

THE HADCO TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF HADCO GROUP OF COMPANIES

ISSUE 43 | JANUARY - JUNE 2025

HADCO GROUP FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK 2025 – AN ASTOUNDING SUCCESS!

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

A VERY HADCO CARNIVAL
LEATHERBACK TURTLE-NESTING SEASON BEGINS
NEW AGE RECYCLING AMALGAMATED
WITH ECOIMPACT CO. LTD

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HADCO GROUP OF COMPANIES



OUR VISION

A diverse and innovative company, empowered employees, integrated processes, and a brand image that makes us the preferred choice of customers

OUR MISSION

Enriching our stakeholders' quality of life, setting trends and providing superior brands and services

OUR CORE VALUES

- Accountability
- Customer Satisfaction
- Honesty and Integrity
- Employee Wellbeing and Growth
- Collaborative Culture
- Respect and Tolerance for All

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EDITOR

Corporate Communications Department,
HADCO Group

HADCO GROUP FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK 2025 – AN ASTOUNDING SUCCESS

In the early morning hours of Sunday, March 16, 2025, Hadconians and other supporters came out in their numbers to support the HADCO Group Foundation's Annual 5K Run/Walk.



The race has begun

With 600 registered participants, including employees, their families, and even young runners under the age of 12, the event was a tremendous success, achieving our 2025 registration target.

Beyond the friendly competition and fitness goals, this initiative held a deeper purpose. Held annually in memory of Maria Hadad, all proceeds raised will directly support the HADCO Group Foundation, aiding employees affected by natural disasters, chronic illnesses, and poverty-related challenges. Witnessing the camaraderie and determination of our participants as they walked, jogged, and ran towards the finish line was truly inspiring.



Participants enjoying a much-needed massage



These lovely children were thoroughly enjoying their early morning outing



These ladies were at the finish line to distribute medals to all participants



Female champions



Male champions

Our volunteers ensured the coordination, organisation and an overall smooth sailing for the day's proceedings. Present at the event to treat our enthusiastic participants were HADCO Distribution's brands including Creamery Novelties, Yoplait, Half Moon, Amare and Fresh Start. Sponsors and Supporting Partners included Term Finance, Cardea, Beacon Insurance, Zoom Caribbean, Miguel Moses, Kiss, Lucozade, Acado Foods and more.

HADCO's very own Christopher Knights, Sales Representative provided the sound system; Brandon Harry, Junior Brand Manager provided photography services and

Manasseha McDavid, Sales Representative was the Master of Ceremonies, bringing the vibes and energy for a fun and memorable experience.

A heartfelt thank you to the organising committee headed by Joseph Hadad and Lily Akien, all volunteers, participants, sponsors, and partnering vendors who made this event possible.

This year's 5K was not just about crossing the finish line, it was about coming together and making a meaningful difference. We look forward to seeing you all in 2026!



All smiles from our Hadconians

THE OILBIRDS AT ASA WRIGHT NATURE CENTRE

The number of Oilbirds present at Asa Wright Nature Centre (AWNC) has shown a marked increase, signalling the start of another nesting season for these remarkable nocturnal birds.

Known for their unique habits and ecological importance, Oilbirds are a key attraction for both nature enthusiasts and researchers visiting the Centre.

Oilbirds are the only nocturnal, fruit-eating birds in the world. Native to parts of northern South America and Trinidad, they primarily feed on the fruit of oil palms and other tropical trees. So why are they called Oilbirds? Their name comes from the high-fat content of the fruit they consume, which historically made their young a source of oil extraction by Indigenous Peoples.

These birds nest in deep, dark caves with the Dunston Cave at AWNC being one of their most famous habitats. The AWNC offers a rare opportunity for visitors to observe the birds in their natural environment while maintaining a safe distance to avoid disturbing their delicate ecosystem. Oilbirds use echolocation, like bats, to navigate the darkness of the caves, making them one of the few avian species with this remarkable adaptation.

The nesting season is a critical time for Oilbirds, as they lay only one or two eggs per year, with both parents involved in the care of the young. The continued presence of the Oilbirds at Asa Wright highlights the Centre's role in conservation and the preservation of these birds' vital habitats.



Detail of the Oilbird's bristled beak and large nocturnal eyes



Oilbirds resting at the Dunston Cave

HADCO EXPERIENCES AT THE ADVENTURE TRAVEL SHOW

HADCO Experiences made a bold impression at the Adventure Travel Show, held from January 8 to January 12, 2025, at the Business Design Centre in London.

The Adventure Travel Show allows visitors to discover somewhere completely new and encompasses adventures that include exploring jungles, mountains, rivers and deserts across every continent. As one of over 100 exhibitors, the HADCO Experiences team proudly showcased the native beauty and adventure-packed experiences that Trinidad and Tobago has to offer.

Representing HADCO Experiences were Matthew Hadad, Group Project Manager, Rachael Nathaniel, Consultant, and Ivan Charles, Consultant, who engaged with travel enthusiasts eager to find their next adventure.

Visitors to the booth were captivated by the eco-adventures, breathtaking landscapes and diverse wildlife found in our tropical paradise. The excitement around regenerative tourism efforts and immersive experiences demonstrated that visitors are enthusiastic about exploring and discovering new adventures in a meaningful way.

HADCO Experiences was thrilled to be a part of this show, as we remain committed to positioning Trinidad and Tobago as a premier eco-tourism and adventure travel destination.



HADCO Experiences was represented by Matthew Hadad, Group Project Manager, Ivan Charles, Consultant and Rachael Nathaniel, Consultant



HADCO Experiences at the Adventure Travel Show

TURTLE-FRIENDLY LIGHTS ARE BACK AT MT. PLAISIR ESTATE HOTEL

When visiting Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel (MPEH), you are treated to a serene ambience, a relaxing staycation, and during the months of March to August, the opportunity to witness Leatherback sea turtles in their nesting or hatching phase.

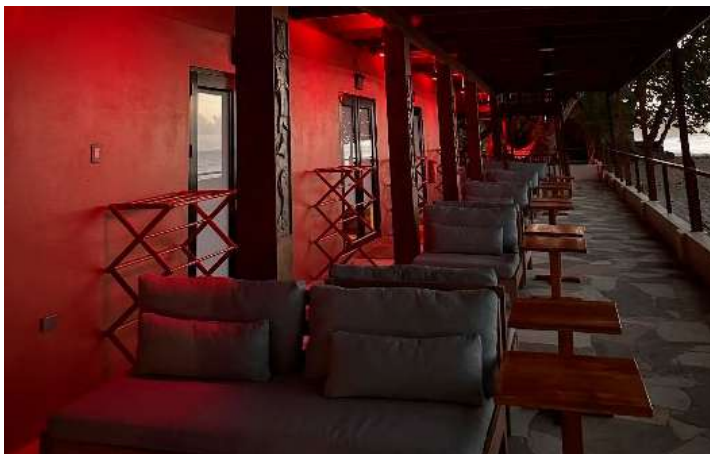
In preparation for the highly-anticipated nesting season, the hotel took the lead in implementing a key protective measure – changing out our regular LED lighting to turtle-friendly red lights.

Sea turtles are guided to land by celestial lighting. However, their nesting patterns are disturbed by artificial lighting such as the light pollution from the light waves of regular streetlight units. These cause turtles to become disoriented or lost inland, when seeking darker areas to lay their eggs. Recognising this impact, the hotel has installed turtle-friendly red lights along the property to ensure a safe environment for these endangered creatures. These lights operate on a wavelength that makes them invisible to the turtles.

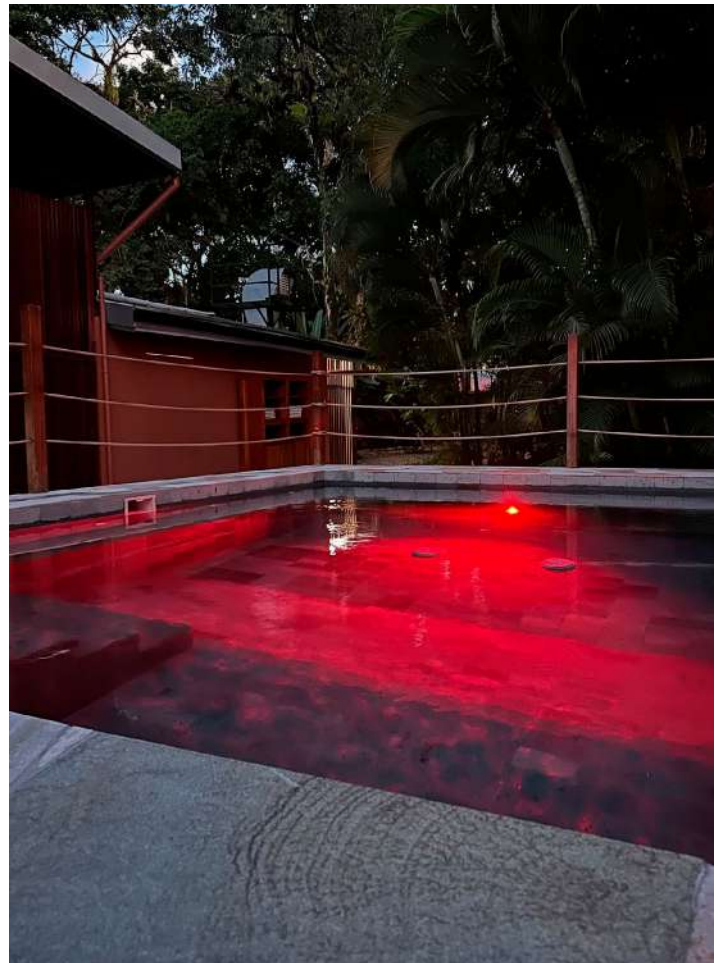
This initiative aligns with HADCO Experiences' ongoing commitment to sustainable tourism and eco-conscious hospitality. The properties continue to harmonise conservation with guest experiences.

The coastal and marine ecosystem of Trinidad and Tobago supports the second-largest known nesting aggregation of Leatherback sea turtles in the world, with the beach at Grande Riviere having the highest concentration globally. During turtle nesting season, which occurs from March 1 to August 31 annually, five (5) of the seven (7) sea turtle species can be found nesting/foraging in the coastal areas within Trinidad and Tobago. These amazing species honour their timeless “family tradition” of returning to the place where they were born to lay their eggs.

Guests staying at the hotel during the nesting season can look forward to unforgettable turtle-watching experiences (a permit is required as access to the beach is restricted from 6PM to 6AM.) The hotel also encourages guests to abide by the turtle-friendly guidelines, such as no flash photography and avoiding disturbances near nesting sites.



Turtle-friendly red lighting along the property



Red lighting in the MPEH pool

LOVE IS IN THE AIR AT HADCO EXPERIENCES

With two Valentine's Day retreats and a wedding, HADCO Experiences celebrated the month of love at Asa Wright Nature Centre (AWNC) and Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel (MPEH).

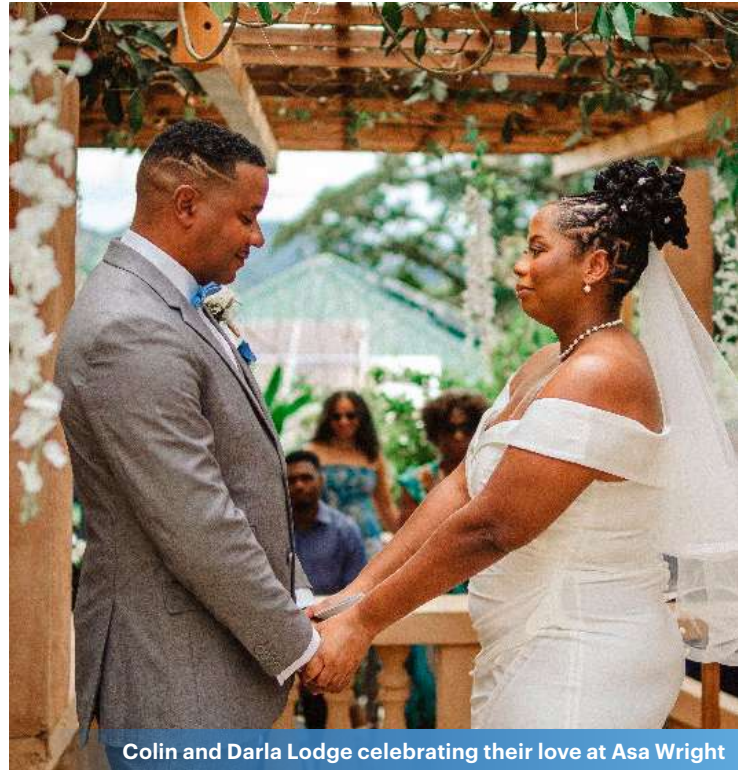
Couples seeking a serene and romantic getaway were treated to a blend of nature, adventure, and indulgence, making for a truly magical celebration of love.

At AWNC, the retreat featured a delightful romantic afternoon tea, followed by a guided hike to the natural pool, where couples relaxed in the refreshing waters surrounded by lush greenery. As evening fell, guests enjoyed an elegant Valentine's Day dinner, with a mixology class that added a fun and interactive element to the experience.

Meanwhile, at MPEH, couples were able to experience a chocolate-making tour and sample the sweet treats made from local, high-quality cocoa. A sumptuous dinner was followed by heartwarming moments of sipping hot cocoa under the stars, with the soothing sounds of the ocean completing the experience.

Adding to the spirit of love, Asa Wright also played host to a beautiful wedding on January 25, 2025, where Colin Lodge and Darla Lodge (previously James) exchanged vows amidst the breathtaking greenery of the estate. The natural beauty and tranquil atmosphere of the Mango Room and Jade Vine Terrace at Asa Wright made for a truly enchanting setting.

Both retreats captured the essence of romance, blending eco-luxury, seclusion, and nature-inspired activities to create unforgettable experiences.



Colin and Darla Lodge celebrating their love at Asa Wright



The wedding reception setup in the Mango Room at AWNC



Romantic Dinner setup at MPEH

HADCO EXPERIENCES SHOWCASES DREAM WEDDING DESTINATIONS AT THE 2025 WEDDING CONVENTION

HADCO Experiences was thrilled to be part of the Wedding Convention at MovieTowne, Port of Spain, on Sunday, March 23, 2025. This premier event brought together industry professionals, engaged couples, and wedding enthusiasts, providing the perfect platform to showcase the exclusive wedding packages at Asa Wright Nature Centre (AWNC) and Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel (MPEH).

AWNC offers a serene rainforest setting, ideal for couples who dream of exchanging vows surrounded by nature's beauty. Meanwhile, MPEH, located along the scenic Grande Riviere beach, provides an intimate coastal retreat and a romantic ambience. Both venues offer picturesque settings for engagement and wedding photography, ceremonies, receptions, and honeymoons, making them perfect for couples looking for a unique and unforgettable experience.

Throughout the convention, many excited couples approached the booth, engaging with the HADCO Experiences' team, who responded to questions, helping the couples to envision their dream wedding at the properties. The event was also filled with surprises, including a grand giveaway, where one lucky couple won a complimentary one-night stay at one of the properties, among other prizes.



