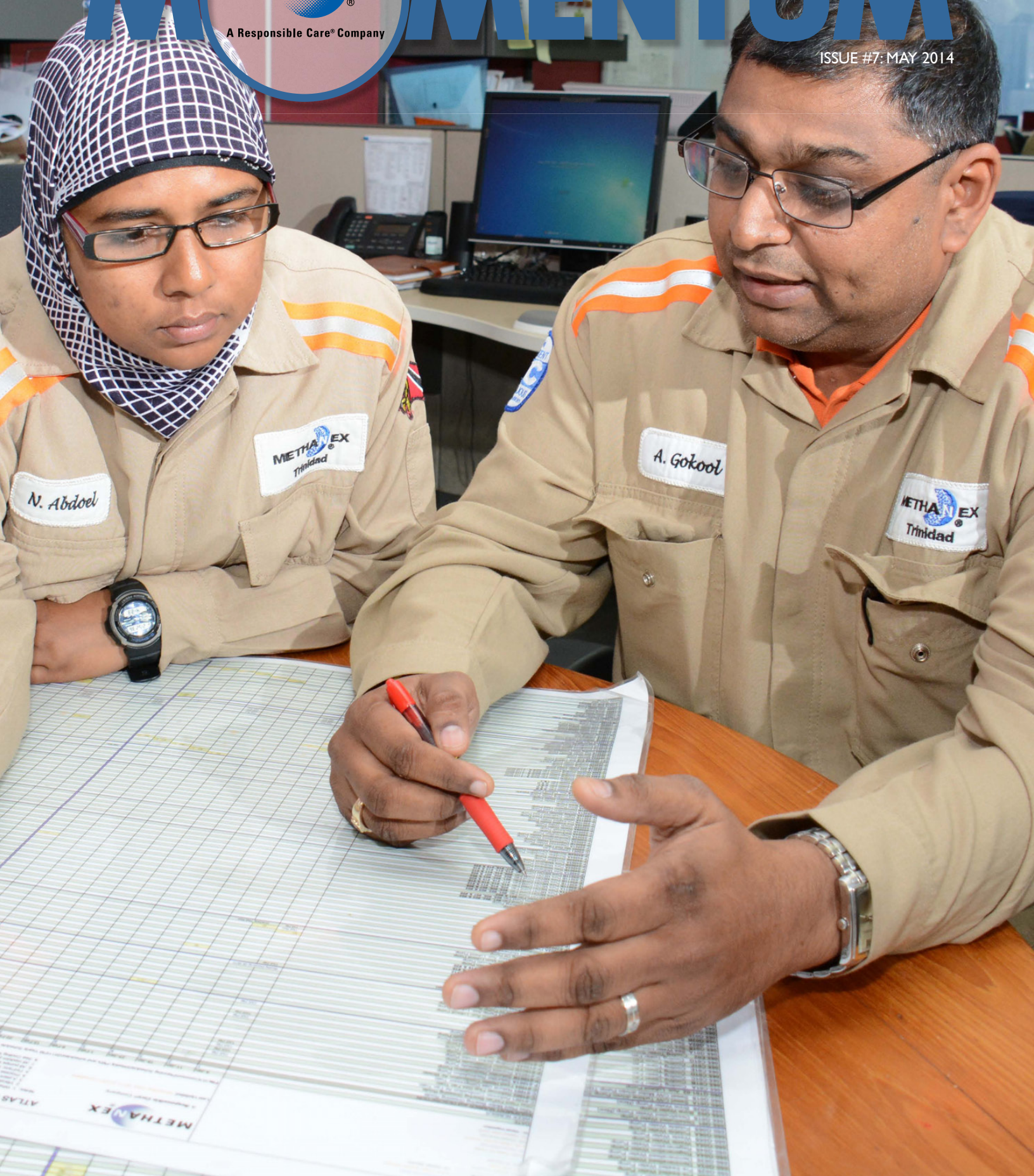


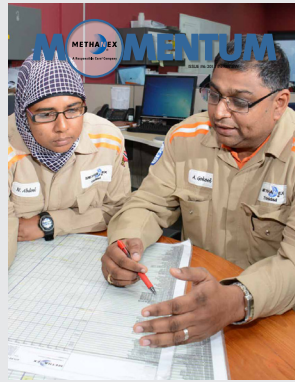
# MOMENTUM

**METHANEX**

A Responsible Care® Company

ISSUE #7: MAY 2014





MOMENTUM  
Issue #7: May 2014

**On The Cover**

**Planning For Reliability:** Planning Supervisor, Amrith Gokool, coaches Graduate-in-Training, Natasha Khan-Abdoel, in the scheduling function during her rotation in the Maintenance Planning team. Eliminating potential delays is an important element of the planning function.

