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Monthly Online Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority

he Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority Hadiza Bala Usman accompanied by the Executive Directors of the organisation recently received the victorious NPA Soccer Team "Hadiza Warriors" to a rousing reception held at the Organization's Conference Room for emerging tops at the just concluded Maritime Cup Competition.

The Managing Director, was also presented with trophies the team won as the Fair Play soccer team of the week long competition as well as the Best Overall Team at the recently held Nigerian Ports Authority in-house NIPOSA tournament.

The Chief Executive having received the trophies from the General Manager Human Resources Mr. Yahaya Bukar expressed utmost satisfaction of Management towards this feat which is the first in the history of the Organization. She charged them to be disciplined with a view to attaining greater heights.

Recall that the Nigerian Ports Authority [NPA] Football team fondly referred to as ''Hadiza Warriors'' emerged winners of the 2018 Ships and Ports Maritime Cup Competition. It defeated the NIMASA side 4-1 at a keenly contested soccer

match held at the NPA Sports Ground, Bode Thomas, Surulere, Lagos.

The final game witnessed by a capacity crowd started on a rather fast pace with both sides trying to take control of the midfield to the admiration of the teeming soccer enthusiasts.

However, the NIMASA team opened scores in the 4<sup>th</sup> minute of the encounter through Anderson Onye. The NPA team replied with an equalizer in the 9th minute through Bashim Yusuf and added the second in the 20th minute. Kabiru Zakari netted the 3<sup>rd</sup> minutes into the second half while Henry Nwosu

ATE PA JOHN OKUNLOY: 1361 MICURA SERVICES LTD

completed the rout in the 36<sup>th</sup> minute of the exciting game. The President General, Maritime Workers Union of Nigeria (MWUN) Comrade Adewale Adeyanju eulogized the organizers of the tournament Ships and Ports for sustaining the tournament over the years.

A total of 62 goals were scored in this year's edition with Abubakar Mikali of the Customs emerging the highest goal scorer with 7 goals.

Dignitaries present at the game include the Executive Director Operations NIMASA Engr. Rotimi Fasakin, General Manager Human Resources NPA, Mr Yahaya Bukar who represented the Managing Director of the NPA, Hadiza Bala Usman, Chairperson, Ship Owners Forum, Mrs. Margret Onyema Orakwusi and President Dockworkers' Branch of MWUN, Comrade Ibrahim Ohize.



**HEALTH&SAFETY:** FIRE AT WORKPLACE 7 HAZARDS, 10 CONTROLS

- Pg. 3

**AGM OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH VISITS ONNE PORT** 

- APPLAUDS ONNE PORT GYM FACILITY

- Pg. 4

**NIGERIAN PORTS** PARTNERS NIGERIAN SHIPPERS' COUNCIL **TOWARDS SWIFT CARGO MOVEMENT** 

- Pg. 5



n this edition, we bring to you reports of the resurgence of the NPA in the Sporting Arena. Its football team "Hadiza Warriors" recently emerged winners in this year's prestigious Ships and Ports Maritime Soccer Cup competition. This win is quite unique and commendable bearing in mind that this is the first time the team is coming tops in the competition.

The Management of NPA is determined to continuously improve its productivity level through a healthy work force. Recently, it commissioned gymnasia in various Ports across the country. We shall be looking at the facility at the Onne Port.

With the harmattan season around the corner, readers are provided with standard safety tips to avert and to control fire outbreaks in the workplace.

Do enjoy reading these and other regulars in our ever soaring online newsletter.

Catherine Ude Editor

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Contributions are welcome from members of staff.
You can send high resolution photographs of your social events like birthdays.

#### NPA NewsQuote

he sea is everything. It covers seven tenths of the terrestrial globe. Its breath is pure and healthy. It is an immense desert, where man is never lonely, for he feels life stirring on all sides.

- Jules Verne



# Health and Salety By Engr. Dafe T. S. Prin. Manager, Safety

# FIRE AT WORKPLACE 7 HAZARDS, 10 CONTROLS

xperts say about 85% of workplace fire result from human error and 15% from equipment problems. The import of this statement is that fire is largely preventable hazard.

In the workplace, 7 fire hazards are common and there are about 10 controls for these fire hazards.

