

Welcome to Take Five, PDL's newsletter. We will share with you news updates, information and events from PDL and our agencies around the Pacific . Please email your comments and any feedback or suggestions to: info@pdl123.com

PROUD DAY FOR PDL AT VESSEL NAMING



PDL is pleased to announce that the naming ceremony for the Southern Pearl took place at Kouan Shipyard in China on 14th August 2018. The vessel is the first to be owned by PDL. The ceremony was attended by guests from the Shipyard, from PIL and PDL including the Board of Directors of PDL International Pte Limited.

Lucie Bladinieres, daughter of PDL Director, Fred Bladinieres, is pictured below cutting the rope to break the champagne in her role as Godmother of the Southern Pearl. PDL Director, and CEO, Olivier Ravel said, "This is a very historic and humbling moment and one we should all be immensely proud of." The Southern Pearl will enter trade in September from her base in Fiji.



TOP AWARD FOR WILLIAMS AND GOSLING

For the third year in a row, Williams and Gosling have retained the Air New Zealand Cargo Stakeholders' annual award for Top Exporter. The annual awards were held at The Rhum-Ba, Port Denarau. W and G recorded a 16 per cent export growth year on year. Branch Manager (Nadi Airport), Santokh Singh said, "It was a very challenging year but despite that we achieved strong export growth which was a good achievement." Mr Singh added that their focus in the coming years will be to look at new opportunities and to see what else can be exported.

PDL wishes to extend our heart felt congratulations to our Fijian cousins at Williams and Gosling.



THE QUIET ACHIEVER AT TRANSAM FIJI

Marama Tamanitoakula, Customer Services Freight Manager at Transam Fiji was recently recognised in a wonderful article in the Fiji Sun Newspaper. Ma, as she is known by many of her friends in the industry, has spent over 15 years plying her trade, working hard and sacrificing weekends and late nights to grow and learn. Here are some of the quotes from the article.

Ma said, "I love my job and it's a fabulous career. I am truly in awe of the mentors we have in the industry, their tremendous experience and their willingness to give back to the industry they have built...Show interest in the career you have chosen, do the job well because one day you will be rewarded."

As well as her efforts in her role with Transam, Ma also works tirelessly for those less fortunate including her volunteer work with children suffering from cancer.

Because of her experience and her knowledge of the Customer Services functions, Marama has been sent to other branches such as our agency in Tarawa and to PDL Auckland office to train and up-skill other members of the PDL family.

She is also a member of the Fiji Women in Maritime Association, (FWIMA) and she wants to help to further empower women and improve the quality of life for them and for their families.



CHINESE HOSPITAL SHIP CALLS IN TONGA



In August the Chinese owned hospital ship, MV Peace Ark, called at the Vuna wharf in Nuku'alofa on a five day aid visit. Dateline Transam provided local agency support for Cosco Five Star who were the vessel agents on her South Pacific voyage. The 14,300 tonne vessel called in Fiji before coming to Tonga, and Kenua Fiji provided local agency support there.

The MV Peace Ark was in Tonga for five days and during that time hundreds of Tongan patients queued daily for up to five hours to go on board for free medical assessment and treatment. This is the third visit of the hospital ships to Tonga. The only real challenge is the language barrier as no translator was on board who could speak Chinese and Tongan, so diagnosis was more time consuming than planned, but it is a very generous gesture from China to the people of Tonga.

SOFT OPENING HELD FOR NEW CRS DEPOT

Transam Fiji opened the doors for business at the latest CRS container depot recently completed in Lautoka. The new facility is the latest CRS depot after Suva, Nuku'alofa, Tauranga and Auckland.



The increasing volumes and pressure on the existing depots in the West were major drivers in the decision to open in Lautoka. Also the strong CRS brand with its record of service, modern plant and machinery, the latest depot software and strong local management has proven to be a winning model in all the current CRS locations.



Metui Galuvakadua, Operations Manager for CRS Suva will oversee the new depot and he has employed a strong team to run it locally and has been on hand to supervise training in processes, health and safety and Sea Container Hygiene System. Dr Gene Browne recently visited with Paul Williams from PDL to implement the correct SCHS training and establish approved manuals.

PDL UPGRADES IT'S ISO ACCREDITATION



PDL is happy to advise that they have successfully transitioned to ISO 9001:2015 standards, effective from September 2018. This is the 22nd year that the Company has been ISO 9001 certified and it demonstrates PDL's commitment towards maintaining a high level of organisational excellence. The focus is on continuous improvements with a strong emphasis on customer service.

Pictured with the new certificate is Xi Yao Soo who drove the process during his six month visit to PDL from Singapore under the PIL Work Attachment Programme. WAP was launched in 2013 to foster global and regional experience amongst PIL employees. XY, as he is fondly called asked his colleagues to strive to develop a quality and productivity mindset, to think outside the box to enhance efficiency in the workplace. He said, "We would like to thank everyone who participated in the ISO audit process and lets aim to be a quality driven organisation."



BREAKTHROUGH AT PHAMA WORKSHOP



A workshop in Lautoka, Fiji hosted by Pacific Horticulture and Agriculture Market Access Programme, (PHAMA), successfully reached agreement between all stakeholders to trial the Sea Container Hygiene System (Container cleaning and treatment programme) through the Port of Lautoka. Attendees were representatives from Fiji Ports Corporation, Fiji Ports Terminals, Ministry of Agriculture and Biosecurity Fiji, The Australian High Commission, Neptune Shipping, Bioscientific Solutions and Pacific Direct Line. Paul Williams (PDL) pictured in the back row with Dr Gene Browne, said, "This has been some years in the pipeline and is a fantastic breakthrough in improving bio security in the region. Much kudos should go to Dr Gene for his efforts on our behalf."

PDL TEAM HELPS CLEAN UP OUR COASTLINE

The PDL Social Club believes that sport and activities help to build employee engagement and motivation. Recently two hardy groups of volunteers undertook a Beach clean up and a Coast to Coast (Auckland) track clean up to bag and collect rubbish scattered by lazy Kiwis in our beautiful backyard. Social Club spokesperson, Julia Chaumar said, "We work with and live thanks to the Ocean, it is essential to keep it clean and to care for our environment." Well done team, looks like we need more men to step up and assist next time!