**MOMENTUM** is produced by Methanex Trinidad Limited and distributed to employees and selected external audiences. MOMENTUM strives to enhance communication with stakeholders, in addition to recording our company's progress.

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## CEO'S PERSPECTIVE

# CUSTOMER VALUE: PROMOTING MUTUAL GROWTH

In managing and operating a two-plant methanol production facility at Point Lisas since 2006, Methanex Trinidad is very cognisant of the benefits it derives from strengthening partnerships, and promoting mutual growth and success for all players along the methanol value chain. An important first step in this value chain is government's permission to operate in-country. This 'licence to operate' demands more than just the purchase of natural gas according to contract stipulations and the timely and accurate remittance of taxes. The Government expects that we would also be a good corporate citizen, assisting in the development of the local petrochemical industry and enhancing the capacity and capability of the people of Trinidad and Tobago.



Managing Director/CEO, Charles Percy, emphasises the role of contractors in raising the site's reliability.

### A Responsible Industry Contributor

In eight years of operation, our investment in Trinidad and Tobago, by way of capital investment, taxes to government, natural gas purchases and local content, exceeds 2.7 billion US dollars. Natural gas purchases account for 74% of this sum, or approximately two billion dollars, representing our biggest in-country spend. We therefore have a strong responsibility to ensure that this natural resource is efficiently used in the making of methanol. Over the years, we have found ways to improve our conversion efficiency as well as our operations, maintenance and safety, so as to bring our facility in line with 'best in class' in the industry globally.

Our support for the industry has been largely focused through the avenues of the Energy Chamber and the Point Lisas Energy Association of CEOs (PLEA). The STOW project (Safe-To-Work) of the Energy Chamber provides the opportunity to raise the safety standards of contractor companies serving the industry. This totally local initiative ensures that an internationally recognized common safety management system is in place and adhered to by all companies and is continuously being improved. On an individual worker level, the PLEA Passport system ensures that a minimum standard of safety awareness is a mandatory acceptance standard for all workers in the industry.

These initiatives were conceptualised by industry partners to fill a need for common health and safety standards. However these mandatory standards also ensure that our local companies and workers can compete globally and can perform contracts and jobs at an internationally acceptable safety standard.

At the local methanol industry level, we have collaborated with our competitor, Methanol Holdings (Trinidad) Ltd. (MHTL), in completing a methanol fuel blending feasibility study. Methanex Trinidad took the lead role in this initiative as we saw it as an excellent opportunity to reduce the country's gas subsidy, while improving emissions from gasoline fuels. The capacity-building aspect of this initiative was beneficial for all participants, including the relevant state agencies. Sharing knowledge with strategic business partners is another avenue for investing in the industry. We invite representatives of statutory agencies, suppliers and industry professionals to participate in specialist workshops hosted by Methanex Trinidad. This exposure to new knowledge helps our strategic partners to improve their service quality, efficiency and reliability and by extension, their profitability.

### Developing People

Our commitment to building the capacity and capability of our people requires a real investment, whether they are employees, contractors, suppliers or community members.

## CUSTOMER VALUE: PROMOTING MUTUAL GROWTH

Employees' development includes overseas assignments at other Methanex sites around the world. In eight years of operation, 43 employees have had the benefit of assignments in Canada, Chile, Egypt, New Zealand and USA. Being part of a global company, our employees participate on global teams where opportunities for benchmarking against best practices exist. These opportunities help us develop our local operation and allow us to showcase our ingenuity and talent. The cross-fertilization of ideas is also beneficial for personal and professional growth, and for advancing the site's Reliability and Responsible Care goals.

Beyond technical skills development is a real need to develop leadership talent. We are unearthing this skill in our people through creative avenues of mentoring and volunteerism and have established such opportunities within the company and in the wider community through CSR initiatives. For example, the latter is evidenced when our Project Management Professionals (PMPs) work with school principals and teachers in managing school improvement projects that are awarded under our Eco-Heroes initiative - our signature CSR project at the primary school level. Also, through our Community Advisory Panel, we engage residents in understanding our business and encourage them to stand out as leaders in their communities through improvement projects we support.

We offer a 2-year Graduate-in-Training Programme as well as a Vacation Intern Programme for engineering and technical professionals in the major disciplines for which we hire. The programmes at this level are geared toward building an entrepreneurial and socially conscious leader. We see this as a capacity and capability building initiative and although we are unable to hire all of the trainees we develop, we certainly enhance the talent pool in the country. So far, we have developed over 59 graduates and 73 vacation interns, imparting both technical and leadership skills, while ensuring that our values and ethics are upheld.

