



N P A *News*

Monthly Online Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority

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GRIDLOCK!

NPA TO THE RESCUE, COMMENCEMENCES LILYPOND TRUCK PARK

By Isah Suwaid

In fulfilment of its commitment of facilitating the Ease of Doing Business at the Nation's seaports, the Management of the Nigerian Ports Authority has yet recorded another landmark with the commencement of Truck Transit Parking (TTP) facility at Lilypond ; as part of efforts and commitment to end the gridlock along the Apapa port access roads.

Besides the respite the Truck Transit Park will give to motorist plying the Apapa and Tin Can roads and the general public, the TTP is expected to enhance effective port operations and improved service delivery.

Additionally, the TTP, set up to hold trucks under the call up system for trucks that have businesses to do at the Apapa ports, would give priority to truckers with empties and exports.

The Lilypond TTP facility has the capacity of 1000 units of normal size truck. Besides, the parking space, the facility is to be equipped with critical infrastructures such as operational offices, vehicles, conveniences, illumination and personnel.

The flag off of activities at the facility, which begin in the first instance with the Lilypond TTP, then later the Tin Can Truck Park, was a climax of several successive joint efforts of many tiers of the Federal Government, the Management of the NPA and the stakeholders, at which solutions were proffered to the traffic congestion on the Apapa road.

Lilypond TTP facility was before now the Lilypond Container Terminal, concession to the APMT. The Concession was revoked by the NPA Management to allow for its conversion. This conversion which was done in national interest, is a surest way of substantially reducing the challenges of traffic problems within the Apapa corridor.

Prior to the flag off, the NPA Managing Director, Hadiza Bala Usman had through the Executive Director, Marine & Operations, Dr. Sokonte Davies, embarked upon a sensitisation programme to educate the stakeholders on the benefits of the transit truck park.

Hadiza Bala Usman who explained that the move was part of efforts to end the gridlock, assured stakeholders that the Authority as the Landlord would not fold its arms and allow total breakdown of the system.

She enumerated the plans put in place to ensure the success of the new arrangement. This, include that the incoming task-force should ensure that all trucks are not allowed to park on the bridges, that shipping lines and terminal operators must synergise their operation to ensure the success of the call up system and that security agencies were to remove all categories of truck milling around the Port environment and traffic. The agencies are to ensure that the Tin Can Island to Mile 2 corridor is open for optimal traffic and Port management.

Meanwhile, adding its weight to finding solutions to the problem of the Apapa traffic jam, the Senate Committee on Works has advocated for a multi sector approach between the NPA, the Nigeria Customs Service (NSC) and Nigeria Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) to give waivers to Exporters and Importers so as encourage them to use other Eastern ports, as a way to decongest Ports in the Lagos area.

At an emergency meeting the Committee held with key stakeholders in the nation's Maritime sector, in Lagos recently, its Chairman, Senator Kabiru Gaya said a waiver to exporters and importers would encourage them to patronise other ports outside Lagos, as a way to reduce the pressure on ports within the Lagos area.

Senator Gaya, at the meeting, which was attended by representatives of the NPA, truck drivers associations, Lagos State Traffic Management Authority, Federal Roads Safety Commission and Shippers, stressed the need for cooperation of the various government agencies to make port operation easier and the urgent need to nip in the bud all the identified causes of the gridlock.

Gaya expressed regret that in spite of the various government interventions, "it is a shame to all of us in Nigeria that this gridlock should continue. This is unacceptable".

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In this month's edition, we spotlight the ground breaking elimination of the perennial gridlock which has greatly locked down business activities and vehicular movement within the Apapa corridor.

Also, the Managing Director Nigerian Ports Authority, Hadiza Bala Usman has enjoined the women folk to ensure balance in work and family

life as well as resist any form of intimidation towards optimizing their potentials.

Our Health and Safety corner in this edition presents 7 commonly overlooked safety issues in our day to day life and the need for everyone to seriously take positive measures to forestall the occurrence of unforeseen circumstances.

We also bring you tit bits from the 2019 Africa Public Relations Association [APRA] Conference with the theme: **Africa and Story Telling ...Changing the Narratives**, held at the Serena Hotel Kigali the Rwandan Capital.

As part of its thrust at ensuring improved capacity building and boosting professionalism across board to meeting International standards, Management recently conducted a promotional examination for its qualified workforce.

These and many other juicy stories are presented for your reading pleasure.

