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SAFETY

Safety Tips When Driving In The Rain



1. Keep both hands on the steering wheel at all times

Keep all distractions, such as cell phones or even the radio, off and away from you. While focus to your front do Take a Look in Back View Mirror as well as Right Hand side & Left Hand side so that you get an 360 degree over view what is happening around any mud slide or falling tree, electric pole, hanging electrical wires , or in coming hazard etc.

2. Turn on your headlights

This will make it easier for you to see what is in front of you, and make your vehicle more visible to other road user, thus, preventing any accidents.

3. Keep a minimum of a good distance from the car in front of you

You never know what other drivers are going to do or what could happen to you!

4. Drive at below the speed limit

To the extent that you are comfortable with, and can see far

enough in front of you to appropriately make driving decisions.

5. Be aware that the maximum speed at which you can drive is DIRECTLY related to your tyres

Be sure to know the condition of your tyres. Radial tyres have better traction than the old bias ply polyester tyres, but even they lose their ability to grip wet pavement and channel water out as the tread wears out.

6. Be aware of hydroplaning

This is where your vehicle travels on top of the water and has NO or very little contact with the ground. Your traction is reduced significantly. To safely get out of a hydroplaning situation let off the gas and steer straight or slightly in the direction you must go. Do not make sudden motions and remain calm.

7. Avoid flooded roads

Never drive through standing or flowing water in a road way unless you have no choice or you are able to follow someone else to judge the

depth of the water. Flooding the engine of your car can cause the engine to stall, and deep water can actually float your car and take it off the roadway.

8. Turn on the defroster if the windshield begins to fog

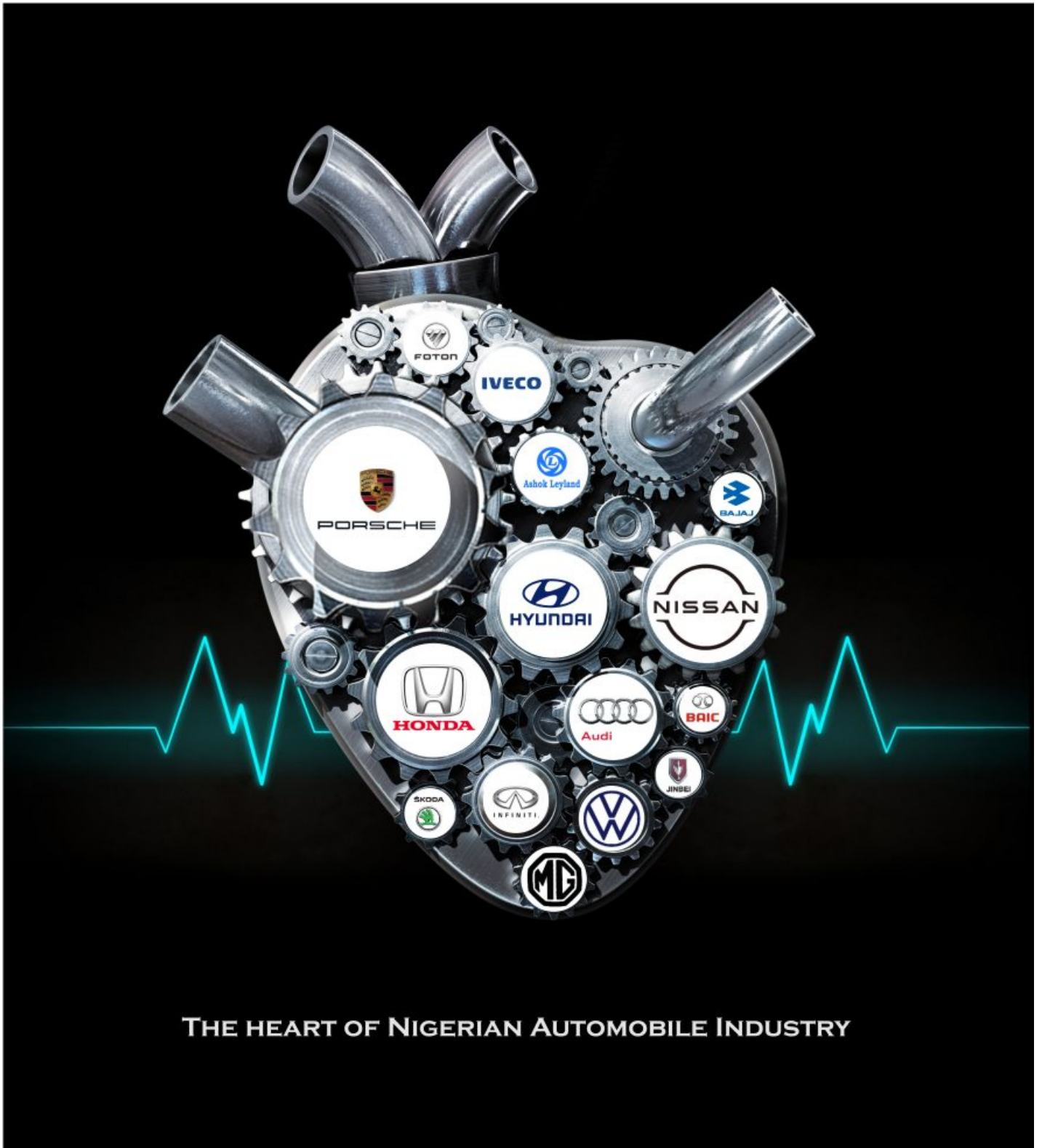
In hot, muggy weather, air conditioned air (which cannot contain as much moisture) will usually clear the inside of the windshield faster than non-air conditioned.

9. Be aware that brakes can be affected by water

Wet drum type brakes are especially prone to decreased stopping power after driving through deep water.

10. Watch for splashing from potholes and pools of water that accumulate at clogged storm drain pipes and low areas of the pavement

Highways also develop "ruts" where the heaviest traffic tracks, and you may be able to position your vehicle while remaining in your lane to avoid these.



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EDITORIAL

Subsidy Removal: AutoGas, Evs To The Rescue

In his inaugural speech on May 29, 2023, President Bola Tinubu was very blunt in saying that the era of government subsidy on petroleum products was gone. Though the Muhammadu Buhari government had earlier stopped appropriation for subsidy payments to take effect by the end of June, 2023, Tinubu's pronouncement abruptly put an end to the regime, which has been bedeviled by controversies and corruption for decades.

Nigeria is unhealthily depending largely on imported petrol to run its economy, though it has four government owned crude oil refineries that are highly unreliable. For too long, accurate figures could not be placed on the volume of petrol imported into the country, as this may not be unconnected with the corruption associated with the subsidy regime.

In 2011, the average daily Premium Motor Spirit (PMS), commonly known as petrol consumption rate was 29.3 million litres, while the

government paid a subsidy of N2,110b based on an estimated daily PMS consumption rate of 56.9 million litres.

The government claimed that the difference of 27.6 million litres per day was smuggled to neighbouring countries. The federal government also said the volume of petrol that was consumed across the country in the first half of 2023 is 11.26 billion litres. It has however been noted that consumption reduced by an average of about 18.5 million litres daily in June.

Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority figures show that between January 1 and May 28, 2023, which was the pre-deregulation period, the total amount of petrol consumed nationwide was about 9.9 billion litres.

The average consumption for the 148-day period was put at 66.9 million litres, indicating the country consumed an average of 66.9 million litres of petrol daily

during the five-month period when subsidy on petrol was still in place.

Hence, these shows that the country will be making huge savings with the removal of the subsidy regime. And this is time for the country to make heavy investments in alternative energy such as electric and gas. This is imperative because Nigeria relies over 80% on land transportation. Aside vehicles, gas can also be used to power the trains. It is commendable that the Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT), Zaria, has taken the initiative to promote the development of auto gas.

It is also worthy of note that the National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDC), has been in the forefront of encouraging the development of electric vehicles in the country.