**Valuable Strategic Partners**

Our contractors and suppliers are valuable strategic partners and we continue to engage with them

through several avenues, sharing our business objectives and strategic goals and identifying how we can mutually benefit in delivering on our safety, reliability and quality goals.

This dialogue is happening at our monthly maintenance meetings and in early project planning phases. In 2013, we started hosting networking sessions for the CEOs and managers of service companies, discussing ways we can improve our partnership and advance our site's reliability. These sessions will continue annually and will include suppliers of spares, equipment and related services.

Our vendors also have a critical role in our reliability drive and selecting the right business partners is an important first step in our vendor management programme. The programme includes a robust pre-qualification process, performance evaluations and trends, and constantly scanning the market for higher quality goods and services. The goal is to have adequate supply options that can enhance our reliability, and strategic collaborations that can give us the best value for our purchasing dollars.

**Delivering Customer Value**

Our Marketing and Logistics team and shipping subsidiary ensure that the methanol from our site reaches customers on time and according to stipulated specifications. Methanex's customers are among the world's leading industrial chemical companies who make the intermediate chemicals that go into household and consumer products that we use every day. Products like computer screens and DVDs, pharmaceuticals, paints, carpets, floorings, PET plastics and in some countries, methanol-based products are used for fuel and cleaning of waste water.

The methanol value chain comes full circle with these methanol-based products in our everyday lives, in our homes and offices... and it starts at methanol producing sites like Trinidad and Tobago. At Methanex Trinidad, we will continue to engage with all stakeholders to strengthen the customer value chain, as the benefits from a reliable methanol industry redound to the entire nation and its people. ●

# SAFETY AND CSR AWARDS FOR THE TRINIDAD TEAM

**M**ethanex Trinidad brought home two awards in the first two months of 2014: a National Excellence in HSE Award for 'Most Improved HSE Performance', and a CSR Award for 'Best Social Investment Project'.

The annual National Excellence in HSE Awards is a collaboration of the American Chamber of Trinidad and Tobago (AmCham) and the Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development, attracting entries from some of the country's leading companies. Our multi-disciplined team made a big impression at the onsite judging in December, attracting high praise for the presentation and knowledge of participants in highlighting overall Responsible Care improvements – ethic, behaviour and systems.

Our second-place and Special Recognition certificate in the 2012 Awards fuelled the drive for redemption which came at the January 14 awards ceremony. We will continue to embrace opportunities to improve our Responsible Care performance as we pursue RC excellence.

On February 04, at the Energy Chamber of Trinidad and Tobago's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Awards and Dinner, we were again in winners' row as six judges gave our 'Mentoring Our Children' initiative the nod from a field of five finalists in the 'Best Social Investment Project' category.

The judges, drawn from academia, government and industry, lauded the volunteerism aspect of our initiative, in addition to the holistic development of children and sustainability elements such as the partnership with Habitat for Humanity in providing basic, decent housing for students' families.

It was fitting for Kassie Seeteram, Senior Plant Operator, to receive the award on behalf of Methanex Trinidad as his idea started the initiative in 2007. Since then, a dedicated group of employees, spouses and former employees have demonstrated exemplary commitment in sustaining this initiative. A big 'thank you' to all mentors – this award is a tribute to your selflessness! ●



**HSE Award:** Pictured with the Minister of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development, The Honourable Errol McLeod (centre), are (l-r): Deborah Samaru, Manager, Public Affairs; Charles Percy, Managing Director & CEO; Renata Tam, Responsible Care Supervisor; and Lester Boodhoo, former Manager, Responsible Care.



**Best Social Investment Project:** A jubilant team showed off the CSR award (l-r): Ian Cameron, Senior Vice President, Finance & CFO, Methanex Corporation; Kassie Seeteram, Senior Plant Operator; Deborah Samaru, Manager, Public Affairs; Anthony Narine, Senior Human Resources Advisor and 'Mentoring Our Children' Project Lead (2012 – 2014 cycle) and Charles Percy, Managing Director & CEO.



## PARTNERING ON APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME

PLIAP - the Point Lisas Industrial Apprenticeship Programme – aims to close the gap for technical/vocational skills in the local petrochemical sector. The programme is a public/private partnership between downstream producers on the Point Lisas Industrial Estate, contractors who support their operations, and the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training (MTEST) and its agencies, the National Training Agency (NTA) and the National Energy Skills Center (NESC).