All visitors to the HADCO Experiences booth were presented with delicious chocolate truffles made with Brasso Seco chocolate by the culinary team at AWNC



Amanda Gopaul, Corporate Communications Specialist, HADCO Limited, presents the Grand Prize winners with their gift certificate for a one-night stay at either of HADCO Experiences' properties



Zaria Lynch-Lewis, Sales and Reservations Manager for HADCO Experiences engages with one of the visitors at the Wedding Convention

A NATURE-FILLED EASTER WEEKEND AT ASA WRIGHT NATURE CENTRE

HADCO Experiences invited guests to trade the hustle and bustle of a typical long weekend, for the beauty and tranquillity of Asa Wright Nature Centre (AWNC).

From Friday, April 18 to Monday, April 21, 2025, guests were treated to a weekend of fresh air, relaxation, and wholesome activities.

Whether visiting for the day or enjoying an extended stay, guests were treated to warm hospitality, immersive eco-adventures, and of course, delicious local cuisine. Overnight visitors settled into their cosy rooms and enjoyed a host of all-inclusive perks, including guided nature walks, night tours, access to scenic trails and natural pools, and lots of games and family-friendly fun.

Our Day Pass option was a hit with families and groups seeking a refreshing escape into the forest. Guests enjoyed a guided tour of the property, lunch and afternoon tea, and the opportunity to unwind by the natural pools.

Our Easter-themed activities were a highlight of the weekend,

designed to engage all ages. Children delighted in a Scavenger Hunt to identify popular flora and fauna on the property, while families competed in games, with favourites like Giant Jenga and Tic-Tac-Toe.

It certainly was a rejuvenating and happy Easter weekend at AWNC for families and nature lovers alike.



The Naked Pool at Asa Wright Nature Centre



HADCO EXPERIENCES
at
Asa Wright Nature Centre





Easter Local Specials

Room Rates (2+ nights)
Offer valid from
Friday 18th to Monday 21st April 2025

TT \$1,400.00
Per person, per night
(all taxes included)

- Children aged 3 and under are free.
- Children aged 4-10 half price.

Includes: Accommodation, all meals, afternoon tea, 45 minutes guided walk, access to natural pools, games and activities

Day Passes
Offer valid on
Friday 18th, Saturday 19th & Monday 21st April 2025

TT \$500.00
Per person
(all taxes included)

- Children aged 3 and under are free.
- Children aged 4-10 half price.

Includes: Lunch, afternoon tea, guided tour, and access to the eco-lodge and natural pools

Group Rate: \$450.00 per person
(for groups of 5 or more)

1 (868) 675-5364 | 1 (868) 497-5385
info@hadcoexperiences.com

Local Easter specials at Asa Wright Nature Centre

TURTLE WATCHING SEASON IN FULL SWING AT MT. PLAISIR ESTATE HOTEL

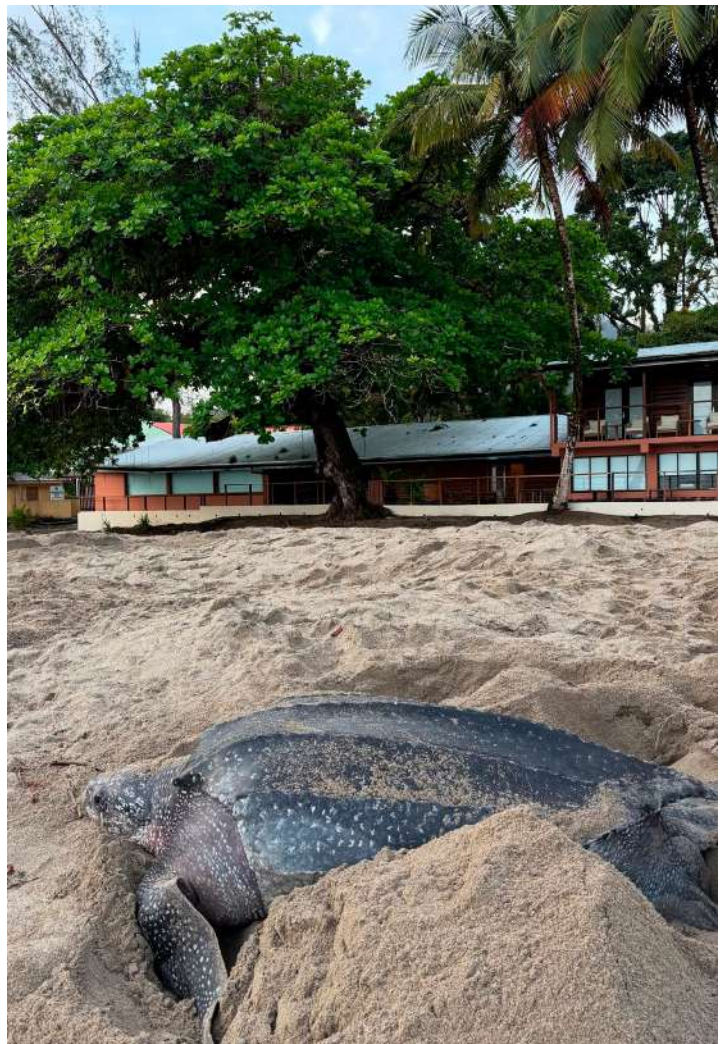
One of nature's most awe-inspiring annual events is happening on the shores of Grande Riviere and guests at Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel (MPEH) have a first-hand view of the magic.

The Leatherback turtles, among the largest and most ancient marine creatures on the planet, have been arriving nightly in increasing numbers to nest on the beach, just a few steps away from the hotel. With an average of over 40 turtles coming ashore each day, this is truly a memorable experience for wildlife enthusiasts, nature lovers and curious visitors alike.

Guests can spot these gentle giants not only under the moonlight but also in the early mornings as they can be seen from the fence line of the property. For guests who want a closer look, guided turtle-watching tours are

available at an additional cost. These tours provide expert insights into the nesting process, life cycle of the Leatherback turtle and on-going conservation efforts that help protect these incredible creatures.

For those who may be interested in booking an overnight stay with turtle-watching included, please note that a permit is required to enter the beach from 6:00 PM to 6:00 AM until August 31. You may contact our Reservations Department at (868) 675-5364 to book your stay and your permit to enjoy the incredible sight of the magnificent Leatherbacks nesting mere feet away from the hotel.



Leatherback turtles nesting at MPEH

INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER CAPTURES THE ESSENCE OF HADCO EXPERIENCES

HADCO Experiences recently engaged the services of acclaimed international photographer Jacob Naughton, whose work regularly appears in prestigious publications such as *The Wall Street Journal* and *Travel + Leisure*.

Known for his exceptional ability to tell stories through imagery, he is also followed by several influential writers and editors, giving HADCO Experiences valuable visibility across global media platforms. His social media shares and editorial contributions often attract the attention of key figures in travel and lifestyle journalism.

From Sunday May 4 to Friday May 9, 2025, Jacob stayed at both Asa Wright Nature Centre (AWNC) and Mt Plaisir Estate Hotel (MPEH), capturing a diverse range of content,

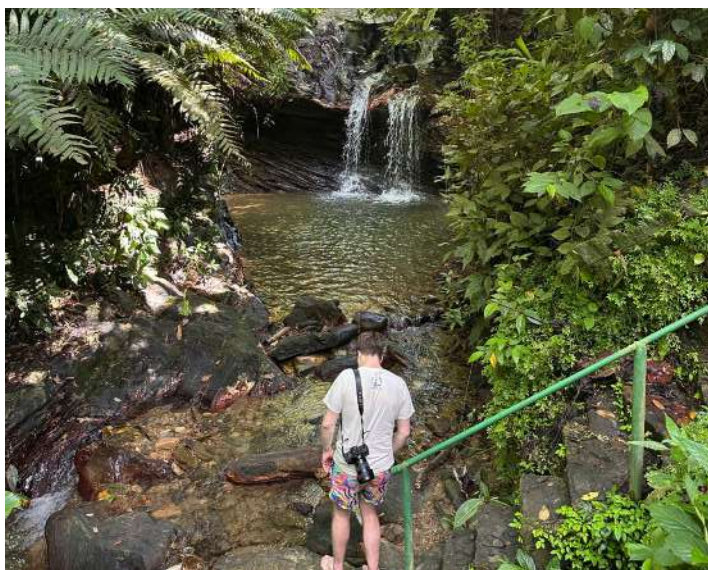
showcasing not only the scenic beauty and charm of the properties themselves; but also, the unique elements that define HADCO Experiences.

His lens focused on a variety of experiences including our signature cuisine, guided nature tours, and eco-adventures.

These visuals will serve as powerful tools in telling our story to a wider international audience,



Photographer Jacob Naughton



Jacob takes footage at AWNC and MPEH

THE BRASSO SECO BIRD HARVEST 2025 GETS SUPPORT FROM HADCO EXPERIENCES

The annual Brasso Seco Bird Harvest, a festival hosted by the Trinidad and Tobago Bird Observatory and Research Centre (TTBO) is a commemoration of the Caribbean Endemic Bird Festival (CEBF) and World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD). HADCO Experiences supported this initiative as it aligns with the company's commitment to conservation and maintaining biodiversity.

The Brasso Seco Bird Harvest focuses on environmental education to build a foundation for youth engagement in conservation across Trinidad and Tobago and was offered free of charge to all participants.

The day's activities included educational workshops on pollinators, ecosystems and sustainable practices, interactive stations for mask building, nature art and conservation science and presentations by naturalists and local experts.

This year's theme, "Shared Spaces: Creating Bird-Friendly Cities and Communities," encourages persons to reflect on how we share our environment and how simple, mindful actions can make our spaces safer for birds and other species.

Our very own Giselle Ragoonanan, Tour Guide at Asa Wright Nature Centre, is the Executive Director of Trinidad and Tobago Bird Observatory and Research Centre (TTBO) and shared the following sentiment:

We are deeply grateful for your generosity, which not only made the day possible but also allowed us to offer these experiences at no cost to participants. This investment in environmental education helps build a foundation for youth engagement in conservation across Trinidad and Tobago.

HADCO Experiences is happy to have been a part of this educational initiative, which was also supported by several other corporate sponsors and individuals.



Attendees proudly display their biodiversity crafts



Interactive Learning through Art was a key component of the day's itinerary

HADCO EXPERIENCES' HOTELS NOMINATED IN CONDÉ NAST TRAVELERS' 2025 READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

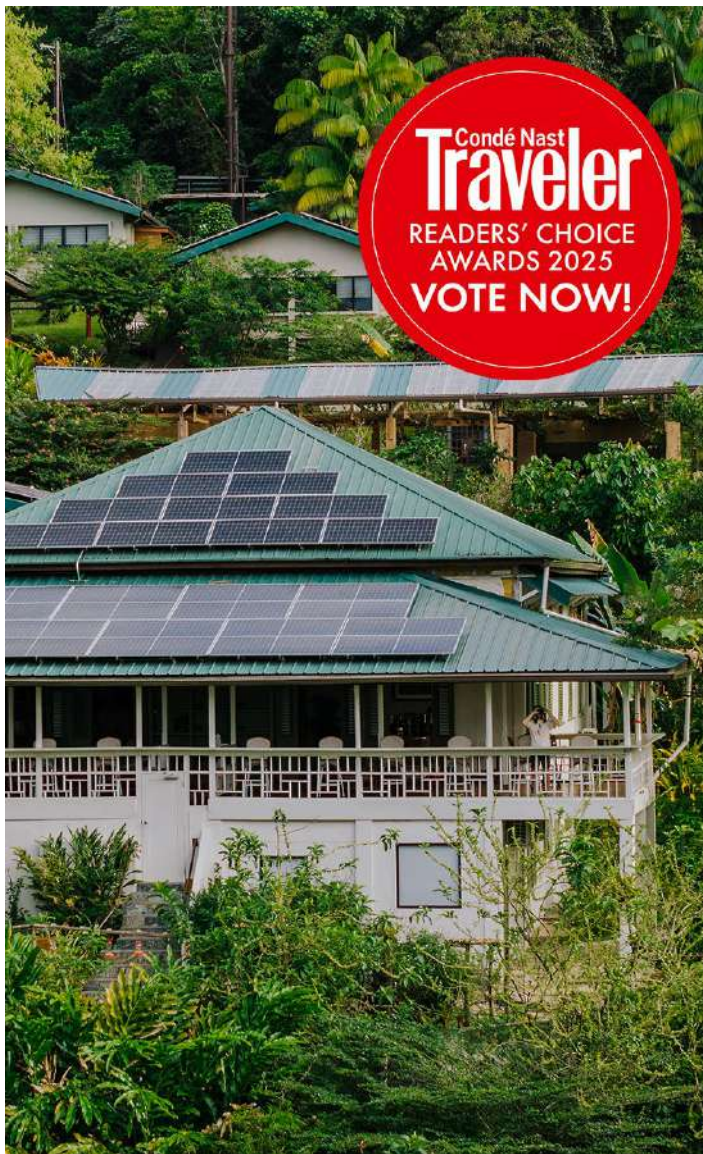
HADCO Experiences is happy to have been nominated in the Condé Nast Travelers' 2025 Readers' Choice Awards!

This is a testament to the incredible work of the teams at HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre and Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel.

Our PR and Marketing partners Kindred Public Relations and Neolux Consulting visited the properties in early February and were delighted to immerse themselves in the offerings of both properties and thoroughly enjoyed the

offsite experiences that were curated for their pleasure.

They proposed both hotels for nomination with Condé Nast Traveler US in their 2025 Readers' Choice Awards, which has been accepted by the publisher. Condé Nast Traveler is a popular media outlet for those seeking inspiration, travel advice and must-visit destinations worldwide, as they provide information on all things travel-related.



HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre and Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel are both in the running for the 2025 Readers' Choice Awards

MT. PLAISIR ESTATE HOTEL RATED ON TRIPADVISOR IN THE TOP 10% OF HOTELS WORLDWIDE

TripAdvisor is one of the most recognisable platforms internationally for travel advice and destinations to visit worldwide.

It is a go-to site for travellers to rate hotels, restaurants, activities, sightseeing destinations and cruises with the aim of helping other travellers to make more informed decisions about their travel choices.

Hotels on TripAdvisor with consistently great reviews are boosted to the list of top-rated hotels worldwide. With recent guests rating their experience at Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel consistently as five-stars on the platform, the hotel climbed the list into the top ten hotels worldwide with

ratings of 4.0 and up for value, rooms, cleanliness, service, location and sleep quality.

The staff at Mt. Plaisir take great pride in ensuring that guest needs are accommodated and aim to make every experience memorable. We tip our hats to them for their consistently awesome service that prompted rave reviews and rocketed Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel to the top 10 hotels on TripAdvisor worldwide!



Winner 2025


**Tripadvisor
Travellers' Choice™
Awards 2025**

Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel

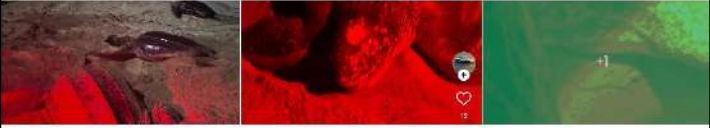
Reviews from millions of Tripadvisor travellers place this winner in the **top 10%** worldwide.

