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News

Monthly Online Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority

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NPA WORKFORCE TAKES DELIVERY OF 8 NEWLY PURCHASED 30-SEATER BUSES

The Hadiza Bala Usman led Executive Management of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) recently made good its promise to the Organization's workforce in the area of improved welfare package when it recently took delivery of 8 units of 30 seater luxurious staff buses.

It would be recalled that the Chief Executive of the NPA had assured all at different fora of Management's readiness at improving the welfare of the workforce which would encourage efficient service delivery in line with International best practices.

These 8 new buses the Management said will complement the 35 pick-up vehicles (16 security operational vans and 19 Port vehicles) as well as 3 ambulances which Management believe would boost staff morale across board.

Some of the newly acquired buses would be distributed to the Ikorodu, Okoko, Ikotun, and Iyana – Ipaja routes which are presently witnessing high flow of workers.

Management it was gathered, is also tinkering of purchasing more staff buses which would be sent to the outer Ports for the same welfare purposes. Many of the workforce appreciate this development which they believe would allow for more bonding of the workforce, allow for synergy as well as reduce the stress and cost of transportation of the workers to and from work.

The Crew of the In – House Newsletter salutes Executive Management for this unique development which was last witnessed in 2004.

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From the Editorial Suites



The Hadiza Bala Usman led Executive Management of Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has made good its promise at further improving the welfare scheme of the workforce when it recently received for distribution 8 units of 30 seater luxurious buses.

Recall that it had at its inception promised all, of its determination at improving efficient service delivery through this kind of morale boost of its workforce which was last witnessed in 2004.

Also in this edition, we bring to you reports that the Management has further shown its determination and commitment towards the swift facilitation and enforcement of standards in its operations especially in the Harbours Services, through the ISO 9001 and OHSAS, 18,001 Certification.

In this bid, a Management Awareness workshop was recently organized by Renner & Renner Training and Consultancy Services in Lagos for Heads of Divisions of the Authority.

On a lighter note, while we bring you some safety tips for the harmattan season, we also report that the Audit Division recently sent forth seven of its officers who retired recently after a meritorious service to the organisation. Your In – House crew was there and bring you colorful pictures.

Enjoy these and many more juicy stories.

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

NPA News Quote

We are tied to the ocean. And when we go back to the sea, whether it is to sail or to watch - we are going back from whence we came.

- John F. Kennedy

Archival



ARCHIVAL



Old Broad street, Lagos, 1960

Health and Safety

By Engr. Dafe T. S. Prin. Manager, Safety



SAFETY TIPS DURING HARMATTAN

Harmattan is a dry, parching land breeze, charged with dust blowing over the West African subcontinent. It consists of fine dust particles between 0.5 and 10 micrometres. It is a Natural Hazard which lowers the humidity, dissipates cloud cover, prevents rainfall formation and sometimes creates big clouds of dust or sand which sometimes result in violent dust-storms or sandstorms.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH HARMATTAN?

Fire Outbreaks

Due to dry wind the spreading of fire comes easily at the slightest ignition resulting in destruction of lives and properties. This is often aided with petrol stored at homes, offices coupled with other combustible materials that are now very dry.

Poor Visibility

Harmattan haze reduces visibility due to foggy weather condition especially in the early morning and late evening. Drivers are advised to be conscious of this when driving on the road.

Health Hazards

Allergies:

- Asthmatic people suffer more crises during harmattan period.
- The very young and aged suffered pneumonia and bronchitis during this period.
- Dry skin accompanying cracking of the lips, sole of the feet are most rampant during this period.
- The dry, cold and dusty wind associated with Harmattan also triggers sickle cell crises in affected individuals.
- Diseases like Rheumatism, Pneumonia and Arthritis and in severe cases, death from hypothermia mostly occurred due to prolonged daily exposure to cold weather

Food borne diseases

Due to dusty atmosphere, there is need to imbibe healthy food preservation culture especially food hawkers such as fruits, vegetables e.t.c to prevent food borne diseases. Environmental hygiene is usually poor whenever there is inadequate water supply.