### 7 FIRE HAZARDS COMMON IN THE WORKPLACE:

- 1. Scrap and trash. When waste materials build up, the danger of fire outbreak increases. Once an ignition source is present, scrap and trash provide the fuel a fire needs to grow.
- 2. Dust. Excess dust or powder in the air from wood, plastic, metal, and other operations can cause an explosion if ignited. The 2008 Georgia sugar refinery explosion was an industrial disaster that occurred on February 7, in Port Wentworth, Georgia, United States resulted, in part, from release of sugar from improperly maintained dust-collection equipment.
- 3. Flammable liquids. Improper handling, storage, or disposal of flammables used in production processes, as fuel sources, or for cleaning are a leading cause of workplace fires.
- 4. Combustible materials. Culprits include paper, cardboard, cloth, and wood, or products made from these materials. Rags and other oil-soaked materials can spontaneously combust if left lying around.
- 5. Electrical sources. Overloaded electrical circuits and outlets, damaged wiring, defective switches, and damaged plugs are potential causes of electrical fires. Electric coffeemakers, toaster ovens, space heaters, and other appliances are also potential fire hazards.
- 6. Machinery. Fires can be caused by inadequately lubricated or cleaned equipment as well as mechanical defects.
- 7. Smoking. When employees try to defeat no-smoking policies, the results can be deadly. An incompletely extinguished cigarette carelessly tossed into a wastebasket or onto a warehouse floor can have disastrous consequences.

#### **10 PREVENTIVE CONTROLS ARE:**

- 1. Scrap and trash. When waste materials build up, the danger of fire increases. Once an ignition source is present, scrap and trash provide the fuel a fire needs to grow.
- 2. Educate employees about the risks, and update them when new equipment or processes introduce new hazards.
- 3. Provide the right fire extinguishers for the hazards. Regularly check to ensure the devices are charged and in good working condition.

- 4. Store materials safely, and keep storage areas well ventilated and free of ignition sources.
- 5. Dispose waste promptly and properly.
- 6. Practice good housekeeping and keep work areas clean and free of fire hazards.
- 7. Ensure that ventilation systems operate effectively to remove flammable vapors, combustible dusts, and powders from the air.
- 8. Regularly service machines and establish a regular maintenance schedule, and ensure it is followed.
- 9. Regularly check electrical circuits, outlets, wires, and plugs. If small appliances are in use, ensure they are turned off at the end of the shift or workday.
- 10. Enforce fire safety and prevention rules which include nosmoking policy. Develop discipline procedures for those who break the rules.



## AGM OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH VISITS ONNE PORT

#### - APPLAUDS ONNE PORT GYM FACILITY

he Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) Assistant General Manager Occupational Health, Mrs. Ngozi Obikili has applauded the Onne Port gym facility for its uniqueness.

Mrs. Obikili, made the remarks shortly after her inspection of the gym facility at Onne Port, recently installed courtesy of the Managing Director of NPA Hadiza Bala Usman.

Mrs. Obikili who was accompanied during the visit by Mr Yohanna Sati, Manager, Occupational Health Headquarters, also applauded the Onne Port Manager for his support. She described Onne Port gym facility, as neat, unique and very lovely. "NPA Onne Port has done well. This gym facility is so clean. I give kudos to Onne Port Manager Alhassan Abubakar, who is steadily supporting Occupational Health to give her best at the Port", Mrs. Ngozi, Obikill, stated.

The AGM, Occupational Health, who was on tour of all the Port locations to inspect gym installations across the

Ports commended the Managing Director, Hadiza Bala Usman for this venture describing the gym across the Ports in the country as her baby. She said the goal of the Managing Director in doing this project is to ensure a healthy work force for NPA staff. She said that the MD believes in encouraging staff to keep healthy at all times.

Commenting on the benefit of the introduction of the gym and physical fitness exercise at NPA, the AGM Occupational Health said that diseases such as high blood pressure, cancer, diabetes etc has been on the decline, noting that this has helped to reduce cost/ budget on drugs and medicare within NPA clinic.

Although she said the use of the gym is voluntary, she stressed that physical health/fitness is compulsory by all staff, as it was introduced by the top NPA management to encourage the health and well-being of every staff.

She said that her department is taking the health statistics of workers to measure their health status and improvement "Occupational health is working. People going to medical treatment for BP, career diabetes is on decline," she added. Some of the facilities she inspected at Onne Port include the crazy massager, American fitness, walkout, table tennis amongst others.



Receiving the AGM, Occupational health, on behalf of the Onne Port Manager, Mrs. Barbara Ejemeh Nchey-Achukwu, Head Corporate & Strategic Communications (C&SC), Onne Port welcomed Mrs. Ngozi and her entourage to Onne Port. She described Onne Port as a family Port, and commended the Port Manager Alhassan Abubakar for supporting the health and wellbeing of workers at the Port.

Mrs. Nchey- Achukwu while commending the MD, NPA Hadiza Bala Usman for the gym, also noted that it has been a boost in improving the health and wellbeing of NPA staff at Onne Port. She informed the AGM, that the Port management on Wednesdays organizes a workout for workers.

She thanked the AGM, Occupational Health for her visit, noting that her presence has boosted the Occupational Health Department at Onne Port.

The highpoint of her visit/tour of Occupational Health facility/gym at Onne Port was her participation in the regular health check up of staff.