Top 10%

TripAdvisor's 2025 Winners Badge



Road Warrior wrote a review May 2025
Port of Spain, Trinidad • 7 contributions




●●●●●

A family group getaway


From check-in to departure, our stay was enjoyable and rewarding. The staff was friendly and accommodating, arranging another room when one of our group wanted to switch and taking precautions with several food allergies. The rooms were luxurious with premium toiletries and comfy beds. Our highlight was, of course, witnessing the wonders of nature with numerous leatherback turtles in various stages: coming onto the beach, digging their nests and laying eggs. The real bonus was our guide coming to our rooms to call us to witness the hatchlings coming out and entering the water. This place is a must see, and we intend to come back. Special thanks to Sarah, Lydia and Leah, as well as our knowledgeable and enthusiastic guide.

[Read less](#)

Date of stay: May 2025
Trip type: Traveled with family
Room Tip: Be prepared for a long drive, but it is worth it.
[See more room tips](#)



Marianne wrote a review May 2025
Los Angeles, California • 11 contributions



●●●●●

Incredible unique upscale hotel for nature lovers!

Having a room 20 feet from the beach where the 800lb female turtles come to lay their eggs. It was like being in a Nat Geo documentary but with a cozy bed near by. The rooms were 5 star and the service was amazing. The chef was awesome too. We also took kayaks and kayaked the Grand Riverie for birds. So beautiful. Go!

[Read more](#)

Date of stay: May 2025

Guest Reviews on TripAdvisor consistently rate Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel as a must-visit destination

HADCO EXPERIENCES AT BIGGEST WEEK IN AMERICAN BIRDING

From May 9-18, 2025, HADCO Experiences showcased their offerings at The Biggest Week in American Birding at the Maumee Bay Lodge & Conference Center, Oregon, Ohio.

This annual event is one of North America's most celebrated birding festivals, comprising of 10 days of guided birding tours, workshops, lectures, keynote talks, social events, and a Birder's Marketplace.

Organised by the Black Swamp Observatory, the event attracts thousands of birders and nature enthusiasts from across the United States and beyond who visit for varying lengths of stays. The event showcased approximately 40 exhibitors, including birding tour operators from USA and Australia. Other exhibitors included artisans, publishers, optic companies, and conservation organisations..

HADCO Experiences' participation at the Biggest Week in American Birding reinforces Trinidad and Tobago's place on the global map for birding. Throughout the event there was strong engagement with festivalgoers, and many participants were drawn to the HADCO Experiences table to learn more about Asa Wright Nature Centre and Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel.

Attendees were also pleased to learn that HADCO Experiences offers fully customisable stays, rather than fixed group tours. Hadco Experiences' presence at the Biggest Week in Birding was marked by meaningful conversations, renewed interest, and the opportunity to present a 'new' birding and eco-tourism experience, positioning Trinidad and Tobago as a top birding destination.



Rachael Nathaniel (right) shares information with Paul Laurent of Epic Nature Tours/Venture Tours



Rachael Nathaniel, HADCO Experiences' Representative (right) with Kimberly Kaufman (left), Director of Black Swamp Bird Observatory and Kenn Kaufman, American Author and Conservationist known for his work on several popular field guides of birds and butterflies in North America



This guest was excited to learn more about the offerings at our ecolodges

HADCO EXPERIENCES HOSTS INTERNATIONAL JOURNALISTS

From Sunday May 18 to Friday May 23, 2025, HADCO Experiences had the pleasure of hosting five international journalists on a Press Trip at Asa Wright Nature Centre in Arima and Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel in Grande Riviere.

The Press Trip was part of HADCO Experiences' international marketing strategy to build awareness of the eco-tourism offerings available in Trinidad, with a key focus on the properties in the company's portfolio. The visit was coordinated by Dana O'Malley of Kindred Public Relations, who is the company's Marketing and Public Relations Consultant in the United States.

The select group included journalists who contributed to magazines such as Forbes, Condé Nast, National Geographic, Travel & Leisure, London Evening Standard, TIME, BBC Travel, Lonely Planet, USA Today and Reader's Digest among others.

Their stay began at Asa Wright Nature Centre, where they enjoyed relaxing on the iconic veranda, surrounded by the buzz of hummingbirds. They also ventured to the Oilbird Cave, took the trails to Naked Pool and Clearwater Pool and enjoyed a stroll around the property to the Jade Vine Terrace, Mango Room and Butterfly Garden.

Off-property activities included a tour of the factory at Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago (MITTCO) where the journalists were serenaded by the MITTCO Ensemble; and taught to play a few notes on the steelpan as a group – an activity they found to be fun and invigorating. Other stops on the day included lunch at Sails Restaurant, a visit to

Macqueripe Beach and Bamboo Cathedral; and an evening trip to Caroni Bird Sanctuary, where flamingos and a few Scarlet Ibises were visible across the swamp in the waning evening light.

At Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel, they were able to visit Pawi Lodge to see the Trinidad Piping-guan and take a hike down Pawi Trails to the river, where they were treated to wine and fish that was roasted on the spot for their enjoyment. A tour to the chocolate factory to learn about bean-to-bar cocoa transformation was well received; and they ended the day with a high-density turtle-watching tour and were happy and amazed to witness the nesting ritual of the magnificent Leatherback turtles on the beach.

On their last evening, the most adventurous of the group piled into a pirogue and headed out on the north coast to Petit Tacaribe beach; an experience they all enjoyed despite the inclement weather.

As a Destination Management Company, HADCO Experiences aims to showcase the treasures of Trinidad and encourage tourists to come and discover the abundant and unique natural beauty and biodiversity of our beautiful island. It is our hope to host many more of these trips in the future as we continue to promote eco-tourism in Trinidad and Tobago.



A meal of roasted fish done on the spot with a cold glass of white wine provided a touch of luxury after the hike to the river at Pawi Trails



Dana O'Malley, CEO of Kindred Public Relations, guided to play a few notes by a member of the MITTCO ensemble



The MITTCO Ensemble brought the energy as they performed for the journalists who were fascinated with the rhythm of the steelpan

CREAMERY YOGURT LAUNCHES “THE SNACK TO MATCH MY CARNIVAL VIBE”

Creamery Yogurt helped make this year’s Carnival celebrations even more memorable with the launch of a lifestyle campaign that brought together a diverse cross section of well-known faces and talents that appealed to the daily routines of consumers.

Titled, “The Snack to Match My Carnival Vibe,” the project was described by Anastasia Pickering, Junior Brand Manager – HADCO Ltd as a “dynamic celebration of health, fitness, and wellness coupled with the beauty of Trinidad and Tobago Carnival.”

Influencers for the campaign included Ms. Universe Trinidad and Tobago 2024, Ms. Jenelle Thongs, popular fitness trainer, Jonathan Cruickshank, entrepreneur and model, Achsah Henry and content creator, Summer Telfer.



A closer look at the promotional artwork

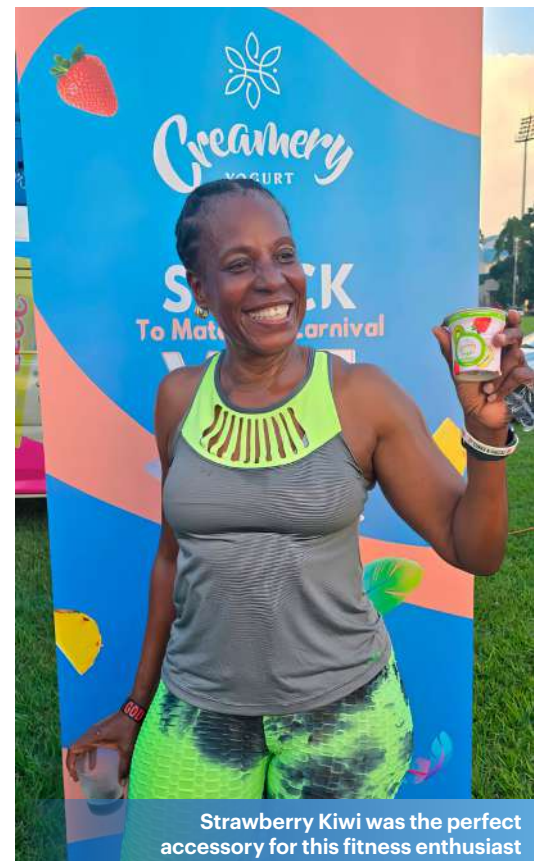
CARNIVAL BURNOUT WITH CREAMERY YOGURT

Creamery Yogurt is continuing to build its reputation as the preferred snack for the health-conscious across the country by partnering with a cross section of fitness enthusiasts in various communities during this year’s Carnival season.

On Tuesday January 21, 2025, the brand was spotted at the first Subway Boom Burnout of the season, which was held at Eddie Hart Grounds in Tacarigua. Yummy samples of Peach, Strawberry Kiwi and Mixed Berry yogurts were shared onsite, much to the delight of children and adults.



The Creamery Yogurt display was the talk of Eddie Hart Grounds



Strawberry Kiwi was the perfect accessory for this fitness enthusiast

CREAMERY ICE CREAM CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF HAPPINESS

On Thursday March 20, 2025, communities across the world celebrated International Day of Happiness, which is a specially designated United Nations' observance in recognition of happiness being a fundamental human right.

To help mark the occasion, Creamery Ice Cream was on-hand to serve up scoops of delight to customers of Xtra Foods in Grand Bazaar and Aranguez, as they help fulfill the brand's vision to be there *for all of life's moments*.



Creamery ice cream offered a choice of Dulce de Leche, Strawberry Ripple and Chocolate Ripple to excited shoppers

HÄAGEN-DAZS TAKES VISHARA TO THE CITY OF LOVE AND LIGHTS

The prize-giving ceremony for the 2024 “Häagen-Dazs takes you to Paris” promotion was held on January 25, 2025.

Ms. Danielle Noreiga, Senior Brand Manager – HADCO Ltd, was on-site to congratulate and present prizes to the lucky winners, including Grand Prize winner, Ms. Vishara Gooljar.

Overall, there were four other winners who were each gifted a TT\$500.00 spa voucher, while 10 lucky customers each received a TT\$100.00 shopping voucher.

Congratulations to All!



Grand Prize winner, Vishara Gooljar beams with excitement as she is congratulated by Danielle Noreiga, Senior Brand Manager, HADCO Limited

HADCO DISTRIBUTION SUPPORTS “CARNIVAL CATWALK”

HADCO’s Distribution teams were well-represented by Yellow Tail and Creamery Novelties at the red-carpet premiere of “Carnival Catwalk,” which was held at the National Academy for the Performing Arts in Port of Spain on Wednesday January 8, 2025.

The project is the brainchild of Engineer, Entrepreneur and Entertainer, Jerome “Rome” Precilla, who simultaneously celebrated his birthday on the day.

“Carnival Catwalk,” is a reality television competition series that was produced in eight parts. The project found great favour with local and international creatives, producers and investors, as it brings together competitors from across the world to “square off against each other” as

a novel extension of the excitement and drama that is usually associated with Carnival. More than that however, as an output of our orange economy, the series was able to provide an entertaining, enterprising and innovative space to showcase Trinidad and Tobago’s natural resources, as evidenced in our people, their skill sets and of course, the history of the greatest show on earth.

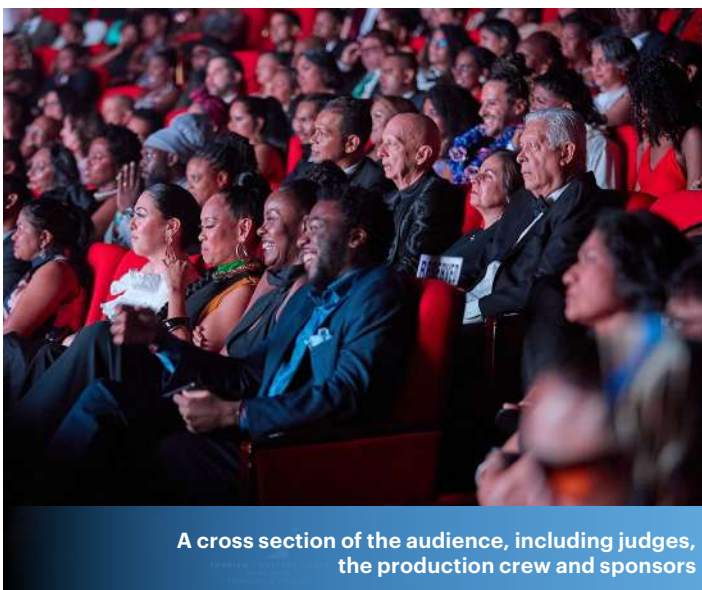
Photo Credits: The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts and Corporate Communications.



Man of the moment, Jerome “Rome” Precilla during his welcome remarks



(L-R): Yellow Tail’s Brand Ambassador and a guest attending the premiere are all glammed up for a fantastic evening



A cross section of the audience, including judges, the production crew and sponsors



Our Creamery Novelties team keeping the content local with a touch of sweetness

HADCO'S BRANDS SHINE AT CIC'S FETE WITH THE SAINTS

On Saturday February 8, 2025, St. Mary's College held one of the most anticipated fetes of the Carnival season - CIC's *Fete with the Saints: NeX LvL*, at the college grounds, Serpentine Road, Port of Spain.



The outstanding decor that greeted patrons

HADCO Distribution's Food & Beverage brands had a significant presence that added a special flair to the energetic festivities of the evening.

Brands including Dacastello, Creamery, Rich's, Grace, Half Moon, Häagen-Dazs, The Best Dressed Chicken, Yellow Tail, Fresh Start, Nestle, Magnum, The Botanist, Hendricks, Glenfiddich, and Tropics Mixology provided partygoers with a premium selection of delectable food, drinks and desserts to enjoy as they partied the night away.



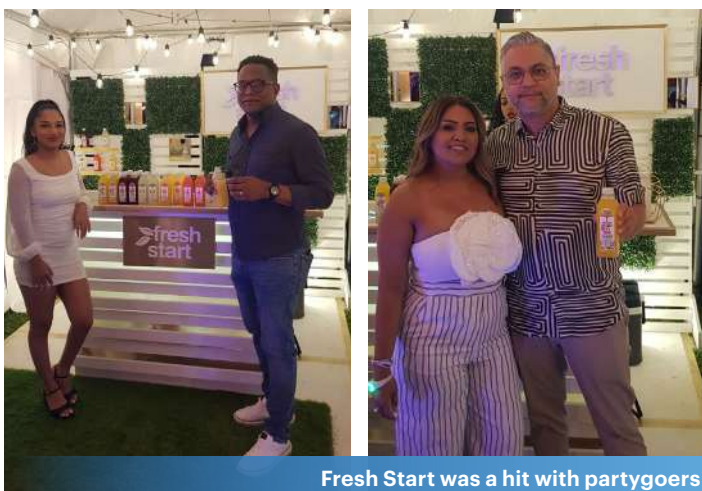
Dacastello held a commanding presence with delicious wine and vibrant smiles



Tropics Mixology range were present to offer healthy and delicious options for those who were intent on maintaining their Carnival preparation routines



The wine and spirits selection were a shining example of HADCO Distribution's ability to cater to a range of tastes



Fresh Start was a hit with partygoers



Grace Foods brought the flavour and vibes to **Fete with the Saints!** From sizzling jerk pork, chicken, shrimp and corn soup to pure island energy, they kept the crowd fuelled with every mouthwatering bite



HADCO Distribution's Food & Beverage brands in action at CIC's Fete with the Saints

A VERY HADCO CARNIVAL

This year’s extended carnival celebrations were the most event-filled within recent years for our Food & Beverage team at HADCO.