SAFETY TIPS DURING HARMATTAN

1. Bush burning, electrical sparks and indiscriminate storage of fuel etc should be avoided as a fire safety preventive measures
 2. Drivers should drive with lights on low beam due to poor visibility.
 3. Asthmatic patients should reduce exposure to the dusty atmosphere in addition to having their inhaler with them all the time.
 4. Oily creams and weather friendly dressing should be used to keep the skin healthy.
 5. Excessive use of antiseptic soaps should be avoided; the use of very strong antiseptics tend to make the skin to dry up.
- Eyes should be washed with clean water to reduce exposure to dust and ensure the wearing of appropriate protective spectacles. Sickle cell anaemia patients should be vigilant and keep warm as much as possible to prevent crises. Fruits and vegetables should be properly washed before eating. Water containers should be properly covered to prevent dust entering into them. Lots of fluid should be taken to compensate for loss of water from the body due to increase in respiration, perspiration and frequent urination. Wish you healthy and safe Harmattan period.

REACH US FROM ANY WHERE

Stakeholders, Port Users and the general public can now reach all our port locations from anywhere, through our functional phone lines. For the purpose of our numerous readers and the general public who may wish to reach any of our port locations and our Abuja Liaison office, we present their phone numbers below for your usage:

S/NO	LOCATION	GLO	MTN
1.	LAGOS PORT COMPLEX	+2348158794394	+2349062784264
2.	TINCAN ISLAND PORT	+2348158794395	+2349062784265
3.	CALABAR PORT	+2348158794397	+2349062784266
4.	RIVERS PORT	+2348158794398	+2349062784267
5.	ONNE PORT	+2348158794399	+2349062784268
6.	ABUJA LIAISON OFFICE	+2348158794400	+2349062784269
7.	DELTA PORTS	+2348158794401	+2349062784270

ENTRANCE GATES AT NPA HQ WEARS NEW LOOK

In its bid to adding aesthetic value to the organisation, the Management of the Nigerian Ports Authority recently produced and installed NPA Corporate logo in fibreglass medium at four different entrances to the Corporate Headquarters in Marina, Lagos.



OFFICERS WITH AUDIT DIVISION SENT FORTH IN STYLE

The Audit Division of the Nigerian Port Authority (NPA) recently send forth seven of its officers in grand style. The General Manager, Audit, Mr. Abdul Adamu Ningi at the colourful ceremony commended the officers for their diligence and dedication to work while in service and prayed for God's guidance in their future endeavors.

One of the retiree, Sir Paul Udechukwu Enemali, who was visibly excited appreciated and thanked the Management of NPA for the opportunity at serving and the Audit Division for organizing the party to honour its retirees.



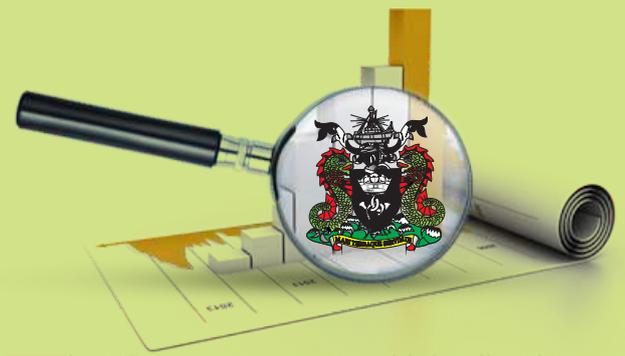
The seven (7) retirees were Boyi A. Aliyu, Paul U. Enemali, Anthony O.Oluwabiyi, Mimiko E. Henshaw, Okoro Goya, Chief Ijeoma Simeon and Idirime U. Bridget.