Catherine Ude
Editor

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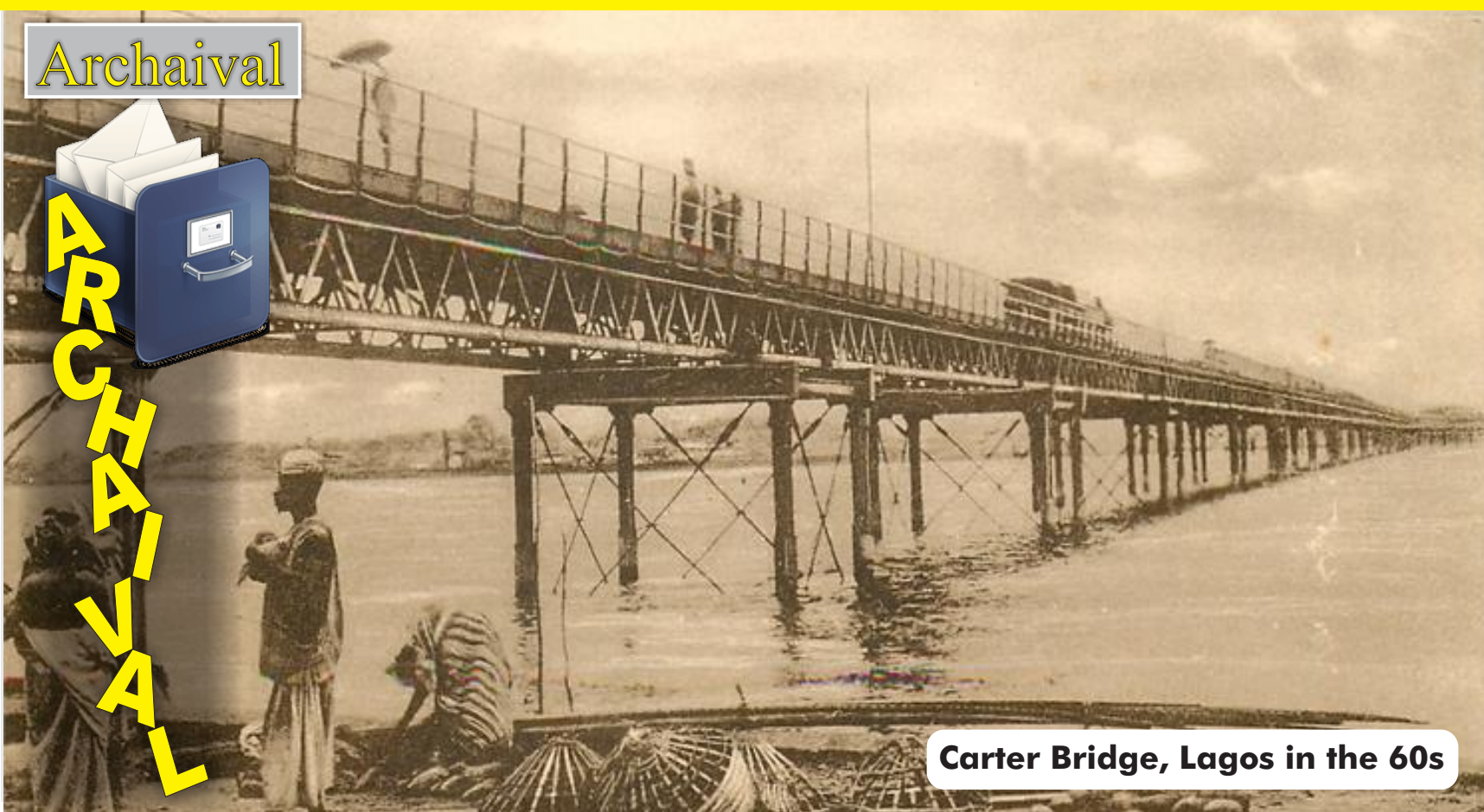
NPA NewsQuote

**THE PESSIMIST COMPLAIN ABOUT THE WIND;
THE OPTIMIST EXPECTS IT TO CHANGE;
THE REALIST ADJUST THE SAILS.**

Archaival



ARCHIVAL



Carter Bridge, Lagos in the 60s

BALANCE WORK WITH FAMILY LIFE

– MD NPA CHARGES FEMALE FOLK

The Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Hadiza Bala Usman has advised her female folk to balance work with family life, saying that “a woman needs to know when to draw a line and learn to devote quality time with the family, devoid of the interference from office activities”.

