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NEWS

Monthly Online Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority

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NAVIGATING THE YULETIDE: A SEASON OF TOGETHERNESS

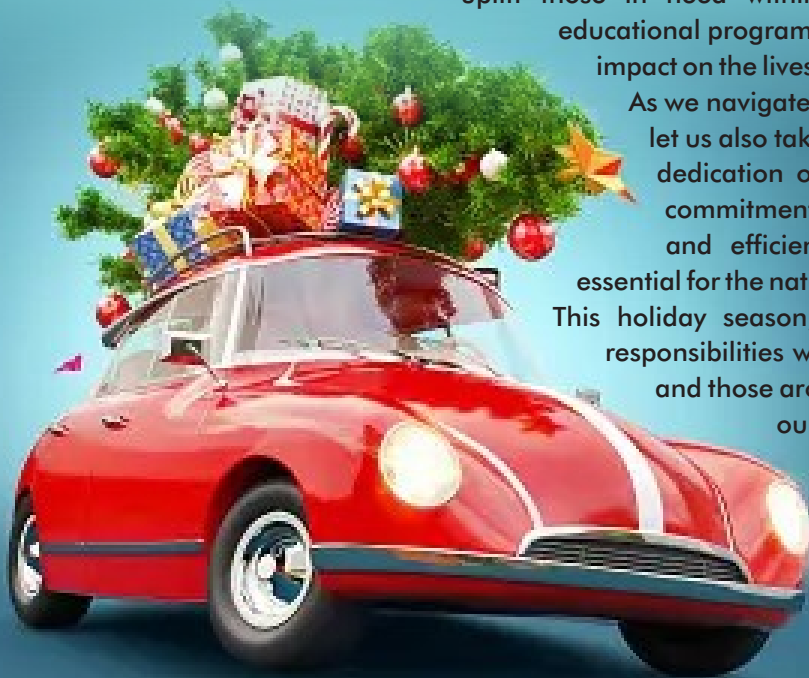
As we sail into the heart of the holiday season, the NPA Newsletter team celebrates not just the enduring spirit of the workforce but also the essence of community and camaraderie that defines this time of year. This period is a time of reflection, unity, and service—values that echo throughout our work environments and extend to the entire nation. This season brings a unique opportunity for all of us at NPA to come together as colleagues, families, and friends. Whether we are embarking on joyous family gatherings or participating in community service initiatives, we have the chance to create lasting memories and strengthen bonds.

In the spirit of togetherness, the Authority encourages everyone to participate in local festivities and support initiatives that uplift those in need within our communities. From food drives to educational programs, our collective effort can make a significant impact on the lives of many Nigerians.

As we navigate the bustling activities of the yuletide season, let us also take a moment to appreciate the hard work and dedication of our staff and partners. Their unwavering commitment ensures that our ports remain operational and efficient, enabling the seamless flow of goods essential for the nation's economy.

This holiday season, may we steer through our professional responsibilities with the same grace we show our loved ones and those around us. Let us inspire one another, celebrate our achievements, and look forward to a prosperous New Year.

Wishing you all a joyful season filled with peace, love, and togetherness!



“National Brand Asset Anchored on Service Excellence”

THE EDITOR'S DESK

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EDITOR



As we usher in the yuletide season, this edition of the NPA Newsletter is dedicated to capturing the essence of togetherness, reflection, and unity that define this special period. It is a time for reconnecting with loved ones, rekindling cherished memories, and rejuvenating our spirits.

Similarly, in a remarkable display of teamwork and dedication, the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) football team, Dantsoho Jets, has once again distinguished itself at the 2025 Maritime Cup Competition. Their outstanding performance is a testament to the team's unyielding passion, perseverance, and the unwavering support of the management. We salute their efforts and celebrate their achievements.

Our Vox Pop segment features heartfelt responses from employees, applauding the management's initiatives and accomplishments in 2025. We also bring you a diverse range of topics, including crucial insights on health and safety protocols, work ethics, and visa requirements for Student's travelling to the United Kingdom (UK).