MD NPA ASSURES INVESTORS ON SAFETY STANDARDS

Investors willing to do business at the nation's seaports have been assured that all relevant Safety and Security Standards towards an efficient delivery of services, especially in the domain of ISO (9001) and OHSAS Certification have been put in place in line with international best practices. The Managing Director of the NPA Hadiza Bala Usman represented by the Port Manager Rivers Port Mallam Umar Abubakar made this declaration at the Special Day of the organisation at the just concluded 2018 Lagos International Trade fair held in Lagos. She stressed that Management would facilitate the participation of its Terminal Operators in future events to further boost their presence before the International Business Community.



NPA SENSITIZES ALL ON ISO CERTIFICATION



The NPA Management would do all within its powers to achieve the ISO 9001 and OHSAS 18,001 Certification and compliance especially in its Harbors Services with a view to accelerating improved efficiency in the System. Speaking at the Management Awareness Workshop organized by Renner & Renner Training and Consultancy Services towards the Authority's Certification and Compliance for top echelon of the organisation held in Lagos, the Managing Director of NPA Hadiza Bala Usman expressed commitment towards the success of the initiative so that the ports would be seen to be contributing to the growth of the Nation's economy.

20 TIPS TO DRESS APPROPRIATELY FOR WORK

BY VIVIAN GIANG

Whether you like it or not, the way you look plays a role in your success in the modern workplace.

And at some point, this could hurt your chances of getting a promotion. In today's workplace, where casual wear is becoming increasingly popular, it can be tricky to understand the rules of appearance. We talked to career and etiquette experts to get a better idea. Below are 20 rules every professional should follow:

GENERAL TIPS

1. Understand what's appropriate in your industry

"Everyone draws their lines differently," says etiquette coach Barbara Pachter. "For example, you may be able to wear shorts, but not cut-offs. If your company has a dress code, follow it."

2. Make sure your clothes fit

It may sound obvious, but many get it wrong. "If your clothes are too big or too small, they are not going to look good. Ensuring a proper fit applies to everything you are wearing," says Pachter. "One interviewer said he was distracted by a man's short tie."

3. Wear glasses that fit

Make sure your glasses fit properly and aren't sliding down your nose. You don't want to be playing with them all the time, says Pachter. "This becomes distracting."

4. Dry your hair

Never leave your house with wet hair, warns Williams. It makes you look like you don't have your life together, which translates to not having your career together.

5. Pay attention to your bag

You don't want your personal things jutting out of your purse or briefcase. Keep your bag clean on the inside, especially if it doesn't have a zipper, which allows others to catch a glimpse inside from time to time. Williams also advises professionals not to wear knapsacks because it looks "too collegiate".

6. Don't wear strong perfume or cologne

"Anything that anyone else can smell is not good," says Williams. To get an idea of whether someone can smell you or not, ask someone you trust.

7. Wear well-kept, polished shoes

"One recruiter told me the first thing he notices about a candidate is his or her shoes," says Pachter. "Make sure your shoes are polished and in good condition."

8. Pay attention to your watch

"When I ask the participants in my etiquette classes to name the one accessory that they notice most on both men and women, the watch is the most common answer," Pachter says.

9. Wear rich colours to portray authority

"Pay attention to your colour choices," Pachter says. "Darker colours usually convey a stronger impression than lighter ones." If you're giving a presentation, make sure the colour you're wearing doesn't blend in with the background behind you.

10. Avoid neon colours and overly flashy clothes

"Both men and women have to be cautious with bright colours," Pachter says. Clothes that are too flashy can be distracting and the visual equivalent of shouting.

FOR WOMEN

11. Don't be too sexy

Not only is wearing inappropriate clothing distracting, it can also give off an inaccurate impression. Avoid too-short hemlines, too-tall heels, plunging necklines, and exposed under garments. "A lot of women are oversexualized in the office," says Williams. "You can wear a V-neck shirt, but make sure you keep your legs covered. People end up discrediting themselves by looking too provocative." Pachter agrees: "What do you want to be remembered for? What you wore or what you said?"