She however cautioned women not to nurse fears of starting small as such venture shall always blossom to their advantages; if they remain focused on the core issues.

Hadiza who was speaking at a round table cum-luncheon organized by Women in Management Business and Public Service (WIMBIZ), implored career women to leave their comfort zones and face their fears, because according to her such fears may be real as experienced by everyone, but that it is important to face them in order to overcome them.

At a recent event which took place at the Bon Hotel Stratton in Abuja with the topic “Freeing Yourself from Fear”, Hadiza also enjoined women to be ready to take risks and push back every boundaries that tend to limit them from success in every desires of their heart.

The Managing Director who also added that those women in paid employment, who cannot find fulfilment should leave such jobs to pursue their dreams as that is the only place they can find joy.

In a response to a question, Usman advised women not to force people to follow their steps adding that “your integrity and credibility will stand you out that such will automatically generate followers for you”.

As part of the highlights of the event, 15 new members from across the country were inducted as associates of the organization by Olubunmi Aboderin-Talabi who is the Chairperson of WIMBIZ.



ANTI-CORRUPTION

ONNE PORT COMPLEX INAUGURATES 7-MAN COMMITTEE

A Seven (7) - man committee on Anti - Corruption has been inaugurated at the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) Onne Port Complex in Rivers State, even as the Port Manager, Alhassan Ismaila Abubakar and the State Commissioner of Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC) in Rivers, Mr. Alex Chukwurah tasked members and all officials on corruption free operations and services.

Onne Port Manager said that NPA - Onne Port is ready and prepared to key into the initiative of anti-corruption, noting that the operatives at Onne Port are conscious of implementing policies that will tackle corruption at the Port.

Mr. Chukwurah, the ICPC Rivers State Commissioner, emphasized, “I am here to appeal to all to cooperate to move Nigeria forward, and to change the narrative and negative image of Nigeria in the international community.” Corruption he said goes beyond exchange of money to include undue treatment and abuse of processes and offices.

The high point of the anti-corruption sensitization programme at Onne Port was the inauguration of the 7 - Man Anti-Corruption Committee members with Mr. Sule Jibrin as the Chairman.

SUCCESSION PLAN; NPA CONDUCTS PROMOTIONAL EXAM

The Management of Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) in its determination at improving the morale of its employees for improved service delivery across board, recently conducted promotional examinations for its officers and staff.

The exercise which was held in different Port locations across the country, was to test the competency level of officers and staff for higher responsibilities to ensure positive succession plan.

The entrants were tested and graded on various aspects ranging from aptitude test, performance appraisal and oral interview.

GLOBAL MARITIME STUDENTS VISIT NPA

The Marine Engineering students of Global Maritime Academy, Ogoni, and Delta State paid an educational tour to Delta Ports, Warri recently.

The essence of the visit is to broaden their knowledge on the Maritime Operations. The students led by Mr. Udoh Usen, Head of Department Marine Engineering were taken on board the vessel (MT OVIA) by Capt. Olubola Femi and Engr. Yakubu Ali where they were given practical lectures to enhance the students learning process in the Maritime Industry.

AFRICA & STORY TELLING

... Changing the Narratives



KIGALI 2019 [APRA]:

AU NATIONS CHARGED TO SYNERGIZE THROUGH EFFECTIVE REPORTAGE FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

Media Practitioners across the continent of Africa have been charged to ensure a more effective and swift reportage of positive information amongst them especially as it concerns issues that would ensure the improved growth and development of the African peoples before the International community with a view to correcting the negative reportage of Africa before the Western world as this would help in the elaborate development of the economic growth of Africa especially its Gross Domestic Product.

These remarks were made by the President of the Republic of Rwanda Paul Kagame, represent by the Country's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Richard Sezibera at the opening ceremony of the 31st edition of Association of African Public Relations Association Conference [APRA] held in Kigali the Rwandan Capital.

He charged Public Relations Practitioners to come up with effective strategies with which the African Story would be positively told. According to him "Outsiders have told our story, telling it ourselves would change our story".

Kagame affirmed that in view of the shortcomings still faced by the African continent such as famine, poverty, diseases and underdevelopment, the continent is blessed with abundant talents who are vibrant and ready to join hand together for the desired growth which the outside world would need to know through effective reportage.