The management and entire crew of NPA Newsletter extend our warmest wishes to our esteemed colleagues and readers for a joyous Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. May the coming year bring you joy, success, and fulfilment in all your endeavours.

Happy Holidays!



Kingsley Ukabiala
Editor

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Quotable Quote



The willow which bends to the tempest often escapes better than the oak which resists it.

~ Walter Scott

AZ QUOTES

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

OUR VISION: TO BE THE MARITIME LOGISTICS HUB FOR SUSTAINABLE PORT SERVICES IN AFRICA

General Post Office, Marina Lagos Island Circa:1962

The first post office was established by the British Colonial Masters in 1852. It was considered to be a part of the British postal system. It was a branch of London General Post Office and this was the situation till 1874. (1862) when the Post Office began its career as a full fledge Department, the Royal Niger Company (RNC) which was actively involved in economic activities in the country, set up its own postal system in Akassa in 1887, Calabar in 1891, Burutu in 1897 and Lokoja in 1899. Mail were being moved from these trading stations to and from Lagos by a weekly mail boat.

In 1898, the British Post Office established post offices at Badagary, Epe, Ikorodu, Ijebu-Ode, Ibadan and Abeokuta. In 1892, the Royal Niger Company became a member of the Universal Postal Union. By 1908, Money Orders and mail were directly exchanged with the German West African Colonies instead of via London, as it was the practice.

In 1925, Royal Airforce planes flew from Kano to Cairo carrying mail for the first time outside the country. From January 1, 1900, the Southern Nigeria Government took over the responsibility of running the postal system in the entire country. There were not too many good roads in those days as such mails were conveyed by canoes, launchers and runners which could only operate at intervals of two weeks or less.

The first post-office in Northern Nigeria was established and located at Lokoja in 1899. While mail delivery was initially the business focus, British Postal orders were being sold and encashed as from 1907 in post offices located at headquarters of all District Commissioners. Internal AirMail flights started in 1931. By 1906, 27 Post Offices were operating and at the time of independence in 1960, 176 Post Offices, 10 sub Post offices and 1,000 Postal agencies were in the country.

Image Credit: AKG Images-Paul Almasy/ Text © ASIRI Magazine 2012

A production of the Corporate Affairs Division Available on www.nigerianports.gov.ng and in emails of all officers/staff of NPA.

MARITIME TERMS

Compiled by Albert Orem

CONT. FROM LAST EDITION

Container Crane: Usually, a rail-mounted gantry crane located on a wharf for the purpose of loading and unloading containers on vessels.

Container Terminal: A specialized facility where ocean container vessels dock to discharge and load containers, equipped with cranes with a safe lifting capacity of 35-40 tons, with booms having an outreach of up to 120 feet in order to reach the outside cells of vessels. Most such cranes operate on rail tracks and have articulating rail trucks on each of their four legs, enabling them to traverse along the terminal and work various bays on the vessel allowing more than one crane to work a single vessel simultaneously. Most terminals have direct rail access and container storage areas, and are served by highway carriers.

Containerization: The technique of using a container to store, protect and handle cargo while it is in transit. This shipping method has both greatly expedited the speed at which cargo is moved from origin to destination and lowered shipping costs.

Container on Flat Car (COFC): A container placed directly on a railroad flatcar without a chassis.

Contraband: Goods prohibited in trade (such as weapons going to Iran, anything to Cuba). Smuggled goods.

Corps of Engineers: This department of the U. S. Army is responsible for flood protection and providing safe navigation channels. The Corps builds and maintains the levees, flood walls and spillways that keep major rivers out of low lying communities. The Corps is vital to keeping navigation channels open by dredging sand, silt and gravel that accumulate on river and harbor bottoms.

Craft: A boat, ship or airplane.

CONT. NEXT EDITION

PATHWAYS TO VISA ACQUISITION



- Benedicta Onwuemene

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR A UK VISA

- Bank statements
- Payslips
- Hotel reservations
- Introduction letter (NPA)
- CAS number
- Approval letter (NPA)
- Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS)
- Visa fee
- Tuberculosis test (TB)
- NPA appointment letter
- NPA confirmation letter
- NPA promotion letter

- Marriage certificate (If Applicable)
- Tax ID (TIN)
- International passport
- Passport photograph
- Birth certificate

Any other relevant Documents
By ensuring you have all the necessary documents and meet the requirements, you can facilitate a smooth application process for your UK student visa.