12. Wearing nude pantyhose is hip

Ever since Kate Middleton started wearing pantyhose in public, it quickly became stylish again. "It gives you a more finished look," Pachter says.



13. Get regular pedicures

Williams tells us one of her biggest pet peeves is when women wear open-toed shoes without getting pedicures. "If you're going to show your toes, make sure your toes are well-groomed," she says.

14. Don't over-accessorise

Accessories are meant to complement your outfit, not overpower it. "I once met a woman who had a ring on every finger," Pachter says. "You couldn't look at anything else."

15. Your jewellery shouldn't make noise

It's really distracting when someone's dangly bangles make noises when they move their arms, says Williams.

FOR MEN

16. Avoid ankle socks with slacks

When you cross your legs and the pants slightly lift up, no skin should be showing, says Pachter. Your socks need to be an appropriate length.

17. Facial hair shouldn't overwhelm your face

No matter how much you want to grow a full, bushy beard, it just might not work for you. Think about it like a haircut — not every cut is going to look good on every person, says Adam P. Causgrove, CEO of The American Moustache Institute. How do you know what style will look good on you? Determine what kind of face shape and features you have. Then find others with similar features who are already sporting moustaches and beards, and experiment with their cut and style.

18. Grow facial hair on a weekend or vacation

You want to look like you've grown hair on purpose instead of just being lazy and not shaving, says Causgrove. Williams advises using a weekend or vacation time to grow beards out, because "spotty beards make men look like 18-year-olds."

19. Trim your beard

Facial hair needs to be kept trim and tidy to maintain a professional look. Causgrove advises doing some research on the proper device. Electric razors can be good for short, trimmed beards, and scissors are better for moustaches, he says.

20. A goatee is rarely a good idea

Any hair that's under your lower lip that isn't a beard is not a good idea, says Pachter. "Do you want to be the only person [with it]? It may work for you, it may work against you, but you need to make that decision for yourself," she warns.

Read more: <http://www.executivestyle.com.au/20-tips-to-dress-appropriately-for-work-2xvcy#ixzz5WdG1jQF2>

WORK HOUR RELAXATION

Vox Pop IS IT ECONOMICALLY VIABLE TO BUY A CAR WITH A LOAN?



My answer is that it depends on the purpose for which the car is intended to serve:

1. if it is for the private use of the owner, then it is NOT viable. A car in that regard is a cost item whose fuelling, maintenance and other costs constitute a constant debit on your account. As the car depreciates it further becomes a cost element.
2. If the car is to be used to generate revenue and pay off the loan, then it can be considered a viable venture.

Stanley Yitnoe
Prin. Mngr. PPP Dept., HQ



A loan to buy a car is a global practice, considering the fact that it is one of the few ways a paid employee can own a car. It is necessary to state that saving to purchase a car has always been the best way to own one as you get to save at your own pace and there is no interest accrued. However if it becomes necessary to take a loan, it should be factored in that the debt-to-income ratio should not exceed 25%, if it can be less the better. And in settling for a car a sound and low maintenance car should be bought to avoid an extra strain on the already depleted salary balance.

Hassan Shuaibu
Hydrographic Officer, HQ



ANSWER: NO.

REASONS: It is not Reasonable and Advisable to buy a Car with a Loan if the Car will serve as purpose of a liability, which may lead one to prodigal Living

A Car is a depreciating Asset, meaning its value is constantly dropping, this is

in Contrast to something like investing in the stock market, where you hope that the value of the Asset will grow.

Paying interest for something that is losing value means that you're losing money in two directions.

In addition, you may even owe more than the car is worth, which means selling would actually require you to Come up with more in addition to the sale proceeds, Finally paying with Cash removes the hassle of having a loan.

In conclusion, it is not a good idea to buy a Car with a loan.

