its operation.

Noro Port is served by Maersk line that calls fortnightly with connection to Papua New Guinea, Singapore and Malaysia routes.

SIPA MARKS NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS AT UNITY SQUARE



Traditional Dancers from Guadalcanal Province.



Traditional Dancers from Malaita Province.



Aerial view of the independence night.



Street Market organised by SIPA.



Vendors interacting with customers.



Students having fun with a photobooth inside Unity Square



SIPA Staff conducting a flag raising ceremony on Independence Day

SIPA TAKES PART IN GUADALCANAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

Solomon Ports this quarter also attended the annual Guadalcanal Day celebrations at Tenaru school, Central Guadalcanal on the 1st of August.

This was the second time for SIPA to take part in this event, last year also attended the previous edition in Marau, East Guadalcanal.

The SIPA team consisted of 7 staff from various department of the Port, and was led by Public Relations and Events Coordinator, Ms. Ethel Suinao.

A booth and tent were set up in the venue alongside other stakeholders who were also part of the event.

The SIPA team handed out information brochures and conducted information sharing sessions with members of the public who attended the day.

Many members of the public also visited the SIPA booth to ask questions related to the port and other related topics.

Information posters were also display for the public and short ad videos about SIPA were also on display for the public.

The SIPA team also conducted quizzes with people visiting the SIPA booth and handed out free promotional T-Shirts to members of the public, especially winners of the quizzes.

Public relations officer, Ms. Ethel Suinao said the trip was successful and thanked her fellow staff who were part of the SIPA team.

“I think it’s a good opportunity for us to come out and attend such events, to get the public to better understand the role and functions of the Port,” she said.

“Many people visited our booth and have so many questions, especially students who are asking advice on how they can pursue a career at the Port in the future.”



MEET OUR NEW STAFF



JONATHAN MANEHANITAI
ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT CASHIER



PATTERSON PALUSI
SECURITY ASSISTANT DOMESTIC



JOE TEBOUA
SECURITY ASSISTANT DOMESTIC



GABRIEL PAIKAI VAIKE
SECURITY ASSISTANT DOMESTIC



JOSEPH TETE'E
SECURITY ASSISTANT DOMESTIC



WILLIE MAELAO
SECURITY ASSISTANT DOMESTIC



DAVID AMO
SECURITY ASSISTANT DOMESTIC



JIMMY SIPOLO
SECURITY ASSISTANT DOMESTIC



FRED LAFIARA
SECURITY ASSISTANT DOMESTIC



BETRICE NIUMAOMA
SECURITY ASSISTANT DOMESTIC



ELMAH KARICH
SECURITY ASSISTANT DOMESTIC

STAFF UNDERGO EVACUATION PROCEDURE TRAINING



SIPA staff in August underwent a one day 'ISPS' Security Training on evacuation procedures (SOP) at the Honiara Port Auditorium.

The training was organized by SIPA's Port Facility Security Officer (PFSO) Mr. Andrew Kilimani, and was specifically for Stevedores, Clerks, and Drivers.

This was in response to ISPS code Part A, and B requirements that the Port Facility must conduct security exercises, not more than 18 months.

Trainees mainly split into groups, held discussions, and did presentations on possible scenarios that may occur at the port facility that may require staff to evacuate.

Speaking during the training, PFSO Andrew Kilimani said he was pleased with turnout and

outcome of the training.

"I think these sorts of trainings are important because its important for staff to better understand our evacuation procedures and especially the ISPS regulations, the exercise today is also building towards a major ISPS exercise between SIPA and SWIRE Shipping line later this year," he said.

"Staff must be familiar with our evacuation assembly points and where are our exit points, so today we did table talk discussions and simulation exercises."

He said similar training will be done with the rest of SIPA staff soon.





SIPA COMPLETES FIRST EVER CONFERENCE WITH MAJOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS

Solomon Ports has completed its first ever participation in the 2022 Ports Australia Biennial Conference in Brisbane, hosted by the Port of Brisbane from the 30th of August of September 1.

Solomon Ports became a member of Ports Australia in 2019, during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The three-day event commenced on Tuesday this week with a visit to the Port of Brisbane, continued on with presentations from numerous high profile Australian and International speakers, including the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development of Australia, the Hon. Catherine King MP, together with the Chief Commissioner of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission Gina Cass-Gottlieb, Commissioner Dr. Stephen King Productivity Commission together with Dr. Patrick Verhoeven Managing Director of the International Association of Ports and Harbours.

The Ports Australia Biennial conference is held once in every two years. The event is the premium national maritime event and brings together leaders from across the Ports, maritime services, business and political spectrum.

The theme of this year's event was 'Risk and Resilience', which was aimed at exploring the industry's challenges, potential and successes.

Solomon Ports was represented by members of the Board, and Executive management representatives, where they had extensive and robust dialogue with representatives from major Ports around Australia, and service providers in the Ports and Maritime transportation sector in Australia.

Speaking during the conference, Chief Executive Officer Mr. Eranda Kotelawala said the conference was a step forward in SIPA's connectivity with regional Ports and learning from major ports in Australia on how to make SIPA more efficient.

He said SIPA has a lot to learn from Ports Australia especially in the areas of future sustainability and the future for the ports sector in the region.

"SIPA has to learn from these major Ports in Australia, and how we can make it better, which is one of the main objectives of our participation is to network, learn and get to know our regional stakeholders, and fostering regional collaboration as well," he said.

"It is also to give exposure to our team, on how we can better manage our challenges and improve our services to the country."

Meanwhile, Ports Australia CEO Mr. Mike Gallagher also acknowledged the participation of Ports Australia's regional members, which the PNG Ports Corporation Limited and Fiji Ports also participated in the conference.

He said Ports Australia was looking forward to working with its regional members and improving the regional ports sector.