We urge the federal government to direct its savings from the subsidy regime to improving the transportation infrastructure in the country, as this will go a long way in easing the transportation difficulties currently facing Nigerians.

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TYRE WATCH

Car Tyre Maintenance: Dos and Don'ts

Wear and tear are expected, with your tyres taking all the burden of endless rugged driving. Here's a list of some simple tips to keep your tyres in good shape.

Tyres Shouldn't Be Under or Over-Inflated

If you face issues with the accelerator, brakes, or steering, perhaps checking the tyre pressure is a good idea. Especially in the cold weather, you should aim for car tyre pressure checks at least once or twice a month. There is a good chance you'll find the need to adjust the inflation in the tyres.

Wheel Alignment

Every 25,000 km or maybe once a year, you should treat your car tyres with wheel alignment. However, when using your car on bad roads, it should be more often. Doing this will prevent uneven tread wear. The daily impacts of railroad crossings, potholes, and other rough terrains can depreciate your car's tyres. These adjustments will also contribute to reducing tyre wear.

Rotate Your Car's Tyres Regularly

You might not be aware, but rotating your car's tyres can improve its performance and lifespan. Most car owners and drive ignore the need for rotating the car tyre. The truth is that your car tyre needs rotation every six months or once in every 12,000 km. Rotation ensures even tyre tread wear that prevents the tyres from wearing out too soon.

Inspect Before Long Road Trips

At the time of car washing or inflating your car's tyres, do a physical inspection as well. It would help if you looked for bulges, cracks, or anything that could've punctured the tyres. If any of these objects puncture your tyre's sidewall, the tyre would require replacement. You may also opt for a complete professional inspection before making long road trips to ensure proper safety.



Never Overload the Vehicle

You can learn about the overall weight-bearing capacity of your car on the placard on your car's door. Shockingly, overloading the car can be one of the prime causes of tyre failure. If not outright tyre failure, it'll still lead to poor handling controls.

Avoid Installing Mismatched Tyres

Installing mismatched tyres is a rookie mistake that most drivers are tempted

to make. Mismatched tyres tend to negatively impact the control and handling of your car. What's more, it can cause wear and tear for the rest of the tyres. Moreover, it can also be fatalistic for other components in your car.

So, don't wait for your car's tyres to give up till the last moment. With these car tyre care tips, you can prolong the life of your car's tyres.

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TYRE WATCH

Sailun Tyres Top Executives Visit Nigeria, To Strengthen Partnership With Tanzanite Ltd

One of the leading tyre manufacturers based in China, Sailun Tyres, says it is working towards continued and expanded provision of high-performance tyre solutions for Nigeria.

This, it said, would help Nigeria to sustainably develop its economy through effective road transportation.

Executive President of the company, Mr Xie Xiaohong, who led a 13-member delegation to Nigeria, disclosed this on Monday during an interactive session with some journalists in Lagos.

Already, he said the company had carried out an extensive research work on tyre uses in Nigeria, the peculiarity of the environment and the nature of the roads.

“We heard that the new President (Bola Tinubu) wants to reinforce the economy of the country. And we know that you can only achieve that with effective transportation, and quality tyres developed for your road play a vital role in effective road transportation.

“We came to Nigeria to do some research on the local (tyre) market for more trade and strengthen our partnership with Tanzanite Ltd.”

He also hinted of plans to set up a tyre factory in future to serve the African market, adding that a research was being done in this area.

According to Xiaohong, Sailun develops tyres that are tropicalised and suitable for the Nigerian roads, noting that China had a similar road condition in 2000 and its tyres were reinforced to serve the people of the country.

The Xiaohong-led delegation met with their Nigerian partners,



L-R: Director, Sailun Tyres, David Wei; Executive President, Sailun Tyres, Xie Xiaohong, and Executive Director at Chanrai Nigeria Limited, Sunny Hart, at a press conference in Lagos during the Sailun team visit to Nigeria...recently

Tanzanite Ltd, represented by Mr Anil Sahgal, Managing Director, and some other business executives, to explore new avenues of collaboration and strategies for further growth and development.

The visiting executives of Sailun Tyres also engaged leaders of Tanzanite Ltd, a prominent distributor in Nigeria and Africa, in strategic discussions to identify opportunities for mutual growth and explore new ways to enhance customer satisfaction.

Xiaohong said the Sailun Tyres partnership with Tanzanite Ltd dates back to 15 years.

A statement by Tanzanite said the visit by the Sailun Tyres' team came “at a time when the Nigerian automotive industry was experiencing significant turbulence resulting in movement towards value brands due to price pressure.

“Sailun Tyres aims to capitalize on this future market and solidify its position as a trusted tyre provider in

Nigeria.”

It also said, “Sailun Tyres is renowned for its cutting-edge manufacturing processes, innovative technology, and commitment to delivering superior quality products.

“With a wide range of tyre solutions for passenger vehicles, commercial trucks, and off-road vehicles, Sailun Tyre has firmly established itself as a global leader in the tyre industry.

“As Sailun Tyres' local partner, Tanzanite Ltd possesses an in-depth understanding of the Nigerian market, ensuring effective distribution channels and comprehensive customer support.”

The collaboration between these two industry giants is expected to foster the availability of high-performance tyre solutions that meet international standards, catering to the increasing demands of both individual drivers and commercial fleets across Nigeria.

MARITIME

Support, Encourage PSTT, TICT MD Tells Stakeholders

The National Coordinator of the Port Standing Task Team (PSTT), Mr. Moses Fadipe and the Managing Director of Tincan Island Container Terminal (TICT), Mr. Rochers Ettiene have agreed to explore areas of collaboration to sustain the implementation of the Nigeria Port Process Manual (NPPM) for the overall benefit of the Nigerian Port industry.



L-R: Mrs Maryann Olopade (Head, Legal Services) Mr. Rochers Ettiene (MD TICT) Mr Moses Fadipe (National Coordinator,- Presidential Port Standing Task Team) Mr Kola Saka (Terminal Manager - TICT)

Speaking during a courtesy call to his office by the PSTT Coordinator, the TICT MD expressed delight for the PSTT visit to his office, saying it was his first time meeting the PSTT boss, “after all the transformational work you have done in our terminal. We thank you and the Nigerian Shippers' Council which we understand is now doing the work of the Port Economic Regulator. We have seen a lot of changes so far under the Shippers' Council and we wish very much to express our thanks to PSTT.” He also promised to support the efforts of the Nigeria Customs Services and PSTT to ensure seamless release of imports and shipment of export cargoes

in line with Ease of Doing Business policy of the Federal Government, saying TICT is the biggest investor of all the terminals in Lagos in terms of equipment including number RPGs and technical support manpower. “We have a high density of people and equipment over a small area,” he said. Mr. Ettiene further called on port operators and users to comply with the cargo scanning/examination site rules as being implemented by the Task Team, particularly as it relates to timelines for positioning of cargo for examination, commencement of examination by 9:00am and closure of activities at the scanning/examination site by 4:00pm.

He called on industry operators to rally round the PSTT to encourage it on the good work it has done in the Nigerian port industry in the less than two years of its existence, saying the country needs to leverage the achievement of the PSTT to position the Nigerian port industry.

In his remarks, the National Coordinator of PSTT, Comrade Moses Fadipe, said that PSTT which is domiciled at the Shippers' Council, as the Lead Agency for the implementation of the NPPM, was set up by the

Federal Government under the Office of the Vice President with the Chairman of the ICPC as its CEO to monitor and ensure compliance to the NPPM.

Fadipe who is also a Director in the Nigerian Shippers' Council, disclosed that the government found the establishment of the PSTT necessary because of the government's desire to have a regime of Ease of Doing Business in the ports, to create an enabling environment for the investors who have brought their money and the technical knowhow to develop Nigeria's maritime industry and have returns on their investments.