With a vibrant array of brands in our Distribution portfolio, HADCO was pleased to showcase the exceptional quality and outstanding service that help make our brands a household name.



This Soca Brunch Feter strikes a lovely pose



Tropics and Stoli paired up at this year’s HYATT Lime



Yellowtail at Soaka in Moka



These gentlemen chose the classic appeal of Glenfiddich at Fete Royal



Grace Foods with a fete staple at Bayview



“A mouthful of goodness” at Brunchin’



Creamery Novelties helped keep things cool at Soca Brunch



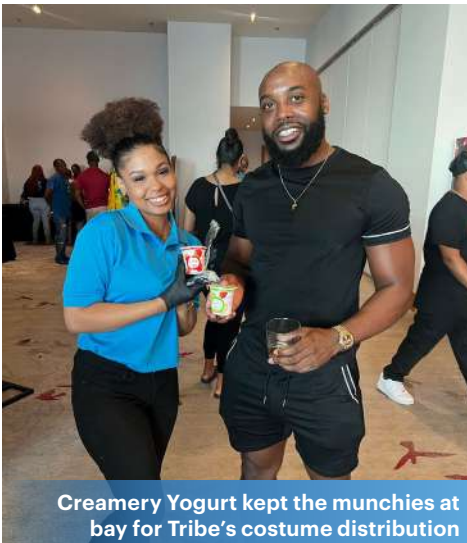
A Häagen-Dazs belle spotted at Brunchin'



Country House serves up a beloved Caribbean favourite at Bayview



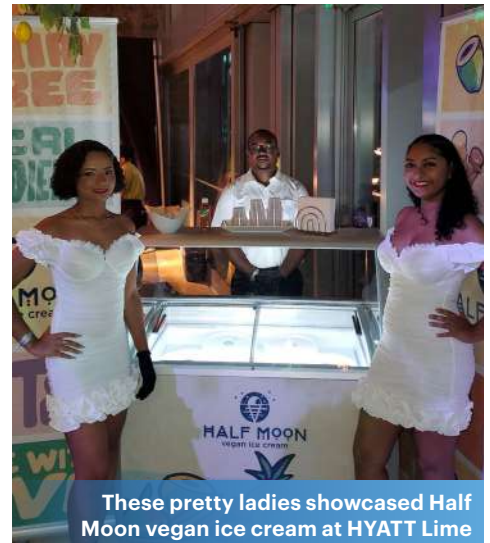
Emborg Smoothies kept those immune systems pumping at Berry Brunch



Creamery Yogurt kept the munchies at bay for Tribe's costume distribution



Sweet treats at CIC courtesy of Rich's



These pretty ladies showcased Half Moon vegan ice cream at HYATT Lime

COUNTRY HOUSE'S "FISH FOR LENT" PROMOTION

In keeping with the tradition of "Fish for Lent", Country House embarked on its annual seasonal promotion throughout various supermarket chains across our islands.

Sing Chong in Port of Spain, Southern Food Basket in San Fernando and Price Club, Chaguanas were just a few of the locations where customers were able to sample the brand's Tuna Chunks in Water, paired with their favourite bake or bread.



Sampling at JTA Supermarket at C3



Country House's Brand Ambassadors engaging shoppers at Tru Valu, El Socorro

NESTLÉ'S TRADE VISIT TO TOBAGO

In January, Nestlé reaffirmed its commitment to the Tobago market with a special visit from Ms. Sonia Perez. She was accompanied by Jacquez Byng, Brand Manager, HADCO Limited, and Ms. Angela Mohammed, Operations Manager, Tobago.

The team spent the day travelling across the island, where they met with various clients and business owners to discuss the future growth and strategic plans for the brand. The direct engagement with stakeholders allowed the team to explore opportunities to enhance Nestlé's presence and strengthen its relationships within the Tobago market.

Jacquez shared that the visit, "underscored Nestlé's dedication to delivering quality products and fostering meaningful partnerships in Tobago." Exciting things are ahead as the brand continues to grow and evolve on the sister isle!



The Nestlé team on the trade in Tobago

RICH'S HOSTS TRAINING WORKSHOP

From Monday February 10 to Friday February 14, 2025, one of HADCO Distribution's prominent dessert brands, Rich's, hosted training workshops with the bakery staff of JTA Supermarket, Massy Stores and Penny Savers in Tobago. Rich's was represented by Pedro Dazs and Ana Rodriguez.

The workshops focused on growing the creative talents of bakery staff and ensuring that they were competent in the use and handling of products such as Bettercreme frosting, layer cakes, brownies, donuts and icings.

In addition to the workshops, Pedro and Ana also participated in trade visits and meetings with various customers.

As a brand, Rich's is always interested in helping customers get the best out of their products, showcasing new, creative and delightful takes on classic ingredients. This certainly made for a fun and delicious learning experience for all the staff who participated in the training sessions.



Ana responds to questions from the staff of JTA



The Penny Savers team with Angela Mohammed, Operations Manager, Tobago (far right)

RICH'S TRAINING FOR HADCO'S BAKERY TECHNICIAN

Rich's Products, distributed by HADCO Limited, is a family-owned food company that produces cakes, icings, appetizers and other specialty items that can be utilised in food service, retail operations, bakeries and delis.

Our newest Bakery Technician, Sheryce Quash undertook a three-day training session, inclusive of a presentation, by Rich's Bakery Technician, Ana Rodriguez.

The first day of training was focused on the theoretical aspect of learning. Ana provided in-depth knowledge about Rich's products and their usage, including proper measures to thaw and handle the frostings to get the correct textures.

The session also included ingredient knowledge, focusing primarily on Rich's Whip Topping and BetterCreme. The second day consisted of practical training which included techniques for frosting and detailed decorating while working with BetterCreme.

On day three, Sheryce was given the opportunity to present her knowledge to members of staff, who tested her knowledge of the products and her ability to decorate the cakes in a timely manner while engaging an audience and answering questions. Overall, this training was a successful venture for Sheryce, and we were grateful to have Ana join us for the execution of this project.

Sheryce will now be tasked with sharing her knowledge and skills with HADCO's customers in the Food Service industry as she works to share the deliciousness of Rich's with the Trinidad and Tobago market.



HADCO Limited's Bakery Technician Sheryce Quash and Rich's Bakery Technician Ana Rodriguez with their artfully decorated treats



The sumptuous display of Rich's cakes and confectioneries that were created using Rich's products



Sheryce is very focused as she goes through the paces of her presentation to staff

HÄAGEN-DAZS UNDERGOES FSQ INSPECTIONS

As part of its annual roster of activities, the staff of Häagen-Dazs welcomed Juan Carlos Gomez, Food Safety and Quality (FSQ) Coordinator and Product Manager – Mexico and LACDM to their stores, where he conducted audits for compliance in food safety and quality from March 18 to 20, 2025.

According to Ana Abraham, Administrative Supervisor – HD Café, the visits were productive and helped to reinforce the brand and staff's awareness and commitment to ensuring that the "health and wellness of all customers, staff and suppliers remain a priority in daily interactions." Via email, Juan Carlos also shared that he wanted to "recognise the hard work" of the local HD teams.

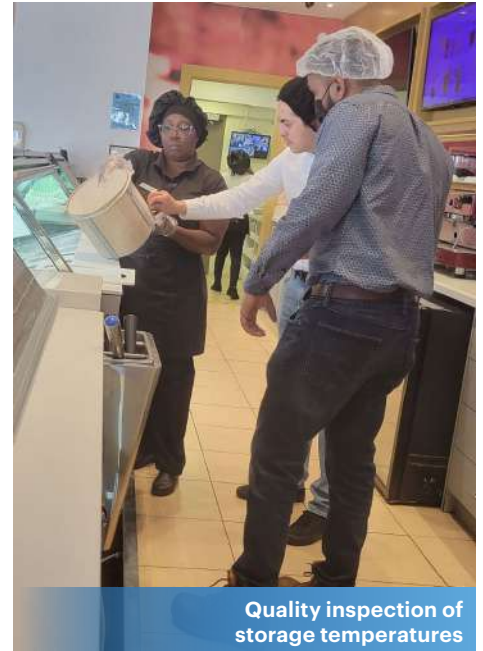
All nine cafés were audited during the visit.



Juan Carlos (left) with Vurline McLeod - Shop Supervisor, Danielle Allen - Shop Supervisor and Gilliane Robinson-Service Champion of HD South Park



Vinod Ramlogan, Auditor -Diversey Consulting joins Juan Carlos for the inspection of the ice makers



Quality inspection of storage temperatures

MCCAIN PREPARES TO EXCITE THE LOCAL MARKET

On Wednesday March 26, 2025, our Marketing Department hosted Rodrigo Diaz, Retail Senior Regional Sales Manager of McCain Foods on a trade visit. Rodrigo was accompanied by Brandon Harry, Junior Brand Manager, HADCO Ltd and visited various supermarket chains inclusive of Persad's, Food Hall, Price Club, Massy Stores and Tru Valu supermarket.

While on the trade, Rodrigo inspected the frozen food aisles and observed the product placement for McCain. He also took the opportunity to speak with merchandisers about their interactions with shoppers. According to Brandon, the information that was gathered will prove useful in McCain's preparations for the launch of their latest innovation in the Trinbagonian market.



Brandon and Rodrigo on the trade



Rodrigo expressed his admiration for Cheryl West-James' insight into McCain Foods as well as her customer service skills

FRESH START AND MOTT'S CELEBRATE WITH S.E.A. STUDENTS

Some of this country's Secondary Entrance Assessment (S.E.A.) candidates were able to replenish their thirst with samples from Fresh Start juices and Mott's, after an intense day of examinations.

The brands were part of the overall excitement at MovieTowne Port of Spain, where samples of Fresh Start's Orange and Sorrel juices, as well as Mott's Apple juice were distributed to excited students and their families.



Fresh Start's booth consisted of an attractive blend of colours and tastes



Three cheers for Mott's

CREAMERY NOVELTIES HELPS KEEP THINGS COOL AFTER S.E.A.

Queen's Park Savannah, Caribbean Cinemas and East Gates Mall were just some of the venues that the Creamery Novelties team visited on Thursday April 10, 2025, to help this year's cohort of Secondary Entrance Assessment (S.E.A.) students unwind after their exams.

As is local tradition, following the conclusion of the exam, many families treated candidates to their favourite meals, desserts and activities as an expression of their love and support.

According to this country's Ministry of Education, 17,937 pupils wrote the 2025 exam. Creamery Novelties was happy to celebrate this milestone with students, as they continue to be a part of all life's moments!



Our Creamery Novelties team lending support to Bmobile's Cool Down event at Queen's Park Savannah



MovieTowne Port of Spain was the place to be for this group of classmates



Chillin' out at East Gates Mall with Creamery Novelties in hand

HADCO GROUP SUPPORTS PROJECT HOPE

HADCO Group, John Dickinson and S&S Persad Supermarket are just a few of the Ministry of Education's partners for Project Hope, an initiative that targets students, especially those who are in need.

According to the Ministry's website, Project Hope donated \$110,000.00 in stationery to "542 students from 23 primary schools in the Southeastern District, who will be transitioning into secondary school in September 2025."

Project Hope falls under the portfolio of the Ministry of Education's Adopt-A-School Programme, which was launched in September 2020 as "a call to action for

Corporate T&T, NGOs and other entities to support the educational needs of students."

Through the efforts of Creamery Novelties, HADCO Group was happy to partner with other stakeholders and actively demonstrate its commitment to the well-being and success of our nation's youth.

(Images courtesy the Ministry of Education.)



Creamery's Junior Brand Manager, Anastasia Pickering (Third from left) represented HADCO at the Ministry's Stationery Supplies Handover on Tuesday April 8, 2025



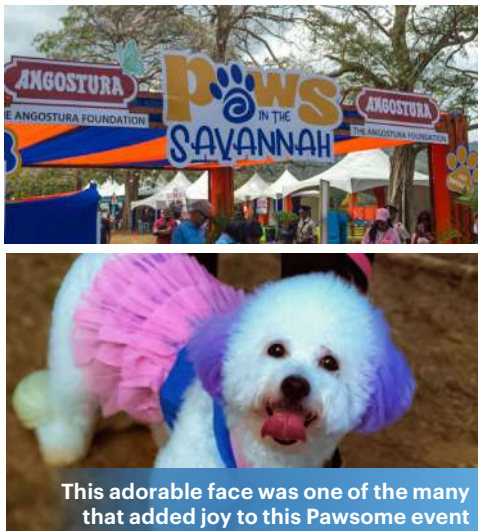
A closer look at some of the packages which will be distributed to students who are registered in Southeastern Trinidad

CREAMERY "PAW-SOMENESS" AT QUEEN'S PARK SAVANNAH

The Angostura Foundation hosted its first-ever Paws in the Savannah initiative on Easter Sunday at Queen's Park Savannah in Port of Spain.

The event brought together a wide network of individuals and entities that included representatives of shelters and rescue homes, groomers, trainers, veterinarians, pet boutiques and of course, families with their beloved furry friends.

Creamery Novelties was extremely pleased to have lent its support to this novel event that sought to facilitate the exchange of reliable information amongst pet owners and professionals within a nurturing and fun-filled environment.



This adorable face was one of the many that added joy to this Pawsome event



Creamery Novelties was happy to be a part of this family's special moment



(L-R): Reinaqua and Nicole are ready for an afternoon of family, fur and fun

CREAMERY YOGURT TREATED PARTICIPANTS AT DOSFIT STUDIOS MIDNIGHT MILES 5K

At midnight on April 12, 2025, Dosfit Studio held their one-of-a-kind Midnight Miles Run/Walk 2025 in Tobago.

Participants of all fitness levels enjoyed the cool midnight atmosphere as they ran, jogged and walked to the finish line.

Midnight Miles was initiated as a positive influence in the community of Carnbee/Mt. Pleasant in Tobago by promoting a healthy lifestyle through an exciting and unique 5K marathon at midnight. According to Dosfit Studio, this initiative brings together other fitness clubs, fitness enthusiasts and like-minded individuals for a fun run under the stars.

Creamery Yogurt was present at the event and distributed several flavours of their delicious yogurts as a healthy treat for participants. It was an exciting run for staff members of our subsidiary company Kelec Electrical in Tobago, as



Angela Mohammed, Operations Manager for Tobago in our Food Service Department (centre) shares in the celebration with Leon and Carolyn

Leon Harte, one of their Drivers, came in 2nd place in the men's category, completing the marathon in 23 minutes. In the women's category, Carolyn Courtney, Assistant Manager at Kelec Electrical finished in 5th place, completing the marathon in 30 minutes.

We extend our kudos to the Creamery team for their contributions and to the Kelec team members for being a shining representation of fitness and determination at this event.