PLIAP is providing opportunities for participants to enhance skills acquired in formal training at the Tradesman Level. To be accepted as an apprentice, participants must have completed the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) Level 2 Certificate, in any of the skill areas of mechanical maintenance, electrical, instrumentation, welding, pipefitting and fabricating. Apprentices will rotate every six months to a new industrial environment for a total of four rotations over two years of practical learning at participating companies.

Four apprentices began their 6-month rotation at Methanex Trinidad on April 14 and are attached to the Maintenance department. Christopher Gederon and Tamara Wallace's skill area is welding, while Renardo Sambury and Richard Frederick will hone their skills as pipe fitters. Coaching in technical skills is not the sole objective; it is expected that the apprentices will learn about safety, standards and quality, how to relate to people in a work environment and develop a work ethic that focuses on efficiency and productivity. Ultimately, these are skills that will equip them in their careers, as employees or independent small business operators.

The benefits of apprenticeship have been evident since the early 1900s in the petroleum, sugar, utilities, manufacturing and transportation sectors in Trinidad and Tobago. The partners in this PLIAP initiative anticipate similar success in turning out an estimated 700 skilled and competent craft people in seven years as the programme can effectively build on the existing training infrastructure at the NESC.

The NESC has primary responsibility for the operations of the programme, ensuring the steady stream of candidates (graduates from its training programmes) for selection into the PLIAP, and functioning as the central administrative point. The National Training Agency is providing administrative oversight that includes Quality Assurance. Programme funding is provided by the government through MTEST, and participating Point Lisas Estate companies and contractors. A Steering Committee of representatives from companies/contractors, MTEST, NTA and NESC is responsible for ensuring PLIAP's objectives are achieved. ●

(Above): PLIAP apprentices hone practical skills at Methanex Trinidad under the guidance of experienced personnel.

Preparedness is being proactive. This is the thinking that is driving Methanex Trinidad's emphasis on emergency preparedness and its goal to change the traditional but reactive focus on response. To enable this mindset change, the revised Emergency Preparedness Plan is being rolled out to departments, including all Operations shifts, for feedback that will be factored into improving it.

## PRIORITY ON PREPAREDNESS

Rafi Mohammed, Senior Responsible Care Advisor, is eager get 'preparedness' into the site's psyche and is promoting this approach among TTEMAS (Trinidad and Tobago Mutual Aid Scheme) colleagues. TTEMAS coordinates the emergency response effort for the Point Lisas Industrial Estate in conjunction with Estate landlord, PLIPDECO, drawing on an established network of emergency response personnel on each plant site for information. In turn, in an emergency, TTEMAS can communicate with Estate companies, response units, neighbouring residents and the general public.

Rafi notes that expansion of the Estate since 2007 was not accompanied by infrastructure expansion (e.g. roadways and parking and exit routes). Given that an estimated 20,000 persons come to the Estate on any regular day (and > 50,000

during simultaneous maintenance Turnarounds), and movement of mobile heavy equipment has increased, it is absolutely critical to be prepared to act quickly in an emergency. "Communication will always be key in handling emergencies, whether these are restricted to a plant site, or are Estate-wide," notes Rafi. "In TTEMAS, we are looking for more innovative ways to reach people quickly." In 2014, Rafi is working on completing our site's Emergency Preparedness procedures, aligning them with Methanex corporate procedures and making them more user-friendly. Procedures will also apply to Emergency drills which will follow the 2013 achievement of an unprecedented 21+ drills across the site (16 in Operations; 1 per building; 1 site-wide). Site maintenance contractor, Neal and Massy Wood Group (NMWG), was included in the building and wider site drill, as well as Fire Warden and Incident Command training.

Rafi Mohammed, Senior Responsible Care Advisor, explained the improved features of the New Fire Tender.



PRIORITY ON PREPAREDNESS

Drills, like this fire response scenario, give plant operators more confidence in managing emergencies.



Training is being rationalised: critical versus ‘nice-to-have’ training, so that training is delivered on a timely basis and the challenge of participants’ availability is overcome. By involving stakeholders early in the planning process and focusing on ‘must-have’ training, combining modules, and incorporating practical sessions into drills, the training requirement becomes manageable. Additionally, framework agreements with two training vendors, for medical and emergency response, will ensure consistent delivery in line with Methanex’s standards. On the 2014 training plan are 1-to-1 sessions with shifts/building fire wardens on First Responder medicals. Persons on Emergency Response teams also will be trained to use some equipment in the site’s Medical Centre and ambulance.