Transport Ministry, Customs Synergise On Overtime Ports Cargo

By Ignatius Ushie

The Federal Ministry of Transportation is to synergise with the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) in the disposal of over-time cargo to pave way for effective and efficient service delivery at the ports.

The Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Transportation, Dr. Magdalene Ajani, made this disclosure during a courtesy call on the Acting Comptroller General of NCS, Bashir Adeniyi, at the agency's Headquarters in Abuja.

The Permanent Secretary noted that it was pertinent to be amongst the first to pay a visit to the Acting Comptroller and extend the Ministry's well wishes on his recent appointment and brief him on the Committee that was set up comprising the Ministry, its agencies and the NCS on disposal of overtime cargoes at all the ports in Nigeria.

Speaking on the need to clear the ports, Ajani said: “The places are over spilling with overtime cargoes. Some dating way more than 10 years. We are not even sure of the integrity of the

goods, but for our whole operational services, this is impeding service delivery and efficiency”.

Responding, the Acting Comptroller General, NCS, Bashir Adeniyi, informed the delegation that with the recent Nigeria Customs Service Act, 2023, adequate provisions for dealing with issues of port congestion that were not in prior mandate of the Service will reposition the body to ensure that Nigerian ports are efficient and meets the needs of it users.

MARITIME

Governor Otu Calls For Dredging Of Calabar Port

Cross River State Governor, Senator Prince Bassey Otu, has appealed to the Federal Government for the speedy dredging of the Calabar Port.

Speaking in Government House, Calabar, recently, when he received the Calabar Port Manager, Mr. Festus Ikechi Olumati, and his team, the governor explained that transforming it to an active port will attract investors as well as tourists and boost revenue generation.

"It is important that the encumbrances hindering the dredging work be settled out of court for us to have a more active port.

"If it is in terms of offering concessions to cargo and ship owners, we will ensure that such are granted.

"We are fully aware of the enormous economic potential of the port and we will do our best to make it work so as to improve our economy through the generation of desired revenue for the country," the governor assured.

Otu charged the management of the



L-R: Cross River State Deputy Governor, Hon. Peter Odey; Cross River State Governor, Senator Bassey Otu; and Calabar Port Manager, Mr. Festus Ikechi Olumati during the visit

ports to take advantage of the existing synergy between the state government, the Navy, and other security agencies to draw more traffic.

"We are doing our best in terms of security and I want to assure you that with the collaborative efforts of the Navy and other security agencies in the

state coupled with the fact that we are positioning a vessel at the estuary, these would help check piracy and other criminal activities.

"Do not relent in your marketing drive but ensure you meet with the Chambers of Commerce and other relevant stakeholders on the need for a renewed drive to bring life back to the Port.

"We have an investment across the waterways, so we welcome any investor willing to dry dock or engage in other ports development that will boost economic activities around the area," Otu said.

Earlier, the Calabar Ports Manager, Chief Festus Ikechi Olumati, informed the governors that his team has not relented in its aggressive marketing efforts, which are yielding efforts with more cargoes berthing.

"Prior to my taking over the Ports, we were receiving four vessels monthly, but today, through our aggressive marketing efforts, we now receive at least 16 vessels in a month.

"Also, after six years, the Calabar Port has received 34,000 metric tonnes of vessel with a total cargo tonnage of 42 metric tonnes.

"These have translated into increase in both revenue generation and cargo activities in the ports, thereby generating employment opportunities," the ports manager said.

Flood: Katsina To Demolish Buildings On Waterways

The Katsina State Government has given directives for buildings standing on waterways in the state to be demolished as part of measures to avoid a repeat of the flood menace experienced on the state recently.

The Deputy Governor of the state, Hon. Faruq Jobe, gave the directive to the state's Urban and Regional Planning Board (URPB) shortly after visiting some of the areas affected by flood in the state capital. Jobe blamed the recent flood that caused havoc in the state capital on buildings erected on waterways as well as the indiscriminate dumping of waste materials in drainages.

Consequently, starting from the state capital, the URPB are to identify and pull down every

structures standing on waterways to curtail flood menace in the state.

Jobe said: "We have ordered the state Urban and Regional Planning Board to demolish all houses and other structures built on waterways in the affected communities to allow free flow of water.

"So, the URPB will go and sit down with those affected and develop a plan that will pave the way for the immediate reconstruction of water channels blocked by illegal structures to prevent flooding in the state."

The Katsina Deputy Governor also disclosed that the state government has already embarked on the expansion and rehabilitation of drainages in the state to further arrest the ugly trend.

MARITIME

Lekki Deep Seaport Creates 153 Capacity Pre-Gate Truck Park

Lekki Deep Sea Port has created a 153 capacity pre-gate truck park to ensure efficient and seamless traffic management control at the port.

This will be an integral part of the automated gate system of the port which consists of:

- Pre-Gate Truck Park of 2.5 hectares

- Vehicle Booking System which is an electronic platform for port users to register their intended visits to the port to ensure only authorised entry based on RFID tags and biometrics.

- The Port Gates which will have optical camera recognition portals to read the RFID tags on the trucks as they arrive the port; biometric

readers for drivers, gate kiosks to issue pick up & drop off tickets to the drivers and gate arms to allow access/exit for the truckers.

Lekki Deep Sea Port is collaborating with Lagos State Government and Nigerian Port Authority to ensure a full scope traffic management plan for the entire Lekki Economic Zones Area.



Mota Engil Africa Emerges for Benin Port Project

After 75 years of stalling amid various obstacles, the Benin Port Project is finally kicking off with the emergence of a preferred bidder for the most ambitious legacy project of the Edo State Governor, Mr. Godwin Obaseki.

Chairman of the Benin Port Project, Dr. Greg Ogbeifun, confirmed recently that the preferred bidder, Mota Engil Africa, emerged after a one-week evaluation exercise conducted on the bids received in response to the Request for Proposals, from the three pre-qualified bidders, namely China Harbour Engineering Company (China), Mota-Engil Africa (Portugal), and Yilport Holding Inc (Turkey).

Mota Engil Africa, which is also handling the Kano-Maradi rail

project of the federal government, recently took delivery of \$200 million worth of equipment, showcasing its capacity to deliver on big-ticket projects. Efforts to construct the port had persisted unsuccessfully for over 75 years after it was first proposed, as regulatory, funding and institutional setbacks halted various moves to embark on the project.

THISDAY reports that Governor Obaseki had promised to build the port during his campaigns in 2016 and has ever since pursued the actualisation of the project, navigating an extremely complex maze of regulatory and institutional challenges. The governor had in his New Year address in 2017, announced the set-up of a seven-man committee chaired by Engr.

Greg Ero, to lead the development of the port project. This Committee was eventually succeeded by the Dr. Ogbeifun-led Benin Port project team, which is currently handling the project.

Responding to the development, Obaseki said it was delightful that the project has finally kicked off in earnest to serve as a launchpad for the expansion of Edo's \$11.8 billion economy, noting that it would catalyse the growth of the agriculture, real estate, manufacturing, food processing, automotive, power, retail and extractive sectors. "We are now set for the commencement of this landmark project, which will open a new vista of opportunities for Edo people and Nigerians in general," he noted.

MARITIME

Climate Change Challenges: Nigeria Syncing With IMO

Tackling Climate Change Cutting GreenHouse Gas, GHG emissions from ships including adoption of the revised IMO GHG Strategy was the focus at the just concluded 80th session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee MEPC of the International Maritime Organisation that took place in London.

Nigeria's Permanent Representative at the IMO Nigeria's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, Ambassador Sarafa Tunji Isola led other Nigerian delegates to participate at the session, where Energy Efficiency of Ships, Ballast Water Management among other topical issues were reviewed.