NESTLÉ BLUE PROMOTES ITS "GOOD FOOD, GOOD LIFE" CAMPAIGN

The Nestlé Blue team began its most recent promotional campaign in April with sampling activities at some of our favourite supermarkets.

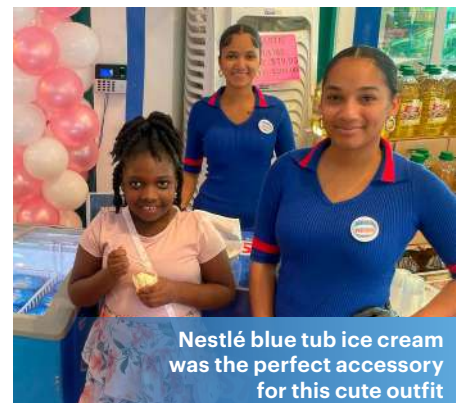
Shoppers at each location were delighted to receive sweet, icy-cold confections in flavours that included Chocolate Chip, Coconut and Vanilla from the brand, while learning more about its "wholesome goodness," and affordability. Those who chose to purchase any two flavours of Nestlé Blue tub on site were also rewarded with a branded fanny pack or tote bag.



A treat for all ages



A happy customer leaving JTA Couva with her blue tubs and Nestlé tote bag in hand



Nestlé blue tub ice cream was the perfect accessory for this cute outfit

CHOBANI IS A TITLE SPONSOR FOR VITAS HOUSE HOSPICE'S 5K "I WALK TO REMEMBER"

HADCO Limited remains committed to bringing continuous awareness to cancer and providing support for organisations whose work is vital to the wellbeing of those diagnosed with this dreaded disease.

Chobani, one of our Distribution Division's Food & Beverage brands, pledged its support as a Title Sponsor for Vitas House Hospice's first annual Cancer Remembrance 5K Walk. The event was titled "I Walk to Remember" and was held at the St. Mary's (C.I.C) Grounds, Serpentine Road, St. Clair on Saturday June 14, 2025, at 7:30 a.m.

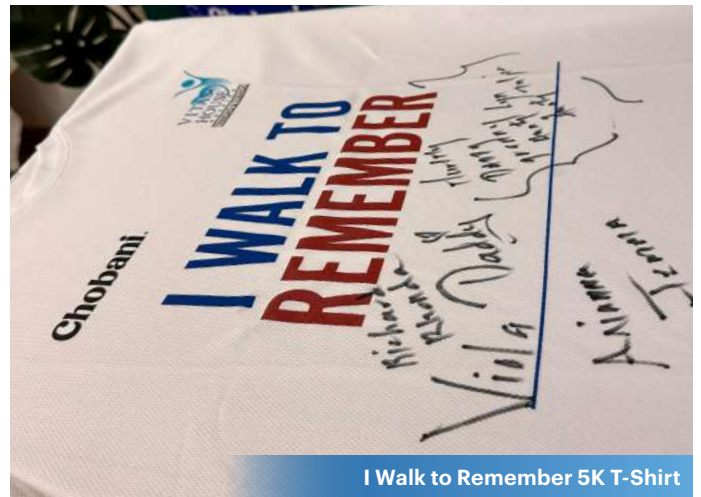
On May 2, 2025, a press conference was held at Vitas House Hospice in St. James, Port of Spain, where Marc Clarke, Marketing Manager, along with Darius Rawlins, Brand Manager, Chobani presented a cheque in the amount of US\$10,000.00 to Vitas House Hospice's Board Members including Lisa Hadad, Chairman. According to Darius, this support directly aligns with the brand's global mission of shaping the future of food by investing in four pillars: inclusivity, child hunger, sustainability, and community wellness.

This initiative by Vitas House Hospice was created to honour the lives lost to cancer and the t-shirts designed for this 5K event contained a blank line to allow participants to add the names of their loved ones whom they lost to terminal cancer. Proceeds raised will go towards the free palliative care services for terminally ill cancer patients provided by Vitas House Hospice.

"Our mission has always been to enhance the quality of life and dignify its terminal stages through special care, support and service." – Lisa Hadad, Vitas House Hospice's Chairman.



Vitas House Hospice board members inserting the names of the loved ones lost to terminal cancer on the I Walk to Remember 5K T-Shirt



I Walk to Remember 5K T-Shirt



Members of the team at Vitas House Hospice receive their donation from HADCO Distribution's Chobani team

MCCAIN FOODS VISITS HADCO

On May 15, the Food & Beverage arm of HADCO's Distribution Division welcomed Nallajani Gonzalez, Key Account Manager at McCain Foods, and Steve Lennard, McCain's Quick Service Restaurant Representative, to our Head Office for a strategic business review.

The meeting brought together key members of the HADCO team including Brandon Harry, Brand Manager, Chantal Abraham, Purchasing Assistant, Khadine Chai-Hong, Logistics Manager and Akida Webster, Logistics Coordinator.

The session focused on reviewing the performance and market impact of McCain products in Trinidad and Tobago. Gonzalez expressed satisfaction with the strong market presence that McCain has achieved locally. Discussions also touched on enhancing product availability and exploring new growth opportunities within the food service and retail sectors.

Following the meeting, the McCain team embarked on a trade visit to Xtra Foods in Endeavour, where they conducted in-store observations and connected with key retail stakeholders. The visit also afforded the opportunity to introduce exciting additions to McCain's product lineup – Beer Battered Fries and Onion Rings.

McCain Foods, a global leader in frozen food innovation, continues to deliver high-quality offerings that meet the evolving needs of consumers and food service professionals. Their current portfolio includes a wide range of popular frozen potato products such as Quick Cook Fries, Hashbrowns, Baby Cakes, Curly Fries, Waffle Fries, and the recently launched Beer Battered Fries and Onion Rings.



Brandon, Nallajani and Devanand Sooknanan, Area Manager pause for a moment while viewing the McCain freezer display at Xtra Food, Endeavour



From left to right: Brandon Harry, Brand Manager, Chantal Abraham, Purchasing Assistant, Khadine Chai-Hong, Logistics Manager, Akida Webster, Logistics Coordinator, Nallajani Gonzalez, Key Account Manager at McCain Foods and McCain's Quick Service Restaurant Representative, Steve Lennard

MCCAIN FOODS LAUNCHES NEW ADDITIONS TO THEIR FROZEN FOOD LINEUP

McCain launches two new products with an interesting twist - craft beer! We are pleased to introduce two crave-worthy additions to the McCain product line: Beer Battered Fries and Beer Battered Onion Rings.

McCain Beer Battered Fries are thick-cut and coated in a light, golden beer batter that crisps up beautifully in the oven or air fryer; while McCain Beer Battered Onion Rings are made with thick-cut, sweet onions enveloped in the same golden beer batter.

The result? A mouthwatering combination of crispy coating and savoury onion flavour, making them a standout appetizer or accompaniment to any meal.

These are available now at leading retailers nationwide.



New McCain Craft Beer Battered products



Key Account Manager at McCain Foods, Nallajani Gonzalez and Brand Manager, Brandon Harry show off the new products on a trade visit

STRENGTHENING THE MOTT'S PARTNERSHIP THROUGH A PRODUCTIVE TRADE VISIT

HADCO Distribution's Food & Beverage team had the pleasure of welcoming a representative from our Mott's supplier, Sam Junuzovic for a comprehensive trade visit hosted by Brand Manager Darius Rawlins.

This visit presented a valuable opportunity to showcase our commitment to brand excellence, product visibility, and customer engagement at the retail level.

The day included stops at several key outlets, where there was a demonstration of the merchandising strategies, promotional execution, and overall dedication to maintaining the high standards that Mott's is known for. Sam was particularly pleased with the consistency of the in-store displays, the care taken with product arrangement,

and the evident pride our team takes in representing the brand.

Beyond the trade tour, the visit served as a platform for discussions around market trends, product performance, and collaborative planning for the months ahead. Ideas were exchanged on how we can enhance Mott's presence in the local market, strengthen consumer loyalty, and explore new growth opportunities.



Standing proud: Sam Junuzovic with the HADCO Distribution's Food & Beverage team during a trade visit

NESTLÉ INTRODUCES THEIR COOL-DOWN TREATS

As we approach the July/August vacation (JAVA), Nestlé is turning up the fun with two exciting frozen treats- Frollies and OREO Bites.

Frollies offer fruity refreshment with no artificial colours or flavours. These include Orange Pop Up and Watermelon which are perfect for cooling off on hot days.

Oreo lovers can enjoy the decadent and creamy OREO Bites. These delightful treats bring together the beloved

Oreo taste in fun-sized ice cream bites with creamy centres wrapped in a chocolatey cookie shell.

Delicious, fun, and refreshing these new treats are a must-have for those hot tropical days when a break from the heat is needed.



Nestlé Frollies Watermelon and Frollies Pop Up fruit flavours



Nestlé Oreo Bites

HÄAGEN-DAZS' NEW FLAVOURS BRING EUROPE TO YOU

Inspired by the cuisines of iconic and unforgettable cities, Häagen-Dazs' new flavours transports ice cream lovers on a culinary journey through Europe, one scoop at a time.

Churros, inspired by the vibrant energy of Madrid, pairs golden-brown pastry pieces, crunchy on the outside and soft and doughy on the inside, with a delicate dusting of cinnamon and sugar. This delicious base is swirled with gooey dulce de leche sauce, perfectly complementing Häagen-Dazs' creamy ice cream.

Meanwhile, Tiramisu transports you to the ancient streets of Rome with every bite. This decadent creation features a luxurious blend of creamy mascarpone, espresso-soaked sponge cake pieces, and elegant swirls of coffee and cocoa sauce all enveloped in Häagen-Dazs' signature rich ice cream.

Both flavours are available in one-pint sizes at retail stores and Häagen-Dazs Shops nationwide!



Häagen-Dazs' new European-inspired Flavours, Churros and Tiramisu

HALF MOON DELIGHTS RUNNERS AT THE G2G RUN CLUB WITH BOLD TROPICAL FLAVOURS

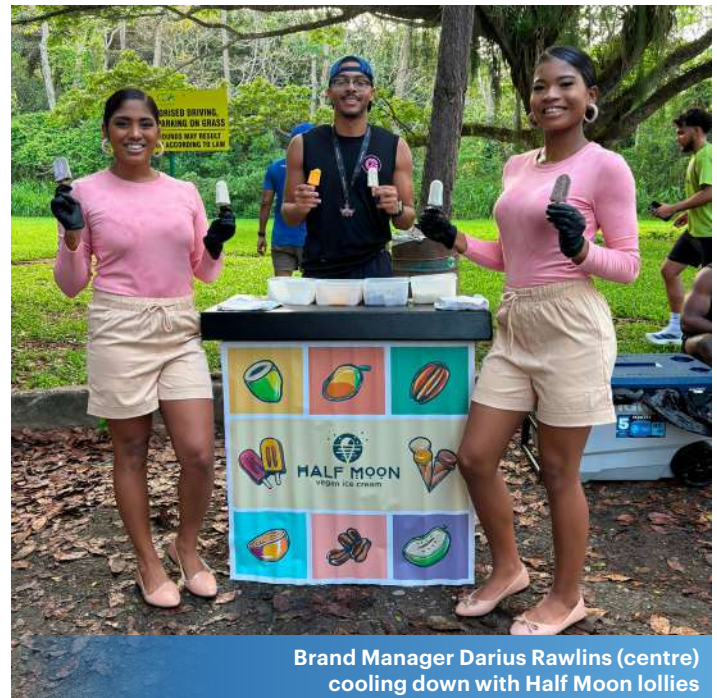
At the break of dawn on Sunday, May 25, 2025, Half Moon Vegan Ice Cream made an appearance at the G2G Run Club at the Samaan Park car park in Tucker Valley where their mini frozen lollies were distributed to the participants.

The event, known for promoting fitness and community spirit, provided the perfect platform to introduce runners to the cool, vibrant flavours that define the Half Moon experience.

The sampling featured a refreshing lineup of mini lollies in pineapple chow, mango passion, chocolate, and soursop, each crafted to highlight bold Caribbean flavours and real, feel-good ingredients. Whether runners were finishing the 5K or winding down post-run, the lollies offered a sweet and satisfying treat that perfectly complemented the event's energetic vibe.

The feedback was positive as many runners expressed surprise and delight at the unique flavour profiles, with pineapple chow and mango passion being firm favourites for their tangy, tropical twist, while chocolate and soursop offered indulgent and nostalgic notes.

The event helped create brand awareness in a health-conscious, community-driven environment, allowing the brand to connect with consumers in a fun and meaningful way.



Brand Manager Darius Rawlins (centre) cooling down with Half Moon lollies



Pet-friendly flavours for the furry friends



The Half Moon team distributing mini lollies to participants

HADCO BRINGS THE FUN AT XTRA FOODS' FIRST-EVER FAMILY GAMES NIGHT

On May 17, 2025 Xtra foods held their first ever Family Games Night in honour of International Day of Families.

Families from across Endeavour, Arima, Aranguez, and Sangre Grande were able to participate in this event as multiple locations hosted the Games Night.

The atmosphere was electric as teams competed in a variety of exciting games, including jumbo Jenga, Tic-Tac-Toe, UNO, Corn Throw, and the crowd-favourite Stadium Pong. HADCO Distribution's Food and Beverage Division was present at the event and Häagen-Dazs and Mott's distributed some much-needed refreshments to participants who filled the atmosphere with their laughter and competitive spirit.

The winners of these competitions were given well-deserved hampers for their hard work, enthusiasm and team spirit. HADCO Distribution is honoured to have shared in the fun and look forward to more opportunities to create meaningful, family-focused experiences.



Competitive night for participants



Mott's Juice distributed refreshing juices to fuel the competitors!



Häagen-Dazs team distributing some well-deserved treats to participants



MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND TTMA'S PRESIDENT VISIT CREAMERY NOVELTIES

Creamery Novelties Limited was honoured to host Senator The Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon, Minister of Trade and Industry, and Mr. Roger Roach, President of the Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association (TTMA) for a media visit at its facility on Tuesday February 18, 2025.

This visit was part of TTMA's initiative to engage with winners of the President's Dinner and Awards, where Creamery Novelties was recognised as the *2023 Most Successful Market Entrant (Medium Category)*.

In attendance were Directors Paul Gabriel and John Hadad, along with Export Manager Vashish Sieurajsingh, who reaffirmed Creamery's commitment to expanding the local manufacturing sector and strengthening export markets. The visit highlighted the Ministry of Trade and Industry's continued support for local manufacturers and underscored Creamery Novelties' role in driving economic growth.

The Trinidad Guardian Newspaper highlighted that Creamery Novelties has made significant strides in the export market,

becoming a net foreign exchange earner for Trinidad and Tobago. The company has grown significantly over the past eight (8) years, last year exporting approximately US \$3.95 million worth of ice cream.

Also mentioned in this article was Creamery's commitment to quality and innovation leading to the development of new products, such as the Creamery Yogurt line. This diversification has not only strengthened its domestic presence but also enhanced its competitiveness in international markets.

Creamery Novelties continues to play a pivotal role in bolstering Trinidad and Tobago's manufacturing and export sectors, reflecting the company's dedication to excellence and economic growth.