WORK ETHICS

SELF-AWARENESS AND EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE



Self-awareness is the ability to see oneself clearly and objectively through reflection and introspection. It is also the ability to notice our thoughts and how they influence our behaviours.

Emotional Intelligence helps us build strong relationships in our personal lives and careers by utilising the power of self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, and relationship management. The first step in developing emotional intelligence is self-awareness.

Here are some signs that you are self-aware:

- You treat yourself and others with kindness and empathy;
- You build positive relationships, including the one you have with yourself;
- You live in alignment with what you love doing;
- You understand how the things you feel, think, and do affect you and others;
- You can deal with and direct your emotions, thoughts, and behaviours.

QUOTE (Self-awareness): " The ability to take an honest look at your life without attachment to it being right or wrong"- Debbie Ford.

By Ategun Oreoluwa (NYSC MEMBER)

The 2025 Maritime Cup Competition came to a thrilling conclusion as the Nigerian Ports Authority football team (Dantsoho Jet) faced a 4-1 defeat against the Nigerian Customs Service, which lifted the coveted trophy.

The finals, held recently at the Union Bank Sports Centre in Surulere, Lagos, were filled with high expectations and delivered intensity, tension, and unforgettable moments. Customs struck first in the opening half, taking a 1-0 lead after dominating the early exchanges. Despite the NPA's attempts to regain control, Customs' disciplined midfield kept them ahead.

The second half brought renewed energy as the NPA fought their way back into the match. Their efforts paid off when Bello Ibrahim curled in a brilliant free-kick equaliser, sending their supporters into celebration. However, momentum shifted again when Customs regained the lead with a controversial goal that sparked heated reactions from fans and players alike. Tensions boiled over, resulting in crowd intrusion and forcing match officials to temporarily halt the game. Play was suspended for about 30 minutes while security restored order and cleared the pitch. When the match resumed, Customs returned with confidence and capitalised on NPA's unsettled defence, scoring two additional goals to secure a commanding 4-1 victory. With this win, the Nigerian Customs Service claimed the gold medal and first place, while the Nigerian Ports Authority finished as runners-up, taking home the silver medal.

The 2025 Maritime Cup finals will be remembered not only for the football on display but also for the drama, passion, and resilience exhibited by both teams. It is worth noting that the NPA has previously won this Maritime competition three times. We extend our best wishes to them in future competitions.



GALLANT NPA FOOTBALL TEAM SECURES SECOND PLACE IN 2025 MARITIME CUP FINAL

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

HEALTH & SAFETY

FESTIVE SEASON DRIVING: STAY SAFE ON THE ROADS



The festive season is a time for celebration, joy, and spending quality time with our loved ones. However, amidst all the excitement and festivities, it is vital to remember that safety should always be a top priority, especially when it comes to driving. As the roads get busier and the weather conditions become more challenging, it is crucial to practice safe driving habits to ensure a safe and happy holiday season. In this article, we will discuss some easy yet effective tips for safe driving during this festive season.

- Plan your trip ahead of time: Before hitting the road, it is essential to plan your trip. This includes checking the weather forecast, route mapping, and leaving early enough to reach your destination. Taking these precautions will help you avoid any unexpected delays or accidents caused by rushing.
- Avoid distracted driving: In today's fast-paced world, it is easy to get distracted, especially while driving. However, distracted driving is one of the leading causes of road accidents. Therefore, it is crucial to avoid any distractions, such as texting, eating, or even changing the music while driving. Remember, your focus should always be on the road.
- Buckle up and obey traffic laws: Wearing a seatbelt is the simplest and most effective way to protect yourself while driving. Make sure that all passengers in your vehicle are buckled up before starting your trip. Also, obeying traffic laws, such as speed limits and traffic signals, is essential for ensuring your safety and the safety of others on the road.
- Do not drink and drive: Alcohol consumption is a common occurrence

during the festive season, but it should never mix with driving. Drinking and driving can impair your judgment, making you a danger to yourself and others. If you plan on drinking, make sure to have a designated driver or use public transportation to get home safely.