L-R: Executive Director, Marine and Operations, Nigerian Port Authority, Hon. Onari Brown; Nigeria's Alternate Permanent Representative to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), Mr. Dirisu Abdulmumini; Nigerian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, Ambassador Sarafa Tunji Isola and Director, Marine Environment Management, Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Mr. Heaky Dimowo during IMO MEPC 80 in London

Customs To Keep 4% Of Import Earnings As Operating Cost

The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) will henceforth keep over four per cent of the free-on-board value of imports for its operations in line with international best practice as provided by its enabling act.

This is the first time since its inception the service will finance its statutory responsibilities from the revenue it generates as provided in Section 18 of the recent Nigeria Customs Service Act (NCSA).

This was disclosed by the Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Customs and Excise in the ninth National Assembly, Leke Abejide, recently, at a two-day sensitisation workshop on the Nigeria Customs Service Act 2023 held for management members of

the service in Abuja.

He said the new arrangement would speed up the growth of the economy, enhance investors' and stakeholders' confidence, boost the morale of Customs officers nationwide and improve the transparency of the country's business climate in the global market.

Abejide added that the legislation empowers the service to execute projects not more than 10 per cent of its total capital budget.

He said this makes it faster for the service to implement its capital projects as quickly as possible to enhance the performance of officers in service delivery.

According to him, projects whose value is above 10 per cent of the total capital projects of the year under review will require Federal

Executive Council (FEC) approval.

The Acting Comptroller General of NCS, Adewale Adeniyi, said the service is an important agency of the Federal Government saddled with the enormous responsibility of administering, managing and enforcing the provision of the defunct Customs and Excise Management Act (CEMA) Cap C45 LFN 2004.

According to him, CEMA, which was enacted 63 years ago, had remained in operation without any significant amendment notwithstanding the expansion in government, growth in population and over-dynamic progress and challenges in the economy. He said several attempts were made in the past for the amendments or repeal of CEMA to no avail.

MARITIME

Glossary of Terms (1)



These are working concept and definition of services and related activities arising from the function extracted from the port act. The definitions are same and cuts across in meaning to the third parties, joint ventures and agencies providing them

TOWAGE

Towage is the pushing or pulling of a ship or barge along the water by another ship or boat called tug.

PILOTAGE

This is the act or skill of assisting a ship to navigate through the channels of the port.

MOORING

It is the act of fastening a vessel to a bollard by rope.

STEVEDORING

This is an act of unloading and loading of goods from ship hold to wharf. It also involves every act that is connected to cargo handling within a port, terminal space, or warehouse and related environment. A stevedore is the, dockworker, a waterfront manual laborer who is involved in loading and unloading ships

TERMINAL HANDLING

It is the summary of services involving the use of plant, machinery, equipment, and maintenance in the terminal for container/Cargo being loaded or unloaded by shipping lines at a port of shipment or destination.

STORAGE

Safe keeping of container/cargo discharged or loaded in the port of destination within a designated space or facility awaiting final delivery to the consignee

CARGO SURVEYING

It is the process of carrying out a draft survey in order to determine the actual cargo and its condition discharged or loaded on board the vessel in accordance with the limit and law required in the port of call

BERTHING

It is the process of bringing in a vessel by appointed Pilot to a designated location within port for safe and secured mooring that will facilitate discharging and loading of cargo

BERTHING MEETING

A preliminary meeting held to determine the allocation of specific ships to respective berths within the ports. These meetings are held daily where agents declare the particulars of the ship and the cargo which informs berth allocation by the Port Authority.

RADIO/SIGNAL COMMUNICATION & PORT CONTROL

It is a regulatory process of information exchange and documentation involving vessels through visual look out, GMDSS, radio telephony and other means of electronic communication that provides active marine traffic monitoring and navigational advice for vessels within territorial waters and its approaches.

NAVIGATIONALAIDS

This refers to the instruments use by pilots for the purpose of navigation and assistance to ascertain positions and to determine the speed, direction etc. in order to arrive safely at the port or point of destination.

SALVAGE & RESCUE

This is a specialized operation involving the

use of tugboats to rescue ships and persons in distress or in danger of sinking, or to salvage ships which have already sunk.

DREDGING

This is a routine removal of sediments and debris from the bottom of lakes, rivers, harbors, and other water bodies that gradually fills the channels or harbours in order to maintain or increase the depth of navigation channels, anchorages, or berthing areas to facilitate safe passage of boats and ships.

CHANNEL MAINTENANCE

Channel maintenance is form of dredging that is required in some areas or locations of the channels to eliminate possible risk and to ensure safe passage for ships and other crafts.

HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY/CHARTING

It is the technique of measurement and description of features which affect maritime navigation and other related activities which are inimical to safe navigation.

DOCKING

Docking or Dry Docking are used when ships, boats and other crafts are taken into the service yard for inspection, maintenance, and repair.

WRECK REMOVAL

It is an extensive operation of removal or extraction of objects that pose or constitute obstruction to safe access or navigation to a port or port facilities.

ANCHORAGE

It is a designated area at sea protected from weather conditions, and other hazards where ships can lower anchors. The areas usually have conditions considered safe for anchorage.

BUNKERING

It is the supply of fuel/diesel or refueling of ship by the use of another ship in a seaport. Bunkering is also referred to as taking of oil or bunkers on board ship.

WASTE RECEPTION

This is the system of handling waste such Oily wastes, sludge, drainage from the bilges, sewage garbage and others, generated along with cargo residues during loading and unloading operations in line with IMO Convention MARPOL 73/78.

*Courtesy of
<https://nigerianports.gov.ng/faqs/glossary-of-terms/>*

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AUTO

Carloha Nigeria, Partners HD Autos, Opens New Vehicle Shop In Lekki, Lagos

Carloha Nigeria, a global automobile company that specialises in sales and services of quality used vehicles, has officially partnered with HD Autos, to open a new automobile shop in Lekki, Lagos.

Located close to the popular Mega Chicken restaurant on the highbrow Lekki-Epe Expressway, the shop is loaded with high end automobiles.

This strategic expansion move by Carloha Nigeria will significantly strengthen its presence in the thriving automotive market of Nigeria.

Mr. Henry George, Managing Director, HD Autos, stated during the opening ceremony which held on Saturday, July 8, 2023, that "Our state-of-the-art facilities, skilled team, and comprehensive after-sales service are all geared towards enhancing customer experience and building trust that extends beyond the initial purchase. With HD Autos and Carloha Nigeria working hand in hand, we are confident that our customers will not only drive exceptional vehicles but also become a part of a closely-knit automotive family.

"As we embark on this journey together, we recognize the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. We promise to remain steadfast in our commitment to continuous improvement, sustainability, and adaptability to the changing market dynamics. With our combined expertise, we are confident in our ability to overcome challenges and soar to new heights."

While declaring open the auto shop, HRH, Otonye Efebo, Executive



Chairman, AA Rescue, reiterated his confidence in the person of the MD of HD Autos, and committed the business to Almighty God.

Also speaking, the Director of Sales, Carloha Nigeria, Mr. Joseph Omokhapue, said Carloha Nigeria is well positioned to satisfy discerning vehicle patrons in Nigeria.

With a commitment to excellence, customer satisfaction, and innovation, Carloha Nigeria has earned a reputation for being a trusted partner in the automotive market.

The showroom boasts a wide range of options, including Sedans, Luxury SUVs, Crossovers, and more, catering to various preferences and lifestyles.

Partnering with HD Motors brings together the expertise and reputation of two industry players. HD Motors is renowned for its commitment to providing top-notch vehicles that embody style, performance, and cutting-edge technology. This collaboration aims to offer customers an extensive range of high-quality vehicles from renowned brands, ensuring a seamless buying

experience with exceptional after-sales service.

"We are thrilled to unveil our new vehicle shop in Lekki and announce our partnership with HD Motors," said Mr. Mathew Enuoma Aje, the Marketing Manager of Carloha Nigeria. "With this expansion, we aim to bring convenience and excellence closer to our customers in Lekki and surrounding areas. Our collaboration with HD Motors further strengthens our commitment to delivering exceptional vehicles and services that exceed customer expectations."