Senator The Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon and Mr. Roger Roach, along with John Hadad, Paul Gabriel and Vashish Sieurajsingh speaking to the media outside Creamery Novelties' factory



Senator The Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon enjoys a Creamery Lollee during the factory tour



Creamery Lollee on the production line



Creamery and Happy Time display of products and SKU's

CREAMERY NOVELTIES AND FRESH START SET SAIL ON TTMA'S TRADE MISSION ON THE SEAS

From March 23 to April 1, 2025, Creamery Novelties Limited and Fresh Start proudly represented HADCO Group as part of the Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association (TTMA) Trade Mission on the Seas.

This was a regional initiative that brought together 25 local companies with a shared goal of exploring and establishing new export markets for Trinidad and Tobago's diverse range of products.

The Trade Mission charted a course through the Caribbean, making strategic stops in Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. Maarten, Martinique, and Barbados. Along the way, the Creamery Novelties and Fresh Start teams engaged in business-to-business (B2B) meetings with key buyers, forging meaningful connections and introducing our high-

quality offerings to new audiences. Additionally, the mission included consultations with regional state agencies, opening doors to potential partnerships and long-term trade opportunities.

Participating in this mission was a significant step in expanding our brands' regional footprint. We remain committed to innovation and excellence, and initiatives like this reinforce our dedication to taking locally made products to international markets.



TTMA staff with Representatives of the local companies selected for Trade Mission on the Seas



Vashish Sieurajsingh, Export Manager at Creamery Novelties engage with a potential partner on TTMA's Trade Mission on the Seas



Fresh Start Limited discussing their brand

CREAMERY NOVELTIES REACHES THE ARUBA MARKET

The Creamery Novelties' Export Team has done it again!

The team has secured a distributor in Aruba as they continue to roll out their export strategies geared towards regional expansion and sales growth of ice cream and novelties.

FRASA Aruba is a company known for their distribution of world-renowned brands. Creamery's Export Manager Vashish Sieurajsingh began the process of securing an export market in Aruba as early as 2022. Throughout the process, the Managing Director of FRASA, Francis Saladin met with Vashish to discuss pricing and launch plans. After meeting with the rest of the FRASA team to discuss market data and other relevant details, the first shipment of Creamery Novelties arrived in Aruba in April 2025.

The collaboration between FRASA and Creamery Novelties ensures strategic growth opportunities for the Caribbean, by leveraging the resources and expertise of the two companies to enhance regional trade. As of May 2025, Creamery Novelties is happy to announce that its products are available for purchase in Aruba!



Creamery Novelties' Export Manager Vashish Sieurajsingh and Managing Director of FRASA, Francis Saladin

CREAMERY NOVELTIES HOSTS CUBAN DELEGATIONS IN PREPARATION FOR EXPORT LAUNCH

On May 6 and 7, 2025, Creamery Novelties had the honour of hosting two official delegations from Cuba at our manufacturing facility, as part of our strategic efforts to enter the Cuban market.

This initiative was made possible through the support and coordination of GLOBAL TT (formerly ExporTT) and represents an important step forward in our export readiness and regional expansion.

The visit was designed to facilitate an audit of Creamery's manufacturing facility, a key requirement in the process of gaining approval to export our products to Cuba. The facility tour and documentation review were led by Quality Control Supervisor, Justin Sukha, who guided both delegations through an in-depth, transparent review of our production processes, quality control measures, and operational standards.

Among the visiting officials were Dr. Zenaida Madruga, Cuban Veterinary Services, Julio Cabada, Commercial Counsellor, Dr. Irina Tamayo Brito and Dr. Greissi Justiniani Gonzalez of The National Institute of Hygiene, Epidemiology and Microbiology (INHEM), Martha Lucia, Trade Officer at GLOBAL TT and Bertha Sun Kow, Translator.

The delegations expressed positive feedback on the facility's operations and the brand's commitment to quality, innovation,

and food safety. Their observations and recommendations will guide final preparations as we work toward full compliance for export certification.

Creamery Novelties is proud to be progressing toward launching exports to Cuba in Q4 2025. This move not only strengthens our presence in the Caribbean but also reinforces our commitment to bringing high-quality, locally produced frozen treats to new markets.



Quality Control Supervisor Justin Sukha hosts the delegations at the Creamery Novelties' manufacturing facility

JOSHUA AND MITTCO CREATE HISTORY TOGETHER

If you did not know who Joshua Regrello was before his attempt at the “longest marathon playing steelpan,” for the Guinness World Book of Records, chances are that you do now.

On Saturday December 28 to Sunday December 29, 2024, the 27-year-old from San Fernando cemented himself as a household name, as he successfully embarked on a quest to play the steelpan for 30 consecutive hours. Before a live studio audience filled with a cross-section of musicians, dignitaries, loved ones, the media and other well-wishers, Joshua crossed his original goal of 30 hours, playing for a mind-boggling 31 hours!

Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited (MITTCO) was proud to have supplied Joshua with a chromed low C tenor steelpan for the duration of his performance.

MITTCO's relationship with Joshua goes a long way back, even before the formal opening of the company in 2022. In June 2022 he was the preferred soloist at the press conference to announce MITTCO's part sponsorship of the Hero's Caribbean Premier League (CPL). As such, it was only natural for MITTCO to support Joshua as he attempted, succeeded and surpassed his goal.

Congratulations to both Joshua and MITTCO on this momentous achievement, as they work to elevate the popularity and recognition of our country's National Instrument.



A proud moment for Joshua and MITTCO

MITTCO HELPS IDB TO FOSTER CULTURAL HERITAGE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited (MITTCO) was recently invited to participate in a special visit by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to Republic Bank Exodus Steel Orchestra in St. Augustine recently.

The company was represented by Mr. Akua Leith, Managing Director of MITTCO, who had the opportunity to share his sentiments and relay some of his experiences as a manufacturer of steelpanns to an exclusive group of guests that included the Executive Vice President (EVP) of the Inter-American Development Bank, the Chief Information Officer and General Manager of the Information Technology Department, and the General Manager of the Caribbean Country Department.

Such a gathering served to underscore the significance of the orange economy as a key contributor to sustainable economic development and community cohesion in Trinidad and Tobago and is aligned to the IDB's “commitment to fostering cultural heritage and community development.”



At center is the IDB's Executive Director, Mr. Jordan Schwartz testing his skills on a tenor pan

DING DONG BRINGS THE VIBES OF PANORAMA TO MITTCO

As most of us are aware, “content is king” in the digital age and as such, to ensure that your brand has visibility as well as sustainability, visuals are an essential part of any entertainer’s success.

In December 2024, Disc Jockey with 96.1 FM and entertainer Andre Holder, who is better known to his co-workers and fans as Ding Dong, along with a team from NXUS Collective visited MITTCO in this regard, as the former was eager to produce a video in support of his song, Panorama.

While the team did achieve its objective of capturing stunning footage, they admitted that the visit was indeed an eye-opener, as it relates to the many careers and steps that are involved in the manufacturing of steelpan.

MITTCO was once more proud to have taken the lead in the edification of our wider population and of course, to have forged a lasting partnership with Ding Dong and his team.



Akua Leith, Managing Director, MITTCO, (far right) with Ding Dong and the team



Khadine Cadogan, Groover, MITTCO, shares some insight into her craft with Ding Dong

MITTCO RECEIVES ITS FIRST COURTESY CALL FOR 2025

Ambassador Kwon Seijoong of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Trinidad and Tobago visited Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited (MITTCO) in February, to learn more about the company and its sales distribution, as a precursor to the development of the steelpan community in Korea.

He was warmly welcomed by MITTCO’s Managing Director Akua Leith, who engaged his attention with a lively overview of the company’s manufacturing processes. Additionally, both men found common ground in the love that their respective countries share for the arts and culture and its role in the tourism industry.

His Excellency was accompanied by Mr. Young June Kim, Mr. Hoseung Choi and Mr. Thompson Jones.



Ambassador Seijoong (at center) is flanked by representatives of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts and MITTCO

STEELPAN FINDS A HOME AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

A chance meeting at a Harvard University pre-orientation program for international students in 2021 brought together a common love and shared interests for the establishment of the college’s first steelpan ensemble on campus.

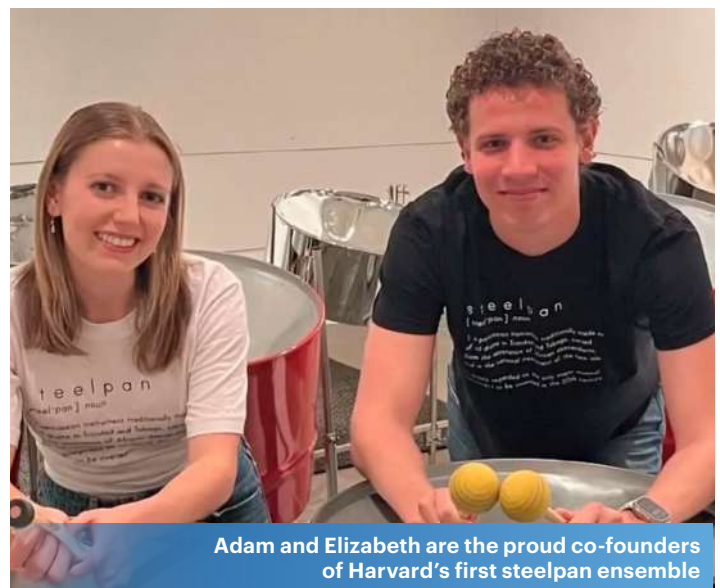
Thanks to the sheer passion and determination of Trinidad and Tobago National and Harvard Student, Adam Bartholomew and his peer, Elizabeth Bennett of England, the Ivy League institution is now home to its first steelpan ensemble, for which Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited (MITTCO) is proud to have been a part.

MITTCO’s involvement in the realisation of Adam and Elizabeth’s dreams began in earnest in January 2023, when Adam had the opportunity to tour the factory during his winter break and became even more inspired about what he and Elizabeth could achieve. Following his return to campus, the pair worked tirelessly on garnering greater interest for the steelpan from amongst other students on campus, registering their newfound group as an established student organisation with Harvard’s Administration and securing a rehearsal space. However, one major challenge remained; they had no steelpans.

There is an adage that says, success is where preparation meets opportunity. And true to this, Adam and Elizabeth were soon able to secure some much needed instruments from MITTCO due to the quality of work and commitment that had been invested into the production of the film, *Panazz: The Story*. The creation of such a ground-breaking documentary about the talents and business behind the steelpan by Adam and his uncle, Barry Bartholomew created a focal point for other voices within culture and tourism to be heard, inclusive

of an opportunity for MITTCO to share its global vision for the manufacture and sale of steelpans.

According to Adam, in exchange for MITTCO’s advertisement being included at the fore of the movie, the company was able to donate “a double guitar, a triple cello and two six bass steelpans which helped pave the way (for us) to attain a full set of MITTCO steelpans.”



MITTCO TAKES IT TO A NeX LvL FOR CIC 2025

Patrons of this year's edition of *Fete with the Saints: NeX LvL* were treated to the vibrant sounds of the steelpan as part of the evening's merriment.

The MITTCO ensemble was part of the entertainment cast and did not disappoint as their energetic appearance was a welcome addition to the overall ambience and theme of the evening.

Members of the ensemble had the opportunity to demonstrate their expansive repertoire, much to the delight of the crowds. It was indeed a fun and memorable night that added to the allure of the 2025 Carnival season.



Members of the MITTCO Ensemble during their performance

THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION AND MITTCO WELCOME THE UK TO TT CARNIVAL

As the numbers for visitor arrivals to our shores continued to increase in the lead-up to Carnival Monday and Tuesday, the British High Commission Port of Spain collaborated with various stakeholders to produce a promotional video for its nationals in Trinidad and Tobago and those who were inbound, in promotion of their health and safety during their visit to the Carnival mecca.

To this end, their production team recruited the support of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, the National Carnival Commission, Sandwich Media, the Caribbean School of Dancing Ltd, Joshua Regrello, UK Social Media Influencer Alex Cassidy and The Lost Tribe amongst others. Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago was also delighted to have had its artisanal instruments showcased during the segment.

The opportunity to work with the British High Commission Port of Spain was greatly representative of a growing bond between the organisation and MITTCO, in support of the latter's mandate to facilitate "a steelpan in every home, school and community across the globe."

The video can be viewed on MITTCO's various social media platforms.



Chinali Patel - Head of Political, Economic and Press at the British High Commission Port of Spain (second from left) alongside costumed models from The Lost Tribe



Welcome to T&T Carnival

MITTCO EXPANDS ITS SALES AND EXPORT PORTFOLIOS

For the month of April, Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited (MITTCO) was able to diversify its sales and export portfolios with shipments to Bermuda, Canada, Curaçao and the United States.

At present, the CARICOM Region accounts for approximately 33% of the company's exports and it is expected that the figure will increase to 50% within the next year, based on the various socio-economic initiatives

of individual territories. In a similar fashion, interests from the United States and other European destinations are on the increase as MITTCO's reputation continues to surge.



Master Tuner and Director of Production, Mario Joseph conducts a quality check on items that are bound for export



An assortment of instruments in MITTCO's signature packaging

MITTCO CELEBRATES ITS LATEST BRAND AMBASSADOR

In March, Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited (MITTCO) and Mission Vista High School from Oceanside, California entered an exciting partnership that saw the institution's school ensembles showcase their recently acquired MITTCO instruments and accessories at the Las Vegas Drum Show.

During their time in Las Vegas, the school ensembles hosted workshops and demonstrated their talents at sporting, school and community events.

This is a tremendous win for MITTCO as the steelpan manufacturing company seeks to deepen its ties in the North American market, which boasts of an estimated 4,000 universities. Earlier this year, MITTCO supplied the University of Maryland with its first complement of steelpans, while in 2024 Harvard University also received its first shipment of MITTCO instruments.

The company also wishes to acknowledge the continued support from Kainga Music School in California who were instrumental in the initial stages of communication with Mission Vista.



A dynamic combination on stage

TTPS STEEL ORCHESTRA VISITS MITTCO

The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) Steel Orchestra visited Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago (MITTCO) in April as part of wider efforts to expose its membership to the indigenous music of our country.

The guests were hosted by Managing Director, Akua Leith and Director of Production, Mario Joseph who gave the officers a tour of the one-of-a-kind steelpan manufacturing facility.

Following their visit, the TTPS collaborated with MITTCO on social media to share a recording of some of its musicians performing a near-perfect rendition of Freetown Collective's 2025 hit single, "Take Me Home." The reel, which is still in heavy rotation can be viewed on MITTCO's social media platforms.