Ajie Nwachukwu Ferdinand
Signal Officer, Harbours Dept., Calabar Port



I believe it is not economically viable to purchase a car with a loan; either bank loan or from a Cooperative, except on very few cases. For example commercial purposes after a careful research on how to go about the business and all the risks attached to it (such as theft, accident etc). I'll rather take loans for landed properties like house, shop, farm, land and more but not the for purchase of car for personal use.

Mohammed Abubakar Aliyu
HR Opts. Officer 1, HQ



It depends on the circumstance. First and foremost, a car is a necessity not luxury.

Based on this, if you are a worker and this facility (car loan) is obtainable, it is advisable to grab it, but you must know your financial background.

Enebeli Alfred
PA to Port Manager (Operations)
Calabar Ports



If someone can't afford cash, I think a personal loan is usually the only way to finance a car but only if you have good credit score. You can get a loan from your Cooperative or can loan from the Organization if your credit rating is good and you can spread the cost in the period of years.

Solanke Olusola
AGDO I, Performance Management,
HQ



When you own a car that you bought with a loan, its technically rented. Since your possession of it highly depends on whether or not you can complete your payment. A car loan like any lending product can have a positive impact on your life if managed properly. However, if mishandled, a car loan can turn out to be a costly mistake that can cause you financial and emotional stress.

The main drawback of a car loan is that you have to pay for the privilege in the form of interest and fees. If you take out a variable rate Car loan, the interest rate might increase, if you miss a repayment, or pay off your loan ahead of schedule, you might be charged penalty fees. The car might be involved in an accident or even be stolen. That leads to another potential problem. The risk of default failure to repay the loan could result in your vehicle being seized and your credit rating being damaged.

Joseph O. Akagha
Performance Officer II, HQ



Mrs. Funmilayo Olotu,
Port Manager, Calabar Port
12th NOV.



Mrs. Priscilla Maduka
Principal Manager, Audit. HQ
27th November



Engr. Ferdinand Azi
Prin. Mgr. Safety Calabar Port
11th November



Mrs. Mary Okoliko
Snr. Mgr. Fire Services. TCIP
23rd November



Mrs. Martina Akoko
Snr. Mgr. HR Rivers/Onne port
19th November



Lilian Brume
Mgr, Med. Lab. Science,
Warri, Delta Ports
2nd November



Mrs. Ebun Ajijala
Mgr. Corp. & Strat. Comm. HQ
....November



Sylvester Egede
Prin. Mgr. Traffic, Rivers Port
5th November



Akaninyene Brendan
Chief Patrolman
Security Department
Calabar Port



Makanjuola B. Teslim
Snr. Mgr. Traffic
.....November



Kingsley Ezeanaya
AGDO (Md's Office), HQ
10th November



Mr Carew Ekundayo
Prin. Mgr. ICT, HQ
15th November



Obituary

Born on August 4, 1933 in Uzenema-Arue in Uromi, Chief Anthony Anenih CFR served as Board Chairman of the NPA between February 2009 and May 2015. He brought his wealth of experience as an elder statesman to bear on the affairs of the Authority. His regime as Board Chairman brought remarkable changes to the Authority particularly in the area of consolidation of the gains of Port concession and the formulation and approval of 25 Years Port Development Plan.

He was conferred with the National Honour of Commander of the Federal Republic of Nigeria by President Olusegun Obasanjo. The Authority will continue to remember him for his meritorious service to the Organization. He died on Sunday Oct. 28, 2018 at the age of 85.



Obituary

The death on the 1st of November, 2018 has been announced of Rev. (Mrs) Elizabeth Ogodinma Ovbude, who retired as an Assistant General Manager (AGM) Special Duties after a successful career in the Nigerian Ports Authority.

Married to Mr Felix Ovbude, a former Managing Director of the defunct Eastern Port of Nigerian Ports Authority, Lizzy as she was fondly called was until her death the Managing Director of Ports and Terminal Operators Limited (PTOL), operators at the Rivers Port in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. A member of various professional and social bodies, Mrs Ovbude is survived by her husband, children and other relatives. May her gentle soul rest in peace. Amen.

...the world within our reach...



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