The shop will also offer attractive financing options, making it easier for customers to drive home in their preferred vehicles.

Carloha Nigeria invites everyone to visit their new vehicle shop at Lekki and experience the excitement.

The event was witnessed by dignitaries including the Managing Director of Carloha, Mr. Shola Adigun. For more information about Carloha Nigeria and the new vehicle shop at Lekki, please visit www.carlohanigeria.com.

AUTO

NADDC, Lanre Shittu Motors Train Youth In Ekiti

The first set of auto technicians have benefitted from the newly equipped National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDC) Automotive Training Centre in Ekiti State after a five-day training in the facility.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the collaborative training between NADDC and Lanre Shittu Motors for youth in Ekiti State, the Director General, NADDC, ably represented by the Director, Industrial Infrastructure Department of the Council, Dr. Nua Omisanya, explained that the Council conceived the establishment of Automotive Training Centres (ATCs) across the six geo-political zones in order to ensure skill development and international best practices in the automotive sector of the country, adding that the training is also aimed at redefining the nation's

auto industry, job provision and improvement in skill among technicians which would in turn ensure prompt and efficient repairs and maintenance of vehicles while ensuring the safety of the mechanics, vehicles and environment.

He urged the auto technicians to make adequate use of the

opportunity provided by the state-of-the-art equipment installed by the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) and acquire modern technical skills in the automotive sector.

"Over 30,000 youth have so far been trained in these programmes which are usually conducted periodically, therefore today marks another milestone in the Nigerian automotive industry, because this specialised training is aimed at skills upgrade and capacity building for the selected auto technicians/youth in Ekiti State to enable them cope with the task of repairs and maintenance in the ever-dynamic automotive industry", he said.



Jet Motors Introduces New Nigerian Produced EVs, Partners NADDC

JET Motors, a progressive indigenous Nigerian company, has produced another EV vehicle in the country.

The company has over the years been in the business of producing and providing affordable and eco-friendly transportation options for Africans.

The company produces a range of electric vehicles for both passenger and utility applications.

The Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Oluwemimo Joseph Osanipin, while presenting the Nigerian made 14 seater E-Buses at the NADDC headquarters in Abuja on Monday 10th July 2023, expressed his satisfaction over the full support from the Council as a long standing committed partner, adding that the

approval of the JET Motors EVs and charging infrastructure by the Council has opened a new chapter of possibilities for the company.

He further added that, "Beyond embracing the current realities of the removal of fuel subsidy by the current administration, e-mobility appears to be the future, being an innovation that is positively disrupting the traditional mode of powering mobility.

Having test-run one of the e-vehicles and observing the functionality of the technology, the Director-General, NADDC, Jelani Aliyu, while receiving the EVs, noted that e-mobility is an unparalleled transportation solution for Nigeria and Africa.

He emphasised the Council's commitment to giving its full support for the mass production of Electric Vehicles in Nigeria.

The DG reiterated that the NADDC will continue to support Jet Motors Company and relevant stakeholders with applicable fiscal and non fiscal incentives so as to continue to successfully build more of these E-Vehicles, positioning Nigeria on a platform to fully capitalize on the opportunities of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

He also informed the gathering that the motivation is to make life easy for Nigerians in a cost-effective manner - to ease the challenges occasioned by high cost of Prime Motor Spirit (PMS)/Diesel.

TRANSPORT

SPECIAL EDITION / JULY 2023

Magazine DAY

...the mouthpiece of transportation & logistics



**Goodyear Lubricants To Launch In Nigeria
By Alonsa Electric Group Distributor**

SPECIAL INTERVIEW

At the recently held West Africa Auto Show (WAAS) in Lagos, Ignatius Ushie and Goodness Sunday interviewed Mr. Sunil Khanchandani, the Managing Director of Alonsa Electric Gulf fzco, the company charged with the responsibility to position and develop the Goodyear lubricant in the West African market

Tell us about the background and history of Goodyear Lubricant as a brand.

Goodyear Lubricant is a product by the Goodyear Tire Company in USA. It is a licensed product of Goodyear. We are licensing for them to develop the product in Nigeria. We belong to Alonsa Electric Group, Dubai. One of our key responsibilities is to develop the West African market. We have been the licensee and the developer for the Goodyear Tire Company lubricant range which comprises of Engine oil, Marine oil, Construction oil, Industrial lubricants, and greases.

We have now achieved since 2020, export to over 20 countries and we hope that our participation in the Lagos West Africa Automotive show (Expo fair) after the Covid, and the travel challenges that has been between the international business

department, we hope that the exhibition is a good market start for introducing the lubricants range under the Goodyear Brand for the Nigerian market, we see a way, a very solid opportunity at the same time a good challenge to introduce to the Nigerian consumers high quality, high performance engine oil backed by Goodyear's 125 innovation durability, reliability, innovation and all of our management it has achieved in the Tire business.

So we want to bring in those values of the Goodyear management into the Goodyear lubricant extension in promoting, developing and appointing distributors to understand the value chain system and give a product of high performances, quality product to the Nigerian consumers market.

What motivated Goodyear

Lubricant to enter the Nigerian market?

I think the market size. Nigeria is one of the biggest African economies in terms of consumption, in terms of fuel and petroleum and crude oil, crude businesses and even gas business. The people are enterprising. It has a young population, a growing population.

The zeal of the Nigeria consumers is getting really organized and its going towards other sectors in consuming luxury products which are not there in older times of the Nigeria market. And I think Goodyear brings this innovation to the lubricants product line and hopefully we are quite positive that we connect with the right distributors.

Would you share with us your strategies of getting to the Nigeria market?

We do have internal strategies which are of course confidential. However, on the basis on how we would penetrate the market, we see a good gap and a big gap in the fully synthetic segment which is not powered by generally the other players in the engine oil business, so we do hope that we enter the really synthetic business of engine for the automotive sector as well as for the industries within Nigeria to give a very consistent virgin blended engine oil.

So what differentiate Goodyear Lubricant from other brands in Nigeria? In terms of quality,

SPECIAL INTERVIEW



technology, and customer service?

The most important thing is the brand name and the heritage of the brand name. The biggest differentiation is the 125 years of brand management. The history was not just built in one day because the culture which Goodyear by itself stands out in terms of the global brand name and local brand name. In terms of the product, we do not manufacture in any non compliant plant, so majority of our products are coming from plants out of America, out of Spain in Europe, out of Malaysia, out of Dubai. And these plants are managed by

global high scale, high credibility petroleum companies, I cannot name the company.

Let's talk about WAAS. How was your experience?

I would like to share my experience not only about WAAS because it is exhibition we are attending, but also Nigeria. First, I would like to say that Nigeria is a welcoming country. We had a very good time entering the airport, even explaining that we are here for the exhibition. Secondly, about the WAAS. I think we did not expect a heavy portfolio. However, it has been good to

meet a lot of good Nigerian companies, who are looking aggressive, who are looking for ideas, who are looking for new opportunities and we hope that the contribution we have made here, we would take this discussion on the prospect forward.

About Alonsa Electric Gulf FZCO

Alonsa Electric Gulf FZCO, based in Jebel Ali Free Zone Dubai, UAE, established since 2005, is part of Al Tara Group in United Arab Emirates. It is a leading marketing & distribution company with presence in multiple countries in the region. Its trade sectors range in Home Appliances | FMCG | Logistics & Automotive Ancillaries industries. The Group has transformed itself into one of the leading corporate entities in the Gulf region within a 1 generation span of time. Its strength lies in the dedicated personnel that service customers, providing financial stability, product inventory and prompt delivery.

About The Goodyear Tyre & Rubber Company

Goodyear is one of the world's largest tire companies. It employs approximately 62,000 people and manufactures its products in 46 facilities in 21 countries around the world. Its two Innovation Centers in Akron, Ohio and Colmar-Berg, Luxembourg strive to develop state-of-the-art products and services that set the technology and performance standard for the industry.