Rafi points to the importance of feedback, particularly from the response teams. He is ensuring that there is ongoing dialogue with Operations’ shift personnel in particular and quick action in responding to their safety concerns. “Regular drills build the confidence of operators, as they have more opportunities to practise procedures and suit up quickly in emergency response gear. Their feedback is extremely useful in our preparedness goal and their request for HAZMAT suits is a good example. This year, the HAZMAT programme

will be expanded to include non-operational personnel who handle chemicals.”

A review of the quality of BA (breathing apparatus), rescue and fire equipment is also in progress. The January 2014 delivery of a new fire truck with improved features followed on the heels of the new ambulance which was put into operation last year. Fully automated with the capability to be remotely operated from a distance, the fire truck is equipped with an industrial grade pumper, allowing for greater foam capacity. Designed to be independent, it has the capability to produce its own electricity and air. The plan is to equip the fire truck with medical equipment in 2014 so that it can provide services similar to an ambulance. Response team members are being trained to operate the fire truck. Already, one operator per shift has been trained; by 2015, all shift operators and key Maintenance personnel should be trained.

Management support is necessary for the Emergency Preparedness Plan to be finalised and rolled out to the site. Rafi is confident this will be provided, given their consistent high level of support for Responsible Care. Quick decision-making and holding persons accountable for on-time delivery are approaches he is hoping will take this Plan from a document to action. ●

# COLLABORATION IS KEY TO RELIABILITY

Reliability is the backbone of business, and can only result from a combination of people, equipment, processes and systems working in synergy. **Momentum** spoke with Rudy Chadee, Director, Finance who has responsibility for the Information Technology, Finance and Materials (IMF) functions, and the respective department leads, on how these teams are contributing to the site’s reliability.

Rudy points to teamwork across all functions as a critical factor for success in our business. He notes that a reliable supply chain is integral to achieving operational excellence. “Having the right spares and services, at the required safety and quality standards, is critical to ensure preventative and corrective maintenance are completed on schedule. The Materials Team, in collaboration with the line, is responsible for ensuring the site’s investment dollars are used prudently in engaging suitably qualified

contractors in support of our drive for a reliable operation.”

Rudy further explained that a Computerised Maintenance Management System (CMMS) underpins equipment history and work management systems. The Information Technology (IT) team partners closely with the line to ensure the CMMS serves as an enabler to predictive and proactive maintenance. In addition, the IT group has a crucial responsibility to all users in having a reliable networking infrastructure, which allows all internet and email traffic, as well as all local and global software applications to operate efficiently. He also noted that on-time payment of vendors secures the right contractors and the company’s reputation. “Timely and accurate economic evaluations and financial reporting are important in informing capital and operating resource allocation and forecasting. The Finance team plays a significant role in this regard.”

Rudy Chadee, Director, Finance (2nd from left) was accompanied by Theron Alexis, Manager, Maintenance (left), for a safety audit of a job on the Atlas Cooling Tower, interacting with contract workers Rodney Pierre (2nd from right) and Visham Lochan.





Maximo Project Lead and Senior IT Systems Administrator, Kerry John (standing) engages the team in discussion.

### Maximo: A Key Tool For Reliability

Maintenance Management Systems are significant enablers to achieving reliability. The automation of work-flows, paperless reviews and approvals, from work request to work completion significantly facilitate the efficiency and effectiveness of work planning and execution.

By 3Q 2014, Maximo (the software that supports our Computerized Maintenance Management System: CMMS) will be upgraded to version 7.5. Maximo is our Enterprise Asset Management (EAM)/CMMS that is used to manage and coordinate our maintenance, materials and invoicing work processes. Our current EAM/CMMS Maximo 6.1 has strategic value as it is used to deliver goals such as managing asset maintenance and job execution, sourcing and tracking of spare parts and providing tight supply chain and payment integration in order to facilitate payments to our respective vendors.

Kerry John, Project Lead for the Maximo upgrade, explained that in the past eight years, the company's drive to be world-class, both in plant reliability and in IT delivery to the end users, presented an opportunity to upgrade Maximo from version 6.1 to version 7.5. The project seeks to upgrade the Maximo, IT infrastructure and leverage best practices of the out-of-the-box processes in Maximo. The project team consists of representatives from Maintenance, Materials, Finance and Information Technology. They have considered the opportunities Maximo 7.5 brings and seek to optimize these in the new 7.5 version.

Kerry notes, "At the Trinidad site, we will apply principles from our M-BARC initiative as the foundation in using Maximo for reliability-centred maintenance, particularly preventative/predictive activities and planning." Improved work flows, streamlined work order priority, equipment failure history, upgraded hardware and software components with more powerful technology, including servers with better fault tolerance... these are all in the improvement mix.

