

KENNICON ACHIEVES PERFECT SCORE.....STOW CONTINUES TO PROGRESS

The Energy Chamber would like to congratulate Kennicon Engineering Limited for achieving a major milestone and the distinction of being the first company under the Safe TO Work (STOW) programme to get a perfect score of 100 percent. The company gained the perfect score in all eleven elements of its STOW re-certification audit earlier this year.

What makes the feat more noteworthy is that Kennicon is a medium-sized local energy services company. The company's management has continuously showed their dedication to the highest HSE standards. Kennicon's Managing Director and HSEQ Manager Nazamudin Mohamed said a culture of safety was ingrained in his company and they already plan on maintaining their high standards.

"We will continue to revise our goals and targets annually and police the system and management commitment will continue to be 100 percent," he reiterated.

In 1999, Kennicon became the 2nd company in their line of business to achieve ISO 9001:1994E certification. After this success, the company immediately followed up to declare themselves ISO 14001 compliant, they then went on to become certified to the American Petroleum Institute (API) QI 7th Edition in 2002 and the ISO/TS 29001 international certification in the same year. The company was awarded the Prime Minister's Award for Services in 1999, the Prime Minister's Award for Construction Material in 2000, the Robert Montano Award for Excellence in Services in the same year and the Business Award for Excellence in 2005.

Interestingly, Kennicon's success is also as a direct result of lending assistance to their customers and suppliers. Having gone through two STOW certification audits, the company began offering help to their customers and suppliers with STOW pre-assessments or mock audits and made recommendations for improvement. This gesture made the company more versed in STOW and implementing improvements to their own system. Their perfect score emphasizes their commitment to HSE excellence and their success serves as an example to all other companies working within the sector.

WHAT IS STOW

STOW a certification scheme for contractor safety management in the energy sector developed by the Energy Chamber in collaboration with the oil and gas companies of Trinidad and Tobago. STOW is a certification programme for contractor's HSE management systems (MS). It involves contractors implementing the locally developed STOW HSE requirements and undergoing an audit of their HSE-MS. Certification is granted for 1 year at 75% compliance and 2 years at 85% and above compliance to the STOW HSE requirements. STOW certification means that contractors have implemented HSE-MS that make it safe for them to work in Trinidad & Tobago's energy sector.

STOW Progress in 2014

The Energy Chamber continued to make significant progress with the Safe TO Work (STOW) programme over the past year.

Our most notable achievement and a huge milestone for the programme, was securing and maintaining December 31st 2013 as the industry-wide deadline for contractors providing high risk services to be certified, to continue to do business in the energy sector.

This strategic move resulted in us surpassing our target of 220 certified companies and actually getting a total of 226 contracting companies STOW certified by the deadline.

Another amazing achievement that the Energy Chamber is proud of is STOW being selected as one of three winners in the Inter-American Development Bank's (IDB) NEXSO competition, for innovative and promising solutions that are transforming Latin America and the Caribbean.

In hosting the competition, NEXSO sought to distinguish solutions which are innovative in approach, leverage scarce resources, scalable and replicable in other environments and practical in delivery. STOW stood out in all categories, from more than one hundred and fifty entries, submitted from all over the region.

One of our strategic objectives for the year was to widen our reach outside the mainstream energy sector catchment areas. We achieved our objective by partnering with Caribbean Gas Chemical Limited (CCGL), to proactively engage smaller contractors in La Brea on STOW certification.

CCGL will be using STOW to manage contractor safety on the construction of a natural gas to petrochemical complex in La Brea and the Energy Chamber's role is to provide guidance to contractors who want take advantage of business opportunities emerging from the project.

The Energy Chamber started off with an awareness session with over 40 La Brea contractors and followed up with visits to meet contractors individually, to give detailed guidance on STOW certification.

We also started our engagement process with contractors in Mayaro/ Guayaguayare and will continue reaching out to them over the coming financial period.

During the period we also automated the STOW certification process, allowing contractors to apply online for and track the status of their certification audit. The new system has greatly improved the flow of audit related information to stakeholders and has made the day-to-day administration of the programme more efficient.

Although we have recorded significant successes, we still have a lot of work to do. We intend to advance our continual improvement of the programme and continue working to ensure that the programme is sustained in the energy sector.

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Chart 1: STOW Contractor Certification Information

