

Your Chamber at Work for You!



Forging Links

DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH COURTESY CALLS WERE MADE & MEETINGS WERE ATTENDED BY THE FOLLOWING:

- 1st Ms Catherine Kumar, CEO of the Chamber represented the Chamber at a meeting with the Competitiveness and Innovation Council. Ms Kumar is the Chamber's representative on the Council.
- 10th the CEO attended the event: "International Woman's Day Tea." The Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago – the Honourable Mrs Kamla Persad-Bissessar was also present at this event.
- From the 14th -18th the CEO attended the Launch of the Commonwealth Investment Forum. She was part of the Business Delegation trip to London headed by the

Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago;

- 22nd the CEO made a courtesy call to the High Commissioner of Jamaica H.E. Dr Iva Gloudon;
- on the 23rd she attended a business seminar on India – T&T Trade and Investment Partnership at Hilton;
- 25th she attended the Launch of the Caribbean Competitiveness Centre at the Hyatt Regency Trinidad;
- 28th The CEO, the President of the Chamber – Mrs Angella Persad and the Manager of Business and Sector Services Unit (BSSU) – Mrs Camille Sears Carter-Wells met with The Honourable Karl Samuda, Minister of Industry, Investment and Commerce of Jamaica;

- 29th The CEO attended the TTMA AGM entitled: " The State of Intraregional Trade and the Caribbean community Single Market" at the Hilton Hotel;
- 29th The CEO attended the debriefing meeting concerning business delegation trip made to London at the Hilton Hotel;
- 31st The CEO was interviewed on CNC3 on the subject of her trip to London with the Prime Minister and the other members of the business delegation.

LOOK OUT FOR:

- **ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON 13TH APRIL 2011, HYATT REGENCY TRINIDAD;**
- **20th April Partnering for Success: Costaatt and T&T Chamber Breakfast Meeting Leon Agostini Conference Hall, Chamber Building;**
- **21st April Energy Committee Half Day Workshop – Leon Agostini Conference Hall, Chamber Building;**
- **28th April CSR Committee Xchange – Live Case studies "Learning and Practice" Leon Agostini Conference Hall, Chamber Building.**

Round-up of Chamber Events

The Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce hosted several events for the month of March. These include:

- A Focus Group for members in the Diamond Category of membership; the event was held on March 21, 2011 at the Duncan Campbell Meeting Room, Chamber Building. The objective was to identify member's opinions and level of satisfaction with services offered by the Chamber. Prior to this the Chamber held a focus group in February.
- The NOVA Committee hosted its SME Focus Group on March 25, 2011 to determine from members the most appropriate theme for the SME Conference scheduled for later on this year.

- On March 23, 2011 the Chamber hosted the New Members Welcome Cocktail Reception for the first quarter of the year. The event was held at the TSTT Corporate Booth Queen's Park Oval. New members were introduced to the Board, Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Chamber Committees and staff of the Chamber. **Partnering with the Chamber for this event were TSTT and Angostura Limited.**

Interested in partnering with the Chamber for an upcoming events? Please feel free to contact: Nicole Loney-Mills-Team Leader Events at 637-6966 Ext. 239/nmills@chamber.org.tt

International Trade Negotiations Unit



PANAMA – TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO PARTIAL SCOPE AGREEMENT

Trinidad and Tobago and Panama have been negotiating a partial scope agreement since January 23rd- 25th.

Both countries have exchanged a list of goods that each would like to import without being subjected to tariffs. The Chamber has made comments on the list of goods which should be duty free.

CARICOM

The third round of negotiations between CARICOM and Canada will take place on Monday 4th April, 2011- Friday 8th April, 2011. CARICOM has already presented a draft text on goods, services, investment ,regional, legal and institutional issues, which were commented on by the Chamber.

Heads of Government will review the side agreements on labour and

environment proposed by the Canadians to see how well they can be incorporated into the overall agreement.

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE (JSC) ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT BILL

The Chamber along with the other private sector stakeholder groups presented comments on the Draft Public Procurement Bill currently before the JSC on Monday 14th March, 2011.

CONTACT with the Chamber

"CONTACT with the Chamber" is the Chamber's radio programme. It is aired every Tuesday at 8:30a.m. for five minutes on the I95.5FM morning show with Tony and Dale.

The programme is voiced by the CEO of the Chamber, Ms Catherine Kumar and is one of the means by which the Chamber communicates with members and the society at large.

The series focuses on business-oriented subjects, social responsibility and other issues affecting our Country. In March the following themes were addressed: Consequences for Crimes committed, Criminal Activity during Carnival, National Disaster Preparedness in light of the earthquake and Tsunami in Japan, and the CEO's business trip to London with the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago.

CONTACT with the Chamber for MARCH was sponsored by Chamber member: **RUBY TUESDAY AND WOK HAY.**

Short-term sponsorship of the programme is offered to all Chamber members. For more information please contact: **Malika Rouff, Marketing and Communications Officer at 637-6966 Ext. 289 / mrrouff@chamber.org.tt**

Research & Publications

"Developing R&D to enable you to make more informed decisions"

CENTENNIAL ENERGY DIGEST

The Centennial Energy Digest received endorsements from the Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs and the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The Hon. Carolyn Seepersad-Bachan, Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs

"The "Centennial Energy Digest" is an extremely valuable addition to locally developed literature on the Trinidad and Tobago Energy Sector. It provides extensive information on the history of the sector, and is a solid reference point

for anyone wanting to know about the growth of energy in Trinidad and Tobago.'

The Hon. Dr. Surujattan Rambarran, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

'I would like to congratulate the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce in completing the Centennial Energy Digest.....I strongly recommend all stakeholders to pursue a copy not only, for its commemorative worth, but the wealth of information it possesses.'

INTERESTED IN PURCHASING A COPY OF THE CENTENNIAL ENERGY DIGEST?

The Centennial Energy Digest is now available for sale at a **50% discounted price** of TT \$2,400.00. Students can take advantage of the Student's special of TT \$1,800.00. (Students must present a valid student ID). **To purchase your copy please call the Chamber's office at 637-6966.**