#### MD NPA RECEIVES MARITIME CUP WON BY HADIZA WARRIORS

he Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Hadiza Bala Usman (Middle) with the victorious NPA Football

Team (Hadiza Warriors) and top Management of NPA, when the team paid a courtesy call on the MD at the NPA Corporate Headquarters in Marina, Lagos.



he Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Hadiza Bala Usman (4<sup>th</sup> from left) being presented the trophy by the Coach of the Hadiza Warriors, Emmanuel Okafor (5<sup>th</sup> from left), the Executive Director, Marine and Operations, Dr. Sokonte Davies (3<sup>rd</sup> from left), the Executive

Director, Finance
a n d
Administration,
Mohammed
Bello-Koko and
other top
Management of
NPA.



# NPA APPLAUDED BY STAKEHOLDERS AT 2018 NIMPORT CONFERENCE

#### **Delegates to NIMPORT 2018 conference**

rganizers of The 2018 annual Nigerian Maritime Port and Terminal Conference and Exhibition [NIMPORT] has eulogized the contributions of the NPA Management for continuously promoting the ideals and objectives of the Organisation since it came to existence over 11 years ago.

The 3-day event which was organized by the FCI International Ltd aimed at creating a forum to bridge the divide in integrating industry development and connect all sub sectors that form the delivery chain took place at the Oriental Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos. It had as its theme "Attracting Investments to Support Ports, Terminals and Logistics Growth"

Participants comprising the NPA Trade Promotion team and other exhibitors lent credence to the objectives of the Conference at providing opportunities for networking and trade facilitation, bringing major players and service providers within the industry closer to the Public. Highlights of the event include the presentation of papers from distinguished speakers from all walks of life in the area of Performance Review of the Maritime Sector, New Business and Investment Areas in Nigeria, Unveiling Opportunities in Marine Resources to Increase Export Trade, Curbing the Menace of Inland Water Robberies, Strategies and Actions amongst others.



n its resolve at achieving an appreciable increase in the movement of cargo within the Onne Port axis, the Port Manager Onne Port, Alhassan Ismaila Abubakar has reassured Stakeholders and particularly the Authorities of Nigerian Shippers Council [NSC] of its continuous determination and collaboration in making the Port attractive for investors willing to do business within the Eastern Port axis and the nation at large.

The Port Manager represented by Dr. Julius Agbo expressed delight at the visit of the NSC Committee to the Port to inspect the state of facilities and its readiness to carry out efficient service delivery in view of the importance of the sector to the growth and development of the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

He assured all present that NPA Management in carrying out its core functions is continually striving towards attaining a hub status and is totally committed to the swift implementation of the Federal Government's policy of attracting investors through the Ease of Doing Business. Towards this, it has recently procured Tug boats for towage services as well as a third party towage service contract to boost operational services within Onne Port.

Quoting him, 'I assure you of our cooperation and support at all times. Whatever we need to do to facilitate your work, we will do"
Earlier in his address, the Head of the NSC team and member of the Governing Board, Blessing Ihuoma eulogized the contributions of the NPA in its duties, stating that it was ready to further synergize with other relevant agencies to facilitate the actualization of the Ease of Doing Business at the Ports.

### WORKHOURRELAXATION

#### SHOULD AN INTENDING COUPLE LIVE TOGETHER BY WAY OF COURTSHIP BEFORE MARRAIGE



y response is hinged on principles that govern society, which may be spiritual and/or cultural. Also, where there is no known purpose for an activity, abuse sets in. Another important thing to note is that the appreciation of diversity of humanity necessitates that

only the basic traits that allow for co-habitation is what should be sought during courtship – particularly the ability to forbear. If therefore marriage is envisioned as a life journey with many chapters, intending couples do not and should not live together by of courtship before marriage. Curiously, a quick visit back to history shows that all societies attach some sacredness to marriage. Any activity outside of this indicates deviation from established norms.

#### Benjamin.T. Humbe

Snr. Manager, Traffic (Operations) GM, MD's Office.



t is wrong for an intending couple to live together before marriage. The Bible and the Qur'an are there to guide us.

Zainab Y. Mohammed Manager, Tariff and Billing Abuja Liaison Office.



o because it is contrary to our religious and moral values.

**Nasiru Bello Alkali.** Manager Audit, Abuja Liaison office.



hristianity and Islam are the two predominant religions in Nigeria. I believe both do not support living together in the name of courtship. As long as you are not yet joined together, living together will be wrong. God instituted marriage and gave clear-cut instructions in the Books for how to enter into and run it. Hebrew

13: 4 in paraphrase says, marriage bed should be undefiled. That is, sex before marriage and sex outside marriage (with any other apart from one's spouse) is forbidden by God. Intending couples that want God to sanction their union and see them through it should not live together before marriage.