An image posted on the TTPS Steel Orchestra's Instagram page following the visit

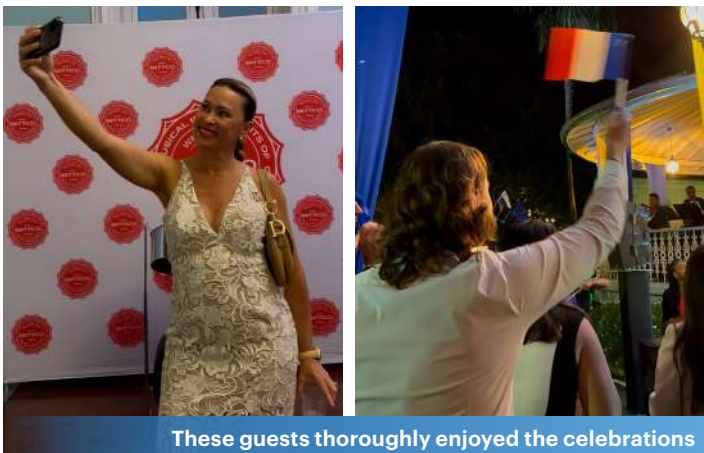
MITTCO COMMEMORATES EUROPE DAY

Europe Day is celebrated in Trinidad and Tobago on May 9th every year, highlighting the core values of peace and unity. The date marks the anniversary of the 'Schuman Declaration', a historic proposal made by Robert Schuman, French Foreign Minister, in 1950 that laid out the foundation of European cooperation. Schuman's proposal is considered as the beginning of what is now the European Union.

This year, the European Union celebrated 50 years of diplomatic relations with Trinidad and Tobago; and MITTCO was honoured to be invited to join the festivities and contribute to this significant milestone.

Representing the musical excellence of Trinidad and Tobago, MITTCO's pannist Shaquille Forbes delivered stirring renditions of both the Trinidad and Tobago and the European Union National Anthems. His performance was followed by 30 minutes of vibrant entertainment, showcasing the expressive power and versatility of the steelpan.

MITTCO also hosted a booth at the event. Managed by Administration team members Mark Quamina and Chanikka Franklyn, the booth featured a display of our signature instruments, offering attendees a closer look at the craftsmanship behind our steelpans. The display attracted significant interest and admiration from visitors, reinforcing MITTCO's commitment to cultural diplomacy and musical innovation.



These guests thoroughly enjoyed the celebrations



Shaquille Forbes, Pannist, entertains the crowd



Mark Quamina, Administrative Assistant, welcomes a visitor at the MITTCO Booth display

MITTCO CELEBRATES THE SPIRIT OF STEEL AT VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL PANFEST 2025

Experience the joy, the rhythm, and the beautiful sounds of the steelpan.

That was the heart and soul of this year's Virginia International PANFest 2025, and once again, MITTCO (Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Co. Limited) was proud to be a co-sponsor of this incredible celebration of culture and music.

Held annually in the United States, the Virginia International PANFest is a musical extravaganza that brings together pan enthusiasts, and music lovers from around the globe. The event showcases the steelpan in all its glory, its history, energy, and unmatched ability to bring people together through rhythm and melody.

This year's event was no different. Set against the scenic Virginia Beach boardwalk, the PANFest pulsed with the sounds of pan sides from across the Caribbean and beyond, performing calypso classics, contemporary hits, and original arrangements that had the crowd dancing and celebrating.

MITTCO's continued support of PANFest underscores our deep commitment to preserving and promoting the legacy of the steelpan. As a company dedicated to innovation and community impact, it is an honour to help elevate platforms that keep Caribbean music and heritage thriving on the international stage.



Attendees enjoying the sweet sounds of the steelpan

PanFest 2025 in full swing



Steelpan serenade

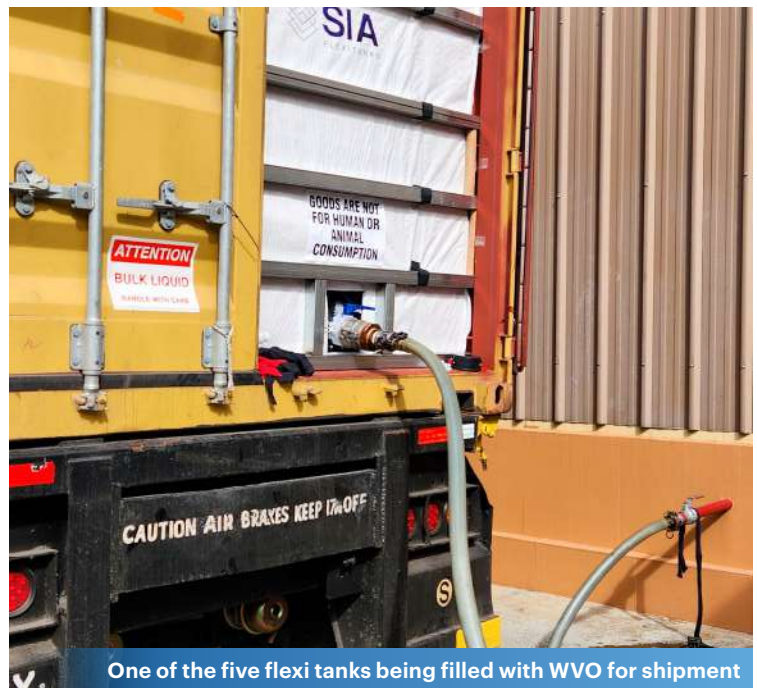
ECOIMPACT BUZZING WITH EXPORT ACTIVITIES

2025 continues on a boisterous note for the Management and Staff of Ecoimpact Company Limited as they have been keeping busy with the collection of waste vegetable oil (WVO) and used lead-acid batteries for export.

On Friday February 7, 2025, the team oversaw five 20ft flexi tanks being filled with WVO for export to Spain, with an overall volume of 31,000 gallons. This was followed on Monday February 17, 2025, by the loading of 21 MT of used lead-acid batteries for export to India.

As a reminder, waste vegetable oils are used in the production of biofuels which are a low-cost and environmentally friendly alternative to fossil fuels.

As for the collection of used lead-acid batteries from car dealerships and repair shops, Ecoimpact remains a crucial agent in the responsible waste management of these items since the improper disposal of and/or long-term exposure to lead-acid batteries can lead to health complications inclusive of kidney failure, impaired hearing, brain damage and stillborn births.



One of the five flexi tanks being filled with WVO for shipment



A closer look at a pallet of used lead-acid batteries for export



Empty oil kegs are re-used after being drained of their content

NEW AGE RECYCLING AMALGAMATED WITH ECOIMPACT

New Age Recycling has been amalgamated with Ecoimpact effective January 15, 2025; and the company will continue its operations under the name Ecoimpact Co. Limited.

They will continue to collect, process, bale and export the same recyclables from the inception of New Age Recycling, which will be added to the portfolio of Ecoimpact Co. Limited. According to Justin Olton, General Manager – Recycling Division, as of February 28, 2025, the Recycling Division was able to amass a combined total of 1,465.5 MT or 1,465,500 KG of various waste from across the country.

The statistics show that Ecoimpact collected 256.26 MT of waste vegetable oil and 57.86 MT of used lead-acid batteries, which are being processed for export markets. The team at New Age Recycling Limited was also able to process 1,151.38 MT of various recyclables.

Congratulations to every member of the Recycling Division for their continued diligence, commitment to responsible waste management and the overall preservation and enhancement of our natural environment.



Warehouse Supervisor, Marvin Horsford offloading a collection from a daily dispatch

ECOIMPACT'S CONTINUED PLEDGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT

In keeping with its commitment to the environment, the staff of Ecoimpact Co. Limited was engaged in the packing of various recyclables into containers that were bound for export earlier in March.

According to Ms. Kimberly Martinez, Logistics and Administrative Coordinator, the company usually bales and ships a minimum of 20 containers of mixed recyclables monthly. The cargo contains a mix of grades inclusive of supermix, boxing board, bookends, newspaper, waste tissue and white ledger. Materials are received from various points across Trinidad and Tobago and are then brought

to its facility in O'Meara via bales or 1-ton silos. Following, these are off-loaded to be sorted, weighed, shredded and repackaged for export.

The maximum weight for shipping is 25,000 kgs per container.



A container being loaded with various types of shredded paper for export



Silos being weighed

RECYCLING MAKES AN IMPACT ON THIS YEAR'S CARNIVAL WASTE COLLECTION

Behind the pretty mas, the invigorating sounds of the steelpan and of course, the mouth-watering smells of our local cuisine, were several coordinated efforts to ensure the timely and responsible management and collection of waste from communities, businesses and street food vendors across the country by our Recycling Division.

According to Justin Olton, General Manager – Recycling Division, as of February 28, 2025, the Recycling Division was able to amass a combined total of 1,465.5 MT or 1,465,500 KG of various waste from across the country. The statistics show that Ecoimpact collected 256.26 MT of waste vegetable oil and 57.86 MT of used lead-acid batteries, which are being processed for export markets. The team at New Age Recycling Limited was also able to process 1,151.38 MT of various recyclables.

Congratulations are extended to every member of the Recycling Division for their continued diligence, commitment to responsible waste management and the overall preservation and enhancement of our natural environment.



The crew, overseen by Marguerite Simon-Williams, Operations Manager – Ecoimpact, load used lead-acid batteries into containers for export



Camillo makes the rounds at Queen's Park Savannah following the National Panorama Medium and Large Bands Semi-Finals



Marvin Horsford, Warehouse Supervisor at New Age Recycling in Arima focuses on safely offloading bales of collected wastepaper



Sergio Laidlow, Driver/Loader at Ecoimpact departs Food Park in Aranguez with containers of waste vegetable oil to be recycled

RECYCLING ON THE UP AND UP

Our Recycling Division continues to do its part in promoting responsible waste management practices in communities and organisations across our country, while simultaneously experiencing a steady growth in the number of public and private entities that have come onboard as part of their ESG agenda.

Now amalgamated with New Age Recycling, for the first quarter of 2025, Ecoimpact recorded that as of March 31, 2025, the collection of WVO amounted to 403,200 kg while used lead-acid batteries equated to 65,150 kg. The quarterly statistics for old, corrugated cardboard and wastepaper can be seen below:

Material	Quarterly Tally (Kg)
Old corrugated cardboard	941,060
Office WastePaper	272,810
Supermix	107,740
Bookends	126,480
Boxing Board	58,320
GoldKraft	22,400
Newspaper	50,830
Tissue	52,640



HSE GOVERNANCE

HSE STAFF UNDERGO PRACTICAL INTERNAL AUDITOR TRAINING

To uphold the highest standards in food safety, our Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) Department recently completed online training in Internal Auditing for Food Safety Management.

This training is a crucial step in developing our human resources, who will be responsible for the implementation of food safety policies and procedures in preparation for the upcoming Safe Quality Food (SQF) Audit.

The course was conducted online and was sub-divided into 8 sections that included topics such as audit scheduling and risk assessment, guidelines for Auditing Management Systems based on ISO 19011 and GFSI Benchmarked Standards Internal Audit Requirements.

At the end of the training, participants were required to complete an assessment.

Congratulations to Mr. Kevin Singh, Group HSE Manager and Mr. Ramchandrar Samuel, Group HSE Team Lead, both of HADCO Group, on successfully completing the training.



Kevin Singh, Group HSE Manager and Ramchandrar Samuel, Group HSE Team Lead for HADCO Group discussing what was learnt during their training

HSE HELPS ELECTRICAL TO BEAT THE HEAT

At times, our daily tasks on the job can become so second nature that we take for granted simple practices that can help keep us safe within the workspace; especially for those who work outdoors.

In response, our HSE Department held a toolbox session on Thursday March 6, 2025 with the Management and Staff of HADCO's Electrical Division to discuss easy ways in which they can beat the heat during the performance of their duties.

While drinking water to remain hydrated was a popular response from participants, other tips included:

- Limiting the consumption of alcohol and caffeinated beverages such as energy drinks.

- Wearing light-coloured, loose-fitting clothing to stay cool.
- Taking short breaks at intervals indoors or in shady areas to avoid heat exhaustion or heatstroke.
- Covering one's head with a hat and
- Applying sunscreen.

These tips serve as gentle reminders to you to position your health, wellness and safety as priorities when it comes to beating heat stroke and exhaustion.



Ramchandrar Samuel, Group HSE Team Lead and Jordana Williams, Administrative Assistant kickstart the morning's discussions



These vibrant HSE visuals serve as daily reminders to staff of the Electrical Division

ELECTRICAL & LIGHTING DELIVERS SUBSTATION TRANSFORMER TO PARIA FUEL TRADING COMPANY

After a three-year bidding process with Paria Fuel Trading Company, HADCO Distribution's sub-division, Electrical & Lighting, was awarded the purchase order for a 1250KVA Substation Transformer. The Transformer was officially delivered to the compound at Pointe-a-Pierre on Monday April 28, 2025.

The competitive bidding process started in 2022 after the need for a replacement unit was identified. It was specified that the bid for the unit would be awarded to a reputable bidder with the best commercial price, quality and service. The stellar reputation and diligence of HADCO's Electrical & Lighting team were recognised, winning them the purchase order.

The Substation Transformer is responsible for providing an internal electrical power supply and is a structure that is rarely replaced as its lasting power can span decades. Therefore, the manufacturing of this unit was time-consuming as meticulous detail was needed to ensure the quality and longevity of the item is guaranteed. Kudos to the Electrical and Lighting team for their execution of this project.



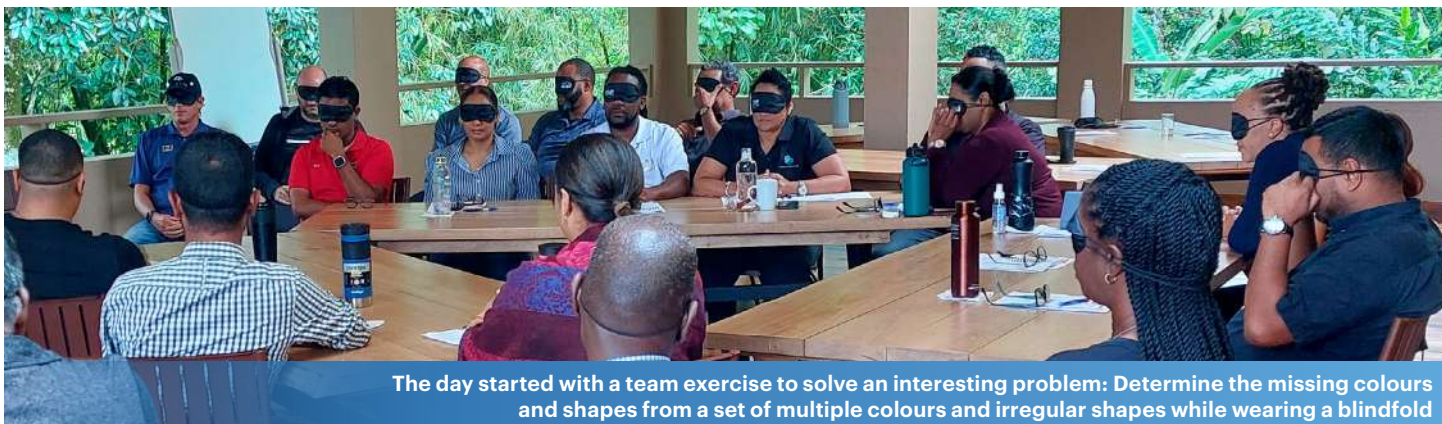
Heavy T Driver Junior Sylvester offloading the transformer



Paria Fuel team joined by HADCO Limited's Adelle Pulchan, General Manager, Electrical & Lighting and Anil Singh, Manager Industrial Sales and Inventory Control

HADCO'S MANAGEMENT TEAM PARTICIPATE IN ATTRIBUTES TRAINING

On Tuesday April 8, 2025, the Management team of HADCO Group embarked on an informative and energetic training session with renowned bestselling author, leadership and human resource expert, Rich Diviney.