NEWS

Sanwo-Olu Commend CFAO As Company Marks 120 Years In Nigeria



L-R: Mr Gbenga Oyebo, Chairman, CFAO Nigeria; Hon Wahab Alawiye representing the First Lady of Nigeria, Senator Remi Tinubu; Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State presenting Post Humours Award to representatives of Late Chief Okoya Thomas- Hon. Jumoke Okoya Thomas; Mr Deji Okoya Thomas; his wife, Chichi and others during the CFAO Nigeria 120th year anniversary celebration in Lagos on Thursday, June 15, 2023

As CFAO marks its successful 120 years of business existence in Nigeria this year, the Country Delegate, Mr. Regis Tromeur, has stated that CFAO will continue to support local sustainable initiatives and promote opportunities in education and training.

He made this remarks on Thursday, June 15, 2023, in Lagos at a dinner event to mark the company's milestone, which was graced by many dignitaries in the public and private sectors of the economy, among whom were the representative of the First Lady of Nigeria, Senator Oluremi Tinubu; the Governor of Lagos state, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu; Chairman & CEO, CFAO Group, Mr. Richard Bielle; Chairman of CFAO Nigeria, Mr. Gbenga Oyebo, representative of the Japanese Ambassador to Nigeria, among others.

According to Mr. Regis Tromeur, "This informed the theme of this milestone celebration which is- "Celebrating our legacy, embracing our future."

The Country Delegate who doubles as the Managing Director, Assene-Laborex Nigeria Limited, a subsidiary of CFAO Nigeria, added that "All of us at CFAO Nigeria are marking a milestone of the existence of our

company this year with a bountiful sense of history, tradition, and insight. Our company is 120 years old and we would like to celebrate it in line with the importance of our age, achievements, and experience."

Also speaking, Mr. Richard Bielle, who made a CFAO Corporate Social Responsibility cheque presentation of N5m to the Medical Director of Massey Children Hospital, Dr. Abimbola Mabogunje, stated that CFAO is the market leader in Africa in automotive distribution.

Governor of Lagos state, Mr Babajide Sanwo-Olu, who commended the historical feats of CFAO in Nigeria, made a CFAO's posthumous award presentation to its former Chairman, Chief Molade Okoya-Thomas, adding that "being in existence for more than 120 years is no mean feat. CFAO is a shining example for other businesses to follow".

The Managing Director of CFAO Mobility Nigeria, Mr. Patrice Porte, stated that "Celebrating our 120th anniversary is very important for our shareholders, our staff, our partners and our customers. This demonstrate the solidity of the group and its ability to overcome business headwinds."

In their presentations, the Deputy

Managing Director of CFAO Motors and the Head of Marketing and Communications, CFAO Mobility, Mr. Kunle Jaiyesimi and Ms Funmi Abiola, explained that CFAO, which focuses on health and education in its CSR campaigns, has granted over 800 secondary school scholarships to students since the early 60s. "We started the tertiary education scholarship scheme about 12 years ago, and we have made well over 100 presentations", the DMD added.

The Dinner event was also used to unveil a Special Anniversary book entitled 'Celebrating our Legacy, Embracing our Future', in which the historical antecedence of the company was reviewed.

CFAO is a prominent player in the mobility sector in Nigeria with products like Toyota, Mitsubishi, Suzuki, JCB, Mitsubishi Fuso, Howo, King Long, and services like Loxea and Auto Fast etc in its portfolio. The company also maintains a presence in the healthcare sector with Assene-Laborex, agent of leading Pharmaceutical Companies like Novartis, GSK, Sanofi, AstraZeneca, Boeringer-Ingelheim, Servier, Jansen Cillag, Innotech' and EuraCare.

AVIATION

DHL Express CEO Expresses Confidence In Nigeria Market



Chief Executive Officer, DHL Express, Sub-Saharan Africa, Hennie Heymans has expressed confidence in the Nigerian market describing it as unique.

Speaking during a Meet and Greet with selected journalists at the DHL Express Lekki Facility, in Lagos State, recently, Heymans said that Sub-Saharan Africa, especially Nigeria was a critical part of the DHL Express network, not just in Africa but also globally.

“From a regional office point of view, Nigeria is an important market for us and we will continue to invest in this market”, he said.

DHL Express, Heymans revealed further, has invested heavily in the facilities such as the acquisition of two model boats for navigation, promising that the company will continue with the investment.

He noted, however, the company's focus right now was to grow SMEs, adding, “We see growth in the SME market here and we believe it's our

role and part of our purpose, to make sure that we help and stimulate that growth responsibly.”

In his assessment of the SME sector in Nigeria, Heymans said, “From a few macro-observations, I can see the progress in the infrastructure which has eased traffic in a city like Lagos. When compared to 2019, there is a major improvement.”

He said further that SMEs play an incredibly critical role in the Nigerian economy, adding that they make up about 48% of Nigeria's GDP.

NIPOST, NIS Collaborate For Seamless Passports Delivery

The Nigerian Postal Service has revealed plans to collaborate with the Nigeria Immigration Service to improve the turnaround time for passport collection.

The Postmaster General/Chief Executive Officer, NIPOST, Sunday Adepoju, stated this at the Service Command Headquarters, Sauka, Abuja, when he led NIPOST management on a working visit to the Acting Comptroller General, NIS, Caroline Wura-Ola Adepoju.

According to the Postmaster General, the collaboration became necessary due to the development of an integrated service delivery model by NIPOST.

“This service incorporates various government services and information which would be provided to citizens in a one-stop shop environment using several channels to meet different

needs of the citizens at selected post office locations nationwide.

“With this proposal, NIS will leverage NIPOST infrastructure for the collection of passports and adopting the postal network as an e-fulfillment centre for enhancing the digital economy,” he explained.

Adepoju added that the roles and responsibilities of the development are for a sustainable and integrated framework for the process of e-passport, provision of courier services, and address verification validation.

This, he said, would harmonise the various e-government initiatives in the agency as well as consolidate NIPOST efforts to reaffirm productivity synergy with NIS.

In her remarks, the acting CG NIS lauded NIPOST for developing a standardised digital postcode system, which would aid the agency in issuing Nigerian passports.

According to her, the collaboration would address the issues facing Nigerians while seeking to register for passports, reduce the waiting period before biometric data capture, and make passport processing seamless and faster, thereby assuaging the pain Nigerians go through to obtain Nigerian passports.

She also commended the management of NIPOST for the development of an address verification system, a breakthrough for identity management that, according to her, is a major initiative for forensic crime management.

She added, “The service will continue to explore ways and cultivate strategic partnerships to help her fulfil her mandate to Nigerians.”

The Postmaster General and the acting CG agreed to develop a framework for the working relationship in due course.

AVIATION

NSIB Act 2022: Bureau Holds Consultative Meeting With Stakeholders

By Ignatius Ushie

As a result of the recent enactment of the Nigerian Safety Investigation Bureau (NSIB) Act 2022 which necessitated the inclusion of new amendments to its Regulations, the Bureau met with stakeholders in a Consultative meeting recently.

According to the Director General of the Bureau, Engr Akin Olateru, the purpose of the meeting is to enable stakeholders make contributions to the amendments which are meant to, amongst others, ensure that the Bureau's Regulations are consistent



Engr Akin Olateru

with the Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) set forth in ICAO Annex 13. The amendments, he further reiterated, are meant to put the Bureau in tune with the evolution of new technologies and changes within the industry globally.

Expected to attend the meeting are

members of the Airline Operators of Nigeria (AON), all holders of valid Air Operators Certificate (AOC), security agencies and all those

involved in Air Safety and Security issues.

The meeting which is billed to hold at the conference room of the Director-General, Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) in Abuja, will also hold simultaneously on Zoom for those unable to be physically present. Details of the online participation have been conveyed in their invitation letters.