- Take breaks during long drives: If you are embarking on a long road trip during the festive season, it is essential to take breaks regularly. Driving for long periods can be exhausting, and fatigue can impair your driving abilities. Taking a rest stop every few hours will help you stay alert and refreshed.

In conclusion, safe driving is crucial, especially during the festive season. By following these simple tips, you can ensure a safe and happy holiday season for yourself and those around you. Remember, the goal is to enjoy the festivities, but safety should never be compromised. Wishing everyone a joyous and safe holiday season!

The enhancement of feedback mechanisms, where staff can regularly provide input on their working conditions and suggest improvements, has been truly impressive. It empowers employees and enriches the organizational culture.

- **Dannon Adewale, Environment Department, Warri Port**



The management's dedication to staff development is a notable highlight of the year under review. Through targeted initiatives, the organisation has fostered a culture of continuous improvement, enhancing the capabilities of its human resources.

By prioritising the development of employees' knowledge, skills, and attitudes, the management has driven significant manpower growth, yielding tangible benefits including increased productivity, more informed decision-making, and sustainable organisational advancement. This strategic focus on staff development underscores the organisation's commitment to empowering its workforce, ultimately driving long-term success and growth.

- **Priscillia Barine George, Corporate Affairs,**



In 2025, Management implemented practical initiatives that strengthened staff welfare and engagement. These included flexible work arrangements, supportive supervision, and improved consideration for pregnant staff and working mothers. Management also supported staff development through training and clearer communication. These actions improved employee well-being, increased engagement, and contributed to a more inclusive and supportive workplace.

- **Abang Abigail Bonneh, Employee and Labour Relations, HQ**



The management has demonstrated a strong commitment to human capital development, addressing key areas that impact workforce performance. A notable achievement was the successful implementation of a promotional exercise, which has mitigated stagnation and provided opportunities for career advancement. Furthermore, the Authority exceeded the Federal Government's 2025 target in October, showcasing its operational efficiency and proactive approach to achieving organisational objectives.

- **Aforji Meshack, Human Resources, Onne Port**



The emphasis on sustainability training for staff in 2025 was a significant step forward. This not only aligned with global best practices but also empowered employees to contribute to environmentally friendly operations at the ports.

- **Ibrahim Mubarak Baba, Estate Department, Calabar**

In 2025, the NPA implemented a mentorship program aimed at identifying and nurturing future leaders within the organisation. This initiative not only aids in career advancement but also motivates employees to grow within the organisation."

- **Aminu Aliyu, Security Department, HQ**



Vox Pop

Which specific initiatives or accomplishments of the Management in 2025 would you like to highlight as noteworthy, especially in terms of staff development, welfare, or engagement?

WORK HOUR RELAXATION



Antonhia Uchegbulem
Pollution Dept. LPC.
21st December



Sola Ayodele Ajamolaya
Security Dept,
HQ, Marina - Lagos.
12th December



Maduakolam Helen
Corp. Affairs, TCIP
13th December



Nneamaka Isabela Agim
Security Dept., HQ
13th December



Olubiya Omidiji
Corp. Affairs, Lekki Port.
17th December



Kpamose Godsglory Ngozi
Library HQ, Marina - Lagos.
2nd December



Ijeoma Nwosu
Stores Dept., LPC.
15th December



Mercy Gaiya
Corp. & Strat. Plan. Dept,
HQ, Marina - Lagos.
1st December



Beatrice Sidi
Employee & Labour Relations Dept. HQ
17th Dec.



Kabir Abubakar
Finance. HQ.
31st December



Caroline Enuneku
Sec. Audit Dept. HQ
15th December



NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY

To be the *Maritime Logistic Hub*
for *sustainable Port Services*
in *Africa*



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