The day started with a team exercise to solve an interesting problem: Determine the missing colours and shapes from a set of multiple colours and irregular shapes while wearing a blindfold

The session was held in the Mango Room at HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre, where the team was able to relax and enjoy the cool ambience of the rainforest.

The session commenced with the distribution of the results of surveys and tests completed prior. The Attributes Test provided a more clearly defined insight into each member's respective personality, including their top five and bottom five attributes.

This was followed by healthy discussion about the ways in which each attribute can be an advantage or disadvantage and reinforced the understanding that we can all choose to develop particular attributes and even take steps to diminish others.

Fun and interactive team sessions were also part of the day's activities, allowing participants to use their creative thinking and teamworking skills to solve interesting problems.

Results of a Trust Fall Test were shared, allowing heart-to-heart discussions with the Executive and the Management team, contributing to the success of the day's training.

Mr. Diviney also shared interesting stories and anecdotes from his time as a Navy SEAL Commander, which made for a fascinating session, as all present were interested in a behind-the-curtain peek at the one of the most prestigious units within the US Military.

Meals and Afternoon Tea were a hit with a delicious spread of food prepared by the HADCO Experiences team; and some team members even participated in a trail walk to end the evening on what was unanimously considered to be a memorable and invigorating training session.



Rich Diviney leads the training session on Discovering Your Attributes

HADCO PARTICIPATES IN NWRHA'S BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

On Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 19 members of staff at HADCO participated in the Northwest Regional Health Authority's (NWRHA) Blood Donation Drive, hosted at HADCO's Head Office at Bhagoutie Trace, San Juan.

According to the Ministry of Health's (MOH) National Campaign, "Share Life, Give Blood", this initiative aims to encourage voluntary blood donations across the country.

The MOH is transitioning the National Blood Donation System from a replacement-based donation model to a 100% Voluntary Non-Remunerated Blood Donation System. Their strategic goal is to promote a culture of

regular blood donations to ensure a sustainable supply for those in need.

Staff demonstrated true compassion and commitment by taking the time from their busy schedules to make a meaningful contribution. A special Thank You to all who participated in this exercise!



HADCONIANS preparing to donate blood



NCRHA taking the necessary information and vitals



Refreshments provided for donors

MITTCO CELEBRATES CHANIKKA'S EXCELLENCE IN CUSTOMER SERVICE

Earlier in January, Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited (MITTCO) received positive feedback from one of its latest customers, Mr. Brooks Gornto of Virginia, USA via the company's website.

Mr. Gornto enthusiastically expressed his satisfaction with the quality of the low C tenor pan that he purchased and also took the opportunity to commend Ms. Chanikka Franklyn, Administrative Support Officer – MITTCO for her assistance throughout the process.

Chanikka is often the first point of contact at the company, answering telephone calls, emails, meeting with walk-in customers and receiving scheduled visits. As such, although this is not the first time that she has been commended about her customer service skills, Mr. Gornto's kind words are exactly the right type of energy that we all wish to embody throughout the year.

Congrats to Chanikka and the team at MITTCO for their commitment to exceeding all expectations!



Chanikka looks forward to welcoming you

HR'S COMMITMENT TO DEFEATING STEREOTYPES ABOUT WOMEN'S HEALTH

As part of the Human Resources Department's commitment to employee well-being and in acknowledgement of International Women's Day, their team facilitated two one-hour staff seminars on Wednesday March 19, 2025, in Conference Rooms 2 and 3 of the Administrative Building. The sessions were hosted by certified medical herbologist, Dr. Asante Le Blanc.

Attendees participated in an informative and interactive exchange with Dr. Le Blanc, whose focus was on helping participants recognise the symptoms of perimenopause and menopause, dispelling misgivings about these developments and discussing their impact on women's health and wellness. She also provided some invaluable and practical advice about coping with hormonal changes, some of which included being proactive about what to expect, learning to listen to one's body, scheduling regular medical check-ups/screenings, being keen about getting regular sleep and making small but consistent lifestyle changes to one's fitness regime.

It is hoped that both women and men continue to empower themselves with similar information for a healthier and more productive society.



Class in Session - Dr. Le Blanc takes participants back to biology class

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FEATURE

MEET GISELLE RAGOONANAN, THE NEW FACE AT ASA WRIGHT NATURE CENTRE

Our tour guides at HADCO Experiences are tasked with bringing the sanctuary to life. Their proficiency and knowledge in this field along with their love for plant and animal life is a necessary component of our daily operations. Seasoned tour guides usually have decades of experience behind them, but regardless of age, our tour guides at AWNC display a level of competency that is incomparable.

Giselle Ragoonanan is one of the newest faces at HADCO Experiences. She has a great adoration for forestry and the faunal elements of the landscape while being very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about her work. In honour of International Women's Day, we decided to highlight Giselle, and her incredible work below.

What sparked your love for nature and wildlife?

My connection to nature was cultivated from an early age, growing up in Trinidad, learning from my uncles and grandmother. Being part of the indigenous community here and understanding my connection with the natural world and the intricate relationships between species and their habitats solidified my passion. This led me to conservation, where I now actively contribute to scientific research and community engagement.

What's your favourite part of your job?

The most rewarding aspect of my work is bridging science and public awareness. I love introducing people to the rich biodiversity of Trinidad and Tobago. I love finding ways to inspire people to see wildlife not just as scenery but as an integral part of our shared environment. Seeing someone experience that moment of connection- when they recognize a bird they've never noticed before or understand the impact of conservation efforts- is truly fulfilling. Seeing the excitement on someone's face when they spot a rare bird or learn something new about the forest is incredibly rewarding. My job allows me to blend education, conservation, and storytelling in a way that makes nature more accessible to everyone.

Which wildlife animals are you most excited to show on your tours?

Birds are a major highlight of the Asa Wright Nature Centre, and there's nothing quite like seeing a visitor's reaction when they spot a Tufted Coquette hummingbird or an Ornate Hawk-Eagle for the first time. The White-bearded and Golden-headed Manakins are also crowd favourites, especially when they display their unique courtship dances. Beyond birds, the entire ecosystem is fascinating- from Leafcutter ants to elusive mammals like Agoutis, and our friendly reptiles like

Golden Tegu and Pit Vipers. Every tour is an opportunity to showcase the interconnectedness of life in the rainforest.

Describe a "day in the life" for you at work.

Mornings start early, often before sunrise, when I am on morning duty. Birds are most active during this time, singing away as dawn approaches. I usually begin by preparing for guided tours, ensuring visitors have the best opportunities to see key species. Throughout the day, I lead groups along the trails, sharing insights into the behavior and ecology of the wildlife we encounter. Some days involve assisting with conservation projects, recording notable species sightings, or collaborating with researchers visiting the Centre. Each day brings something new, making the job both dynamic and fulfilling.

Are people surprised when they see someone as young as yourself be this enthusiastic and knowledgeable about nature?

Yes, but it's always a great conversation starter. There's a common misconception that conservation work is reserved for older generations, but young people are leading important environmental efforts worldwide. I see my role as both an educator and an advocate-showing that anyone, regardless of age, can play a part in conservation.

What advice do you have for young girls who may be curious about getting into this field?

Passion fuels purpose. If you're passionate about nature, pursue it fearlessly. Conservation and environmental science need diverse voices, and your perspective is valuable. Seek opportunities to learn-whether through volunteering, reading, or simply spending more time outdoors. Find mentors who can guide you and never be afraid to ask questions. Give it your all. Most importantly, remember that you don't have to fit into a traditional mould to make a difference- whether your medium is through research, education, or advocacy, there's always a way to contribute intentionally.

"Passion fuels purpose. If you're passionate about nature, pursue it fearlessly." – Giselle Ragoonanan



PROMOTIONS

We extend hearty congratulations to the following employees who were promoted after demonstrating excellence in their respective fields:



RYAN BARCLAY was promoted from **Merchandising Supervisor** to **Senior Merchandising Supervisor** at **HADCO Limited**, effective **January 1, 2025**.



MARTINA MATHISON-ROBERTS was promoted from **Finance Coordinator – Treasury** to **Finance Supervisor – Payables** at **HADCO Limited** effective **February 1, 2025**.



JUSTIN OLTON was promoted from **Assistant General Manager** of the **Recycling Division** to **General Manager of Ecoimpact Limited**, effective **February 1, 2025**.



KHADINE CHAI Hong was promoted from **Senior Logistics Supervisor** to **Logistics Manager** at **HADCO Limited** effective **April 1, 2025**.



NIKISHA RICHENS was promoted from **Customer Service Representative** in the Food Service Department to **Merchandising Supervisor** in the Food Retail Department at **HADCO Limited** effective **April 7, 2025**.



UDASH RAMPERSAD promoted from **Sales Representative** in the Food Service Department to **Brand Manager** in the Marketing Department at **HADCO Limited** effective **June 1, 2025**.

EMPLOYEE TRANSFERS



Candice Mars – Customer Service Representative, Food Service Department

Candice was transferred from Lighthouse’s Tunapuna branch effective June 2, 2025, and joins the Food Service team as a Customer Service Representative.

With over 15 years of experience and a strong background in customer service and client relations, her career has centered on meeting customer needs and delivering exceptional service. Candice is motivated by the opportunity to help and support customers. Outside of work, she enjoys reading, outdoor activities and watching movies.

NEW EMPLOYEES

We welcome the following employees who commenced employment in February, 2025.

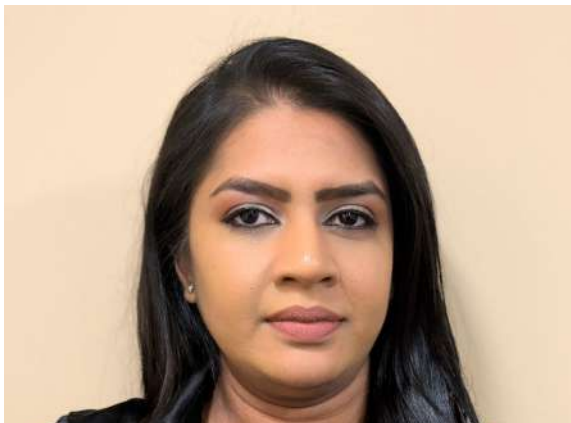


Anish Goberdhan – Logistics Coordinator (Logistics)

Anish has over six years of experience under his belt and brings a strong background in customer service, sales and operations.

He is highly motivated by recognition for hard work and thrives in team-oriented environments. As someone who prides himself on his communication skills, he believes that clear and open communication among his team members can ensure a common goal is achieved.

Outside of work, Anish enjoys hiking, playing pool and cooking. Guided by his personal philosophy, “Everyone has a moral responsibility to leave this world a better place than the one we found,” he is committed to making a positive impact in both his professional and personal life.



Ria Charles – Human Resources Assistant (Human Resources)

With 18 years of work experience under her belt, Ria’s career began in the aviation industry where she worked as a Travel Agent and Ground Operations Agent for Caribbean Airlines.

She later expanded her expertise into business development before returning to HADCO, where she previously spent six (6) years in the Finance Department. Ria is driven by her philosophy “One Day at a Time” and takes pride in her dedication to successfully completing tasks and places high value on teamwork and good communication.

Outside of the office, she enjoys cooking, hiking, and volunteering to help animals with Pet to the Vet Ambulance, a role she has held for eight years.

NEW EMPLOYEES

We welcome the following employee who commenced employment in March, 2025.



Sheron Frederick-Ambrose – Quality Control Technician

Sheron Frederick-Ambrose joins the Quality Control Department as a Quality Control Technician, bringing over 10 years of experience to the role.

She has spent nearly eight years in manufacturing, specializing in factory and school tours, research and development for personal care and household products, and quality control. Passionate about ensuring high-quality products, she takes pride in her work.

Outside of work, Sheron enjoys reading and travelling. She lives by the motto “Always strive for excellence” and is a member of the St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade.

We welcome the following employees who commenced employment in April, 2025.

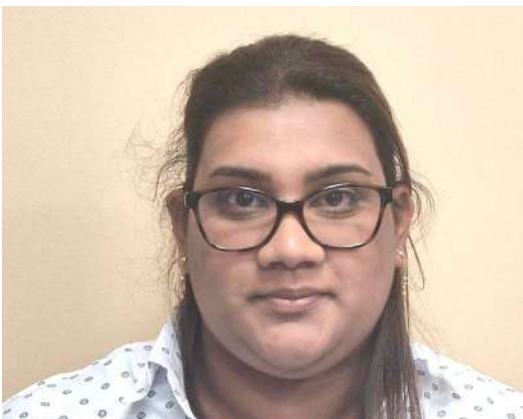


Clydette Nandramsingh – Merchandising Supervisor

Clydette joins the Food Retail team as a Merchandising Supervisor, bringing over eight years of experience in the Fast-Moving Consumer Goods industry.

With a strong background in sales, marketing, and supervision, she is driven by the sense of accomplishment her work brings and by her greatest inspiration, her daughter.

Clydette considers herself a natural team player with excellent communication skills. Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, participating in marathons, watching movies, and travelling.



Kareena Soonachan – Finance Clerk

Kareena joins the Finance Department as a Finance Clerk.

Her professional background includes working in a pharmacy environment, where she engaged with medication management and patient interaction daily. Kareena is motivated by the desire to see her dreams become reality. She values teamwork and clear communication and is always willing to collaborate to meet goals. Outside of work, Kareena enjoys baking, reading, and watching documentaries.

NEW EMPLOYEES

We welcome the following employees who commenced employment in May, 2025.



Sheryce Quash – Bakery Sales Technician

Sheryce Quash joins HADCO Limited as a Bakery Sales Technician, bringing almost a decade of experience and a strong culinary background, including six years as a Chef and two years in Management and Sales.

She is passionate about making a positive impact and finds motivation in bringing value to anything she does. Sheryce enjoys reading, and expresses her creativity through graphic design, cooking and baking.



Jandell Romany – Corporate Communications Specialist

Jandell joins the team as a Corporate Communications Specialist, with five years of experience in the field. She began her career in Communications as a graduate intern, later transitioning to Communications Assistant.

She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Communications and a Master's Degree in Marketing. Jandell enjoys the diverse and dynamic nature of communications, which keeps her work unique and fun. Outside of the office, Jandell enjoys reading and hiking.

We welcome the following employee who commenced employment in June, 2025.



Josh Jagroop – Intern (Administration)

Josh Jagroop joins the team as an Intern for Administration.

He has one year's working experience and a background in Mechanics and Auto Repairs. He considers himself to be very goal-oriented and maintains good working relations with his colleagues. Outside of the office, Josh enjoys exercising, reading and quality time with family.

THAT'S IT FOR THIS ISSUE OF

THE HADCO TIMES

SEE YOU AGAIN FOR ISSUE 44!



📍 JRJ Warehousing Compound, Bhagoutie Trace, San Juan, Trinidad & Tobago, W.I.

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