In a related development, the Bureau has also stepped up preparation for the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Safety and Security Audit of Nigeria scheduled for August.

Director-General of the Bureau, Engr Akin Olateru said although NSIB has always been on top of its duties, preparations are in top gear to ensure that the country comes top again in all aspects, especially as it concerns NSIB.

Air Peace To Reward Sports Heroes With Free Tickets

Chairman of Air Peace Airlines, Dr. Allen Onyema, revealed that members of the Montreal Olympics team and the 1980 Green Eagles would get 12 return tickets each every year to travel within the country for their lifetime. They are also entitled to one international return ticket every year to fly to any country on the airline's coverage for the rest of their lives.

Onyema said the gesture is part of activities to recognise and thank them for their services to Nigeria. According to him, the teams will also be given financial rewards that would be announced on a day set aside to celebrate the heroes with the unveiling of the Wall of Fame on July 28, 2023.

Onyema said: "The athletes to be honoured are Nigerians who made the country proud in the past. These

are athletes who sacrificed an opportunity to be great in Canada and heeded Nigeria's call to boycott the Olympics on the eve of the Games. The same country that ordered them to give up their ambitions has not honoured these athletes.

"We are also honouring those that won the African Cup of Nations in 1980 because that feat united the

country in a way that had never happened before. The Wall of Fame has been built at the NIIA with the heroes' names written in gold.

"Those members of the teams, now late, would get post-humous rewards, while their families will get some financial rewards, which modalities would be sorted out before the event."



AVIATION

FAAN Commissions Facilities in Warri Airport

The Managing Director/Chief Executive, Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN), Mr Kabir Yusuf Mohammed, IAP, joined by Mrs Faithful A. Hope-Ivbaze, General Manager, Protocol & Passages, Mr Ndanusa Z. Suraj, Chief Security Officer and Mr Ezekiel Baiye, Personal Assistant to Managing Director paid a one day working visit to the Osubi Airport, Warri, Delta State.

The Managing Director/Chief Executive was received by the Management Team of the Airport led by the Airport Manager, Mr Winston Egwuatu. During the visit, the Airport Manager took the Managing Director round the Airport facility to commission some projects namely, Brand new Carousel (Conveyor Belt), 2 Newly constructed Security gate houses, 250KVA solar powered inverter, a car wash among



others.

The Managing Director and his entourage later paid a courtesy visit to the paramount rulers of the Okpe Kingdom, HRM. Maj. Gen. Felix Muja Kperuo (rtd), the Orodje of Okpe Kingdom and HRM. Dr.

Emmanuel Ekemejewa Sideso Abel 1, the Ovie of Uvwie Kingdom to thank them for their fatherly support and prayers given to the airport management as the airport hosts communities on Wednesday July 11, 2023 in Warri, Delta State.

NCAA Suspends Max Air 737 Aircraft

The Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) has through a letter NCAA/DG/AIR/11/16/363, suspended Parts A3 and D43 with regards to the operation of Max Air's Boeing 737 aircraft type with immediate effect.

Parts A3 deals with the airline's Aircraft Authorization and D43 deals with Aircraft Listing of the Operations Specifications issued to Max Air Ltd.

The letter titled Suspension of parts A3 and D43 of the Operations Specifications Issued to Max Air with Immediate effect issued July 12, 2023 signed by Director, Operations Training & Licensing, Captain Ibrahim Bello Dambazau for: Director General of Civil Aviation read:

“The Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) hereby suspends Parts A3 (Aircraft Authorization) and D43 (Aircraft

Listing) of the Operations Specifications issued to Max Air Ltd. with regards to the operations of the Boeing B737 aircraft type in your fleet.

“With the above suspension, you are to immediately suspend the operations of all Boeing B737 aircraft in your fleet.”

The NCAA, according to the letter of suspension, has constituted a team of inspectors to conduct an audit of Max Air.

UNIONS, ASSOCIATIONS

Truckers Exonerate Lagos APC Chairman In Letter To National Chairman

Truckers in Lagos under the auspices of the National Association Maritime Transport Operators (NAMTOP) have written to the national secretariat of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) to clarify insinuations that the state chairman of the party is meddling in the affairs of road haulage operators in Lagos State.

In a letter signed by NAMTOP's Secretary, Mr Bala Muhammed Sanni, and addressed to APC's national chairman, Senator Abdullahi Adamu, the group affirmed that there was no interference by the leadership of the party in Lagos in the process that led to the emergence of the current leadership of NAMTOP.

NAMTOP alleged that the interference is an attempt by someone already driven by pride,



arrogance, lacking understanding of democratic tenets, knowledge of fundamental rights of choice and attempting to insult the sensibility of the majority.

Explaining how NAMTOP emerged, the letter stated that it was birthed after a series of complaints by truckers on the activities of street urchins (popularly called Area

Boys) and the high-handedness of the state traffic agencies, which is taking a serious toll on trucking business in the state.

The letter was copied to the Presidency, the Governor of Lagos State, Nigerian Ports Authority, Nigerian Shippers' Council, the Lagos State Police Command, the Lagos State Ministry of Transportation and the Directorate of State Services (DSS)

The truckers' body disclosed that the Lagos State Government, the State Chairman of APC and the Deputy Governor, all advised that truckers should come under one unified body in order to enable the state government to collaborate with the truckers so as to address the challenges in road haulage business in the state.

The NAMTOP letter explained to the APC chairman that, rather than accuse the APC leadership in Lagos state of meddlesomeness, it was the majority of trucking unions/associations and their elders that agreed and came up with the National Association Maritime Transport Operators (NAMTOP) as a unified body of Maritime Transporters for the implementation of the Ease of Doing Transportation Business policy in Lagos State.

There Should Be Transparency In Auctioning Overtime Cargo-CNRFF

Freight Forwarders under the aegis of Concerned Nigeria Registered Freight Forwarders -CNRFF have called for fairness and transparency in the planned auctioning of overtime cargoes by the Federal Government. CNRFF at a recent meeting in Apapa, Lagos, said it was concerned about the level of underhandedness and foul play that characterized auctioning of overtime cargoes in time past, describing it as shambolic and lacking every modicum of transparency.

Meanwhile, the group called on President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, to stop public auctioning and sharing of overtime cargoes to families, friends and proxies by officials of government agencies assigned to carry out the auction

sales.

Dr. Chudi Basil Nwolisa, President of Association of Nigeria Customs Brokers-ANCB, said, "we must understand that overtime cargoes are generally generated by failed and unregulated business environments in Nigeria where very outdated, obsolete and repugnant system of doing business is the order of the day.

"The Importers of these goods are just victims of a collapsed and tedious system carefully put in place by Customs, Shipping Companies, Terminal Operators and other government agencies to fleece Nigerians which results to the long period of clearing goods in our ports ostensibly to collect rent and demurrage."



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NEWS

'75% of W/African Vehicles Are In Nigeria'

Nigeria controls 75 per cent of 15 million vehicles in West African countries, a former director at the National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDCC), Mr Luqman Mamudu, has said.

He stated this on Tuesday at an auto show conference in Lagos.

He said Nigeria remained the biggest automobile market in the region, accounting for 11,869,800 of the 15 million vehicles in West Africa.

Mamudu spoke at the opening ceremony of the 3rd edition of the West Africa Automotive Show (WAAS) held at the Landmark Event Centre, Victoria Island, Lagos.

He said, "The population of ECOWAS 15 member countries is about 414 million people and Nigeria account for 50% of this or 200 million people.

"Again, the total number of registered vehicles in West Africa is 15,507,000 and Nigeria accounts for 11,869,800 or 75%. This is indicative of the market size for automotive products supply especially for repairs/replacement." Mamudu is the chairman of the



WAAS 2023 Conference with the theme 'Transition to sustainable quality automotive parts supply in West Africa'.