**Engr. D.O. Adeola** Principal Manager, Safety. Safety Dept. HQ.



t all depends on your values. It is a no for me. At courtship you are only intending to marry, you are not yet married under the law. So why are you in a hurry to live together, what point are you trying to prove. Living together means there will be physical intimacy, "bodi no be wood". What if your fiancé/fiancée changes his/her mind, by then "he/she don see you finish". Be wise!

Ademola Adeniran
Principal Manager, Civil.
Assets Administration, HQ.



don't think it's a wise decision. Obviously, living together will entail living as husband and wife which involve all the obligations that come between a man and a woman. Though, in a country with different culture, some may not regard it as a taboo while others do. Generally, the couples can understand themselves better without putting up together; there's dignity when their union is based on good morals, that,

we can ascertain a high degree of respect in a marriage as well as maintain sanity in the society as a whole. Besides, marriage is an institution ordained by God, so if two people decide to go into it, then it should be through laid down procedures. The issue of anyone giving it a shot to see if it works does not arise because the marriage is in its totality a leap of faith.

**Hadiza S. Umar** Manager, C&SC. Abuja Liaison Office.



here are two angles to it. First, in a typical African setting, which we still adore till date, an intending couple living together before getting married as never been a welcoming idea, based on the fact that it does not bring respect to the lady in question since the bride price has not been paid, hence the society frowns at it. The other opinion is based on the fact that marriage is a long term goal. Knowing the qualities of your partner before marriage will help save

the marriage from divorce. People tend to hide a lot of their bad traits just to deceive their partner into marriage and they start exhibiting their true character after tying the knot. No one can pretend for too long by staying together..

Tanko B. Tanko
Manager, Fire. Fire Service, Onne Ports Complex.



y answer is No. According to my Religion and culture, it is never proper for an unmarried couple to live together before marriage. When two people (opposite sex) confined themselves in a secluded area, the third of them will be the devil. They are supposed to safeguard their virginity until they get married.

I conclude with the saying "Virginity is a wedding present to your husband/wife and not a birthday present to your girl/boyfriend".

Do not enter your matrimonial home perforated.

**Nurah Isiaku** Manager Audit, Rivers Port.



Mallam Isah Suwaid, AGM, C&SC. HQ 1<sup>st</sup> OCT.

Yusuf Lawal Gangarawa, AGM, Audit. HQ 8<sup>th</sup> OCT.

Engr. Chukwuma Ngini, AGM, Facility Mgt. HQ 1<sup>st</sup> OCT.

Chief Saint David Chuma Eze, AGM, Audit. HQ 23<sup>rd</sup> OCT.

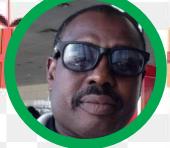


Mrs. Ballah Sarah, Prin. Mgr. C &SC (Servicom). HQ 15<sup>th</sup> OCT.

Boniface Akogwu, Prin. Mgr.T&B, (Servicom), HQ 15<sup>™</sup> OCT.



Mrs.Barbara Nchey Achukwu, Prin. Mgr. C &SC. ONNE PORT. 16<sup>th</sup> OCT.



Aliyu Nakamba, Prin. Mgr. Procurement, HQ 23<sup>rd</sup> OCT.



Asuquor Okor, Snr. Mgr. Tariff & Billing, HQ 10<sup>th</sup> OCT.



Mrs. Nkechi Adama Odukwu, OGDO, C&SC. RIVERS PORT



Tamuno Tony, Manager Audit Delta Ports



Ejike John Nworgu, Manager, C&SC. Delta Ports



Tolonisede Adetayo, Manager, C&SC. Calabar Ports



Mrs. Nene Okador, Ast. Manager, Audit. HQ 30<sup>th</sup> OCT.



Ogundeko Samuel AGDO Transport LPC 10th OCT



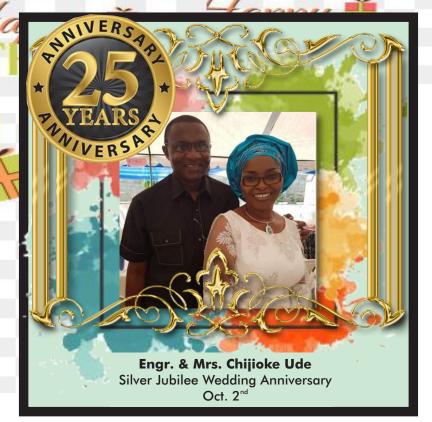
Chiamaka Vivian Nzekwe Accountant 1 Accounts Dept. Rivers Port 18th OCT.



Mrs Odinakachi N. Nwosu, Port Mgr's Outfit, Snr. Pers. Sec. DELTA PORTS 10<sup>th</sup> OCT.



Paul Erakhifu, C&SC Officer, HQ 28<sup>th</sup> OCT.



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#### **Our Port Locations:**

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