More significantly however, is communication of, and commitment to our reliability strategy by employees and contractors; revisiting work habits and changing them as needed; engaging in training to understand what Maximo can facilitate and how to use this tool efficiently; and measuring our performance through relevant Key Performance Indicators and benchmarking against high performing companies and other Methanex sites.

The goal is improved reliability and it is people who can deliver this with the help of technology. Optimization of Maximo's potential is within grasp.

### The Benefits of a Cost Conscious Environment

The increased rigor around cost management for major plant Turnarounds and outages has been positive on several levels. This resulted in the Titan Turnaround of 2013 being well within budget, a milestone achievement for the site that was underpinned by strong cross-functional co-operation, a model we have dubbed the "Back Office". In addition, benefits ranged from improved planning, better reporting, timely decision-making, efficient cost management, on-time payment of vendors and the associated avoidance of reputation issues. Ultimately, what was seen was a measure of reliability resulting from the Finance team's intervention.

Verne Sobrassingh, Supervisor, Management Accounting (left) and Ronnie Ramlal, E&I Reliability Engineer, apply learning from past Turnarounds to introduce back-office benefits to routine cost management.



in our reliability goal. Since business relationships are based on a mutuality of benefits, both parties should gain in the relationship. If only one party wins, then it's an unfair relationship. Consequently, selecting the right business partners is an important first step in our vendor management programme. The Materials team has built the programme on three pillars: vendor pre-qualification; strategic contract development and administration; and vendor performance review.

David Martin, Manager, Materials, explained that vendor pre-qualification is focused on re-assessing existing contractors, but also on surveying the market place for additional ones to address supply gaps or determine if higher quality options are available. "The pre-qualification exercise has been phased by risk, beginning with assessment of our High Risk contractors. By 2Q 2014, assessment of vendors in this category will be completed, having been reviewed against technical, Responsible Care and financial considerations," notes David.

The value-add associated with this pre-qualification exercise is the opportunity to identify service categories and contractors who can facilitate framework agreements and other strategic collaboration. The goal is to get the best value for our purchase spend, have adequate supply options that can enhance our reliability and improve the way the Materials team responds to its internal customers, satisfying particularly the Maintenance and Operations functions. The third pillar: Vendor Performance Review is dependent on meaningful feedback data to ensure evaluations and trends are accurate. To support these reviews, a database has been established and is continuously populated with feedback evaluation scores from the Job Completion Certificate forms. These performance reviews are essential for quality assurance of work completed as well as adherence to Responsible Care standards and procedures.

David concludes, "Vendor management is a living business process and our aim is to continuously improve it and our relationship with a key stakeholder group, as we collaborate for sustained plant reliability." ●

David Martin, Manager, Materials (left) and Susan Yorkshire, Contracts Supervisor are re-assessing vendors.

Taking what works well in Turnarounds, and acting on the improvements identified, the goal is to mirror the Back-Office Operations in routine work as well as planned and unplanned outages. This will require the establishment of a cross-functional team with specific work oversight from planning, through procurement, execution and close-out. This is an initiative the Finance Team is excited and honoured to lead in partnership with our colleagues in all functional areas.

By integrating cost management expertise into the various phases of projects – from planning, purchasing of parts and services, through to field execution and vendor payments - informed decisions can be made in addressing any variations. This approach will leverage the upgrade to Maximo (the computerized maintenance management system) as well as the proposed COGNOS (business intelligence software) to improve reporting capabilities. Ryan Lutchman, Manager, Finance, notes "The use of technology will allow variations between planned and actual costs to be accurately reported on a timely basis, and trend variations to determine gaps, for improvement."

The impact of integrating cost management into the manufacturing functional areas eventually will be reflected in the site's reliability. Like reliability, this approach requires strong commitment of all participants to embed a better way of working. And it requires quality input to provide accurate reports - whether this is realistic cost estimates, timely data input to Maximo, proper inventory and accurate reporting of work completed. "All of the steps in the cost management system are dependent on people who must take the reliability challenge," says Ryan.

### Re-Assessing Vendors

Sustained plant reliability also requires the availability of a qualified and responsible contractor base. Contractors continue to be valuable contributors to our plant maintenance programme, with a vested interest

# RE-ASSESSING SAFETY PRACTICES

**L**eadership commitment to safety, through action and visibility on the plants, is helping to raise the site's safety consciousness. Regular plant walkabouts, safety audits and safe behaviour observations are some of the activities that Trinidad site leaders have been promoting by their example. Keeping people safe is the goal. It is a shared responsibility as everyone on our site must make a big effort to be vigilant, 'live and breathe' safety, look out for one another and constantly question whether there is a safer, more efficient way to carry out tasks.