According to him, the choice of Nigeria for the WAAS is justified, noting, "Nigeria is in its ninth year of a 10-year automotive programme with an established structure. The National Automotive Industry Development Plan (NAIDP) is currently under review for another term. So the choice of Nigeria for the event is given.

"The choice of Nigeria for this exhibition and conference in the

region is therefore strategic. B to B Events Limited (organiser of WAAS) has assured me that the event will be sustained into the future annually."

"This conference could not therefore have come at a better time especially as we welcome a new government. The outcome of the conference will prove invaluable in its automotive policy positioning," he said.

He also spoke on the enormous investments by industry stakeholders in the local auto industry.

He said, "I wish to recognise the extensive investment by Nigerian entrepreneurs in the industry as well as the investment pipeline already established in Nigeria by many OEMs.

"I urge them to increase and sustain the flow of technical and capital resources. Help is on the way. The new NAIDP has just been approved by FEC (Federal Executive Council the highest government decision making body in Nigeria)"

He also commended the effort of Africa Association of Automotive Manufacturers (AAAM) in making Nigeria an automotive hub.

Customs Seize Over 100 Exotic Vehicles

The Nigeria Customs Service, has said it has seized over 100 exotic vehicles, including various models of Sports Utility Vehicles, adding that 38 of them had been forfeited to the Federal Government.

It also called on stakeholders to synergise with officers and men of the Nigeria Customs Service to effectively suppress the menace of smuggling vehicles into Nigeria.

Coordinator, Rapid Response Squad Headquarters, Deputy Comptroller Jack Okpabi, disclosed this in a statement issued in Abuja while providing updates on his team's quarterly achievements.

According to him, the smuggled vehicles that were intercepted, he said the recent operation by the NCS, which led to the interception of over 100 Toyota Hilux, Toyota

Landcruiser and other models of exotic vehicles, had saved the country from losing huge revenue that would have gone down the drain.

Okpabi was quoted as saying, "You can see that we have over 100 vehicles and 38 have been forfeited to the Federal Government. The operation will lead to the recovery of over N400m from demand notices."

NEWS

NIMASA, US Review Implementation Of Ships and Ports Security Code In Nigeria

The United States Coast Guard says it is committed to Nigeria's quest to implementing the International Ships and Ports Security (ISPS) Facility Code in line with acceptable global best practice.

Lt. Cdr. Jonna L. Clouse who is leading a team from the US Coast Guard in Nigeria for peer review, disclosed this while on a working visit to the headquarters of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA). She noted that engaging NIMASA on a constant basis is to ensure more Ports and Jetties in the country implement ISPS Code, thus enhancing safety of the entire Nigerian maritime domain.

“We are in Nigeria to assess the level of compliance with the International Ships and Ports Security (ISPS) Facility Code. Our desire is to enhance cooperation between the Nigerian maritime sector and the United States Coast Guard. We will also offer our expertise to NIMASA in closing identified gaps. We hope to work with NIMASA and reduce or end the Conditions of Entry regime for Vessels from Nigeria to the United States”, she said.

Lt. Cdr. Clouse further commended the NIMASA management for efforts made in cooperating with the USCG.

The Director General of NIMASA, Dr. Bashir Jamoh, OFR, noted that due to the dynamism of maritime threats and patterns, NIMASA has been fortunate to have peer review partners that create avenues for developing capacities needed for effective ISPS Code implementation. While elucidating steps taken by NIMASA to ensure ISPS Compliance in over 90% of Ports and Jetties in the country, Dr. Jamoh highlighted the need for the United States to review the Conditions of



Director General, Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Dr. Bashir Jamoh, OFR flanked by the leader of the delegation from the United States Coast Guard Lt. Cdr. Jonna L. Clouse (left) and Cdr. James Cepa during a visit to the headquarters of NIMASA by the team from USCG and assessment of some Ports facilities in Nigeria

Entry regime for vessels calling at some Ports in the United States.

He said “It is worthy of note that despite efforts taken by NIMASA in improving Port Security and ISPS Code implementation in Nigeria, the issue of Condition of Entry (COE) still hovers over vessels from Nigeria calling at Ports in the United States. For vessels leaving Nigeria to undergo stringent port controls before being granted access to US ports, it has adverse effect on the aggregate shipping economies of Nigeria. The delays lead to additional costs that strain an already present high freight cost within the Gulf of Guinea.

“This is adversely affecting Shipping in Nigeria

We have reviewed this decision taken by the USCG and proposed an

action plan to enable the US Coastguard physically determine the compliance levels of these facilities in the Condition of Entry list.

“We at NIMASA are calling on the US Coast Guard to facilitate the removal of Nigeria from the Condition of Entry list.”

Dr. Jamoh also declared the readiness of NIMASA to cooperate with the US Coast Guard team to close all identified gaps before the full Audit in August.

In 2013, NIMASA was appointed as the Designated Authority for the administration of the ISPS Code in Nigeria. The visit of the USCG is part of the assessment processes in monitoring compliance level, while enhancing cooperation and Peer Review exercise.

ENERGY

Elektron Energy's Power Plant to Drive Economic Growth



Elektron Energy Development Strategies Limited (Elektron Energy), an energy infrastructure company that acquires, develops and owns energy infrastructure projects in West Africa, is partnering with Eko Electricity Distribution Plc (EKEDP), on a 30-megawatts (MW) embedded natural gas-fired power plant project in Lagos, Nigeria worth \$50 million. The embedded Independent Power Plant (IPP) will supply uninterrupted electricity through dedicated 33kV and 11kV distribution networks exclusively to identified customers within the

Victoria Island franchise area of Lagos state and it is regarded as the first of its kind because a natural gas IPP will be directly embedded into Disco's distribution network for supply to identified end-user customers.

Furthermore, this project would uniquely address two critical areas of focus in the Energy Sector: first, natural gas utilization and second, dedicated power generation. The project has the potential to eradicate up to 1000 diesel generators within its coverage area, drastically reducing emissions and promoting a greener environment.

The CEO of Elektron Energy, Mr Tola Talabi, in his speech during the groundbreaking ceremony acknowledged the presence of notable dignitaries such as Tariye Gbadegesin, the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of ARM-Harith Infrastructure Investment Limited, the co-equity sponsors of the embedded IPP; the Board and Management of Elektron Energy including the Chief Operating Officer (COO), Mr Jide Onakoya; the Board and Management of Eko Disco; the Debt Providers: FBN Quest, Bank of Industry (BOI), Infra Credit; and the technical partners, Wartsila.

Auto-gas To Boost Nigeria's Economy By N1 Trillion Yearly-NLPGA Says

The Nigeria Liquefied Petroleum Gas Association (NLPGA), an umbrella body of members involved in the LPG value chain, has said Nigeria is expected to generate at least N1 trillion yearly from the adoption of autogas conversion.

Speaking at a press conference in Lagos recently, the Second Vice President of NLPGA, Ladi Falola, said the unification of the Naira with the new Federal government's foreign exchange policy will in the long run help the gas industry with increased foreign direct investments from investors that are willing to explore the opportunities available in the sector.

The move, Falola said, would also provide the confidence of being able to repatriate their efforts. Falola called on the federal government to come up with some incentives to drive the autogas conversion initiative as a matter of

policy.

Falola said the initiative would serve the dual purpose of helping to cushion the impact of high energy cost exacerbated by the petrol subsidy removal and a boost to the country's current push to transition for cleaner and more sustainable energy sources.

“If the government targets one million petrol vehicles, two million tricycles, five million petrol generators and all lorries, incentives will range from N200,000, N100,000, N50,000 and a duty levy and Value-Added Tax (VAT) waiver for 36 months' window for vans and lorries respectively.

“Then interested investors will now look for the differentials to cover the typical conversion cost which ranges from N300,000 to N400,000 for Petrol Vehicles, N100,000 to N200,000; N90,000 for petrol generators and N18 million (this is the cost differentials between a gas engine truck and a diesel

engine truck).”

They harped that for petrol vehicles, CNG, LNG, