




# TAKE FIVE

With PDL December 2018

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](mailto:info@pdl123.com)



## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM OLIVIER RAVEL



**MERI KIRIHIMETE ME NGA MIHI MAHANA O TE TAU HOU. TRES BONNES FETES DE FIN D'ANNEE A TOUS**

Dear Customers, Partners, Colleagues, Family & Friends,

Once again as we begin to look forward to the fresh start of a new year, we look back on another challenging year in international shipping.

The marine and other sectors have faced extremely volatile fuel prices throughout the year and preparations have begun for the roll-out of the International Maritime Organisation MARPOL Agreement Annex VI, which requires that sulphur levels in marine fuel are reduced globally by January 1st 2020. The impact regionally will be significant, as we know that access to low sulphur fuels will be limited and where actually available will come at a price. As a result, the general consensus to work positively towards the necessity that is greener shipping practices, will create an increase in overall operating costs and potentially an impact to service as global and regional carriers look at options such as slow steaming to reduce the impact.

Trade wars, Blockchain and Brexit have dominated the commentaries about international trade for the later part of this year and it will be very interesting to see the effect that these will have on business in the new year.

On a more positive note, the Captain Wallis had her first voyage to Norfolk Island in December and, thanks to careful planning and close collaboration between all the parties, the operation exceeded our expectations. The quality and capacity of our service to Norfolk Island has been less than satisfactory of late, so it is very pleasing to be in a position to make significant improvements and offer a better level of service to our customers in this trade in future.

Replacing the Capitaine Wallis on her previous Central Pacific service is our newly built Southern Pearl. We are now proudly operating this 600 container capacity vessel on the Fiji to Wallis and Futuna, Funafuti, Tarawa and Kiribati trade. The ship was designed with a wide beam and shallow draft to suit the trade and of course all the latest navigational and safety technology to ensure smooth and safe passage between and through the ports on this service.

We have also seen further consolidation of Pacific Islands services due to over-tonnaged trades. This year the VSA operating in the region between Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Tahiti, announced that they were withdrawing their ships from the Fiji trade and would be servicing their customers by buying slots on the regional carriers, a sensible move in the current climate and one they may also consider for the Tahiti trade in future to concentrate on the deep sea routes. We also saw the end of an era with Sofrana being purchased by ANL and their CEO, Benoit Marcenac, stepping aside after a long successful association with the South Pacific Trade. I wish Benoit all the best for the future and a successful continuation to Sofrana -ANL as a regional player with all that this brings.

Our investments in Fiji have grown again this year with the addition of CRS Lautoka container depot to the existing CRS Suva facility. With Williams and Gosling, we welcomed Eddie Yuen and his 23 years of experience at the company, to the position of CEO. On top of our 300 loyal and dedicated employees, Eddie will be supported in 2019 by Todd Barratt who has recently been appointed as Group Business Development Manager.

In Tonga, our General Manager, Fine Tohi is taking a break from the Dateline Transam Management for a few months and Joe Paasi is filling the chair in his absence, supported by Alani Schaumkel, (Finance), Maopa Tu'inukuafu (Agencies), Tu'ipulotu Ta'ufo'ou (National Storage and Transam Logistics) and Lupeni 'Otuhouma (Operations). It was a sad year for Dateline Transam with the loss of our dear friend, Fatafehi Manuipui'one Vuna and our thoughts remain with his wife, Toakase and children, especially during the festive period. On a happier note Dateline Transam welcomed three new babies, to Maopa, Lute and Diana. At PDL, Charlotte McNeill also had a new baby so we welcome these new additions to the PDL family.

I would like to finish by once again acknowledging the continued support from our wonderful customers who are the reason we are today doing what we're doing. Thanks for your constructive criticism when we could do better and thanks for the praise when you feel it is due. Also thank you again to all our employees, suppliers, partners, agencies, PIL Singapore, and my fellow Directors. While recognising the year has been a difficult one for our industry, it is you, the extended PDL family, who have ensured we finished the year profitably and with a clear vision for the path forward in 2019.

Have a Merry Christmas, a safe and happy holiday and New Year, Joyeux Noel et Bonne Annee,

Olivier Ravel, CEO, PDL International

## 2018 IMAGES AND MEMORIES FROM TAKE 5



From the Editor's Desk, thank you for reading Take 5 in 2018. We are grateful for all the positive feedback and look forward to keeping you up to date with developments at Pacific Direct Line throughout next year. Send us any pictures or stories of your holiday adventures for our January Take 5. Have a Merry Christmas and our best wishes to you all.

VAKANJUNUI VINAKA NI MARAU NI SIGA NI SUCU KEINA TAWASE NI YABAKI. LA OUTOU PAATOA, LA MATAI OUTOU I TEIE NOERA.

MANUIA LE KERISIMASI MA LE TAUSAGA FOU KE MOU MAU HA KILIMASAFIEFIA MOE TAU FOU MONUIA



[www.PDL123.com](http://www.PDL123.com)