"Systematic and continually evolving" best describe our Responsible Care practice and culture at this stage of our journey. To evolve and improve, we must openly assess safety set-backs before taking action. We used a recent incident on our Titan Plant as a catalyst for reviewing our approach to managing safety in the field, and implementing a number of changes. These include more field audits by the leadership team. Managers are paired for weekly field audits and their participation is tracked as a Key Performance Indicator. The results show that, for the first four months of 2014, audit compliance increased with 73% of managers engaged in safety audits every week. The audit intervention allows managers to interact with field personnel on the job site and to discuss and, where possible, quickly resolve issues impacting safety.

Another action was the re-assessment of the role of the Performing Authority (PA). The PA's prime responsibility is safety supervision on the job site. This accountability for safety was emphasised in several sessions to ensure common understanding and to announce a dedicated focus on one PA per job to ensure all safety requirements are satisfied. They also have a role in recommending safety improvements. Quality is another area where improvements were made. Job plans are getting a second review before implementation and work is quality-checked from planning to job close-out, using an audit procedure. Mushtaq Mohammed, Director, Manufacturing, pointed to a measure of success from these changes that were implemented in the April 2014 Atlas Plant outage. The 10-day outage was completed without a lost-time incident, ahead of schedule and within budget. "Our priority must always remain no injury to people. We did not have a first aid case in this outage and that is what we must always aim for," said Mushtaq.

In addition to new measures introduced in this outage, he pointed to the determined effort by employees and contractors to ensure STOP and CORE audits were done to document, correct and commend safe behaviours. "By continuing to review and improve our approach to everyday tasks, these small wins will amount to larger gains," noted Mushtaq. ●



*Leadership team members are engaging in regular plant walkabouts to ensure safety compliance (l-r) Mushtaq (Director, Manufacturing), Deborah (Manager, Public Affairs), Michael (Manager, Technical), Neela (Manager, Operations), Theron (Manager, Maintenance), and Rudy (Director, Finance)*



*Methanex Partners with UWI Telehealth (l-r): Professor Gerard Hutchinson, Head, Department of Clinical Medical Sciences, UWI; The Honorable Dr. Fuad Khan, Minister of Health; Professor Zulaika Ali, Director TeleHealth; Charles Percy, Managing Director & CEO, Methanex Trinidad Limited and Dr. Jasmine Ramcharan, Medical Director, TeleHealth at the News Briefing and Luncheon in March at the Hyatt Regency, Port of Spain.*

## PARTNERSHIP FOR PAEDIATRIC HEALTH CARE

**Methanex Trinidad Limited is continuing its partnership with The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus through funding of the UWI Telehealth Programme – a unit within the Faculty of Medical Sciences. The UWI Telehealth Programme assists financially-challenged children with complex medical conditions which cannot be diagnosed or treated locally. These include congenital defects of the bowel, heart, nervous system and other organs, developmental problems and conditions such as paediatric cancer and blood disorders.**

The Mission of the programme is to improve access to high quality paediatric health care by integrating telehealth into the standard health care delivery system and enhancing information sharing and collaboration with specialist health care centres abroad. Methanex Trinidad's investment over three years (2014 – 2016) will allow UWI Telehealth to continue its operation which started in 2004. The funds will be used to help support the operations of the facility and the cost of clinical consultations with the Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) in Toronto, Canada's most research-intensive hospital.

At a media announcement in March, The Honorable Minister of Health, Dr. Fuad Khan, praised UWI for developing the initiative, and Methanex Trinidad for helping to sustain its operation. Minister Khan

PARTNERSHIP FOR PAEDIATRIC HEALTH CARE

welcomed and encouraged private/public sector partnership to facilitate improvements in the delivery of health care in Trinidad and Tobago.

Professor Zulaika Ali, Professor of Child Health and Director, Telehealth Programme noted that UWI Telehealth is the oldest and only successful comprehensive video-conferencing facility in the Caribbean region offering the services of clinical consultations, training, research and administration using modern technology. She points to a 100% survival rate of the 19 children who received free surgeries at SickKids Hospital, paid for by the Canada-based Herbie Fund at an estimated cost of US \$1.6 million. They are among the 228 families who have been assisted by UWI Telehealth in the past seven years. “We are grateful to Methanex Trinidad Limited for seeing the importance of this initiative and helping us to continue to assist those in need,” she added.

Charles Percy sees the programme as beneficial on several levels. “We recognised the value of the programme, both from the perspective of helping children and the opportunity for learning that is available to local medical students and professionals, through participation in the consultations. Here was an opportunity to provide financially-challenged child patients with access to a world-class facility and treatment that is not available locally, while at the same time, support the capacity building of local health professionals. The sustainability element of this programme is commendable. By enhancing medical knowledge and closing capacity gaps, we will, in the long run, strengthen our local health service offering. ●

Referrals can be made to **UWI Telehealth** by **contacting the Telehealth Manager at 663-1610** or **visit their website: [www.sta.uwi.edu/telehealth](http://www.sta.uwi.edu/telehealth).**

“... you must surely know the despair that parents and guardians are thrown into, especially when they cannot afford financially to pursue specialist care. In these situations, hope – even a glimmer of it – helps to strengthen your resolve. It is HOPE that the UWI Telehealth Programme offers to children and their families by providing opportunities for specialist consultations with an advanced children’s hospital overseas.”

Charles Percy



**UWI**  
**telehealth**

Healthcare solutions through innovative technology



**The Painted School**  
Students and teachers returned to a freshly-painted Dow Village Government Primary School in April. The external walls of our ‘adopted’ school got a ‘face-lift’ over the Easter vacation as we continue to enhance the school’s environment. Methanex Trinidad has been supporting this school under the Point Lisas Energy Association’s fence line school initiative.

**From Cocoa To Chocolate**

Students and mentors in our ‘Mentoring Our Children’ Programme were treated to a rare and interesting experience when they visited a cocoa estate and Cocoa Growers Co-operative in Gran Couva on April 26. Not only did they get to taste cocoa beans straight out of the ripened pods, they also had a lesson on fermentation and sun-drying of beans before export to leading chocolatiers in Europe. Our very gracious host and estate owner, Mr. Farouk Ghany, arranged it all, including sample tasting of locally made dark chocolate!



**Maintaining Community Communication**

The first meeting of the 2014/17 Methanex Community Advisory Panel (CAP) on April 30 brought together five new members with two (Ashim Hosein and Vidya Ramsammy) who are providing continuity from the outgoing CAP team. The 7-member team will continue to enable communication between Methanex Trinidad and its fence line community. In photo are (l-r): Ashim Hosein, Vidya Ramsammy, Abigail Felix-Rampersad, Ravi Ramlagan and Sunil Jagat. (Not in photo: Omattie Ramjattan and Alif Mohammed).



# PHOTO GALLERY



### Meet Our 2014 SR Committee

Our employee-led Social Responsibility (SR) Committee evaluates requests for funding from community/charitable organizations and determines support in accordance with Methanex's SR Policy. Two-year rotations mean more employees can volunteer and grow in executing this responsibility which requires collaboration and accountability in the prudent allocation of funds. Current committee members are (l-r): Dian Singh (Materials), Carlene McLean (Public Affairs), Neela Ramnanan (Operations), Deborah Samaru (Public Affairs), Mukesh Ramsaroop (Maintenance), and Nisha Rasool-Fernandez (Human Resources). Not in picture: Roanne Ramnath (Finance) and Janelle Baldeo (Technical – Laboratory).

### Bursary Awards

Methanex bursary awardees (2013/2014) visited our site on February 20, getting an overview of our operations, (l-r): Alexei Le Blanc (Electrical & Computer Engineering), Arti Ragoonanan (Chemical & Process Engineering), Ariel Mohan (Agriculture Science and Environmental and Natural Resource Management) and Stephan McLean (Mechanical Engineering). Since the start of our Trinidad operations in 2007, 28 bursaries have been awarded to UWI (St. Augustine Campus) students to help with educational expenses.



### Alumni Award For MD/CEO

Charles Percy was among 25 past students of The University of the West Indies, Trinidad Campus to receive a Distinguished Alumni Award in February 2014 from the UWI Alumni Association, Trinidad and Tobago Chapter. The award celebrates the outstanding accomplishments of UWI graduates who have distinguished themselves through contributions to their profession and their national, regional or international communities.



Charles Percy (centre), Methanex Trinidad's Managing Director and CEO, presents a cheque to Robby Ramlagan, Managing Director of Robby's Engineering and General Services Limited. Also receiving bonus payments are: (l-r) Osbert Holder, Chief Executive Officer, Weldfab Limited; Wayne David, Contract Manager-Methanex Project, Neal and Massy WoodGroup; and Michael Hill, President, DATSU Unlimited.

## REWARDING RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR

Bonus payments are being made to contract personnel from 35 contractor companies, who worked on the September 2013, Titan Plant Turnaround.

Contract personnel will benefit from payments close to TT\$900,000 for their compliance to our Responsible Care, Productivity and Quality targets, which contributed to a safe execution of the Titan Plant Turnaround, with no lost-time injury.

**Thanks for working safely!**

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