Earlier on, in his opening address, the Chairman of the event and Former President of Ghana John Dramani Mahama charged participants to use the Conference to help gather and discuss the

African story which dates back to centuries and must not die.

In addition, "The African Story is linked to a library which must not get burnt. The African story had been neglected by Africans who have embraced the Western story because we allowed them." He charged practitioners to inform "the Western world of stories in Africa such as the girl child education, improved standard of living and 4% to 6% Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth. We Africans have tongues in our mouths, let us tell our story" he reiterated.

The President of Africa Public Relations Associations (APRA) Mr. Yomi Badejo-Okunsanya called for renewed collaboration with Governments within the continent's potentials since its inception in 1975 in Kenya through the use of Public Relations Practitioners.

As part of preparing Management Staff for the new Vistas and balance reportage through the rejigging of its officers for enhanced professionalism with other Stakeholders, the Authorities of the Nigerian Ports Authority recently sponsored some of its officials and a handful of journalists to this year's Conference held at the Serena Hotel, Kigali, Rwanda.

At the end of the conference which witnessed the attendance of over 40 African nations across Africa, participants were charged on the need to avail themselves of the latest Public Relations Tools which would adequately ensure there is balanced and effective reportage of events in Africa.

Goodwill messages presented by Herbert Muhire, President Public Relations Association of Rwanda as well as Mr. Justin Green Global Ambassador of APRA at the one-week conference.

Health and Safety



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

7 COMMONLY OVERLOOKED SAFETY ISSUES

Some workplace hazards such as working at heights and operating heavy machinery are well known and are by organization's safety procedures taken care of

However, there are many lesser known hazards lurking in the workplace that can pose serious threat to employees' health and safety. Based on data from Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Bureau of Labour Statistics, there are 7 commonly overlooked safety issues.

STRESS

Stress affects workers in every industry, including manufacturing, healthcare, transportation and energy. Long days combined with an increased workload, financial pressures and job instability all add up to tired, frazzled employees.

Stress lower productivity and put workers at risk for physical and mental illness including anxiety, depression, and even suicide. More than 10% of healthcare claims are attributed to stress at work.

DISTRACTIONS

Staying safe depends on the worker's ability to pay attention to their surroundings and anticipate potential hazards. Today's workers have more competing for their attention than ever. Among these distractions, texting and using headphones to listen to music are common contributors to workplace accidents.

POOR ERGONOMICS

Ergonomics is the science of designing the working environment to fit the worker. Without proper ergonomics, tasks like lifting of heavy objects, reaching overhead, performing repetitive tasks, improper sitting on chair, or even working on computer with bad lighting can lead to fatigue and musculoskeletal injuries. According to OSHA, musculoskeletal disorders account for about a third of workers injury and illness cases.

WORKING ALONE

Working alone is common in many industries, from truck drivers to night shift factory workers, home health care nurses, security personnel, and even business travelers. Keeping lone workers safe presents a number of challenges.

Working alone can increase the risk of injury, especially when performing dangerous tasks. If a lone worker is injured, there's no one

around to call for help or provide emergency medical attention. And without other workers present, there is no telling of how long it will take for someone to notice there's a problem.

BULLYING AND HARASSMENT

Bullying and harassment are often considered an HR issue. This can have serious impact on workers' physical and mental health. Research had showed that victims of workplace harassment may developed anxiety, depression, and even post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). This had also been linked to increased drug use and, in most serious cases, suicide.

TEMPORARY WORKERS

Approximately 2.8 million workers or about 10% of American Workers are considered temporary workers while Nigeria lacks statistic on numbers of temporary or contract workers.

These workers perform dangerous jobs without adequate training on safety practices or job specific hazards. Analysis of millions of workers' compensation claims found that temporary workers are more likely to get hurt on the job than permanent employees.

SAFETY SYSTEMS

Collecting and analyzing safety data, such as incident reports and near miss observations, is an integral part of any safety program. Many organizations lack effective system for reporting and addressing these issues. Without these systems in place, safety personnel miss out on valuable insights that could help prevent injuries and accidents.

For a safe working environment, these commonly overlooked safety issues must be addressed by management and individual to ensure a safer workplace.

Remember

Safety is not a Gadget but a State of Mind

A Near Miss Today could be an Accident Tomorrow

Tomorrow: Your Reward for Working Safely Today

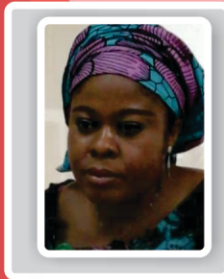
Source: Christine Lellis (Health & Safety, Perillion)

WORK HOUR RELAXATION

Vox Pop

IS IT RIGHT TO SNOOP THROUGH YOUR SPOUSE'S PHONE? WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS?

It is not right to snoop through your spouse phone because it shows mistrust and leads to embarrassment. A relationship without trust is worthless. If you wish to know something, ask. Snooping would not help one to get to the bottom of anything because suspicious texts and emails could have been deleted. Snooping is just like the last straw when there are problems/issues.



IHUOMA CHUKWUMA
LANDS & ESTATE, HQ

Snooping on your spouse phone is not right without his/her consent.

Reasons for snooping on your spouse phone is lack of trust for your spouse, which may result to negative implication by causing unnecessary issues at home all the time.



MICAH SUNDAY
ENGINEERING, HQ

No. Taking that as a habit is bad. It destroys the home easily. By so doing, there wouldn't be trust between the spouse any longer. It can even affect the well-being of the children, because when there is no peace in the house it affects the innocent children God has giving them. So one should try and do away with your spouse phone anytime except you are permitted to do so.



ONAFOWOKAN .O. OLUKOREDE
LAND & ESTATE, HQ

No. It's not right, it's more like an invasion of privacy. Couples are supposed to be open and be honest to each other, but if it's not been brought to light let it be, for that is the essence of trust, that your spouse will always do right by you with or without your knowledge.



HASSAN SHUAIBU
HYDRO, HQ

It is wrong to snoop through your spouse's phone. If one partner does what he or she suppose not to do, and the other partner finds out through snooping, it would only harden your stance on keeping your marriage. Whatever you find out will not correct the wrong. For a healthy relationship to exist, couple should have mutual respect for each other's privacy and boundaries.



OVWIOMODIOWHO FAMOUS
C&SC Div. Delta Port, Warri

It is not right, if you want to live long and a better life don't just dare it. If you want to enjoy your marriage and allow peace to reign, don't try it. High blood pressure is the result and definitely death. Therefore, by doing so, your spouse will not come home early or at all.

OSOBA FUNMILAYO
ENGINEERING, HQ





Capt. Jerome Angyunwe
Harbours HQ
27th May



Catherine N. Ude
C&SC Div.
Editor NPA News
30th May



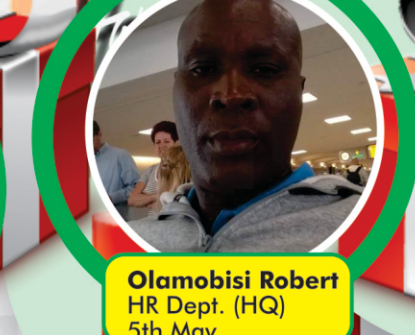
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25th May



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Rosemary Dafit
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Babatunde Ogunsanya
Traffic Dept.
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15th May



Adekunle Dada
HR Ops (LPC)
23rd May



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Tarrif & Billing (HQ)
16th May



Ogoloma Chima
Procurement Dept.
TCIP
1st May



Lilian Onyekwere
Audit Dept. (HQ)
28th May



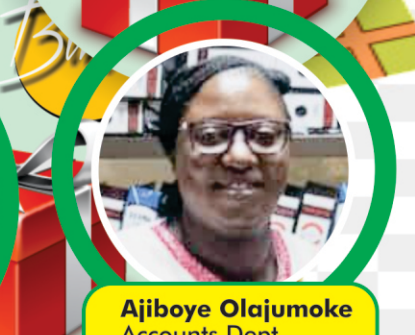
Francisca Orijuo
Procurement (LPC)
23rd May



Kafayat Mohammed
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7th May



Zainab M. Dan'tiye
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Abuja Liaison
30th May



Ajiboye Olajumoke
Accounts Dept.
Lagos Port Complex
5th May



A NATIONAL BRAND ASSET ANCHORED ON SERVICE EXCELLENCE

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The **Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA)** aims to provide professional port operation which meets the current and future needs of our customers.

Applying a proactive and innovative approach in managing the Ports in Nigeria maximises operational efficiencies and provides real value for money to all our stakeholders and port facility users.

- **Efficiency - Customer Satisfaction - Safety & Security - Innovation -**

Nigerian Ports Authority

...To be the Leading Port in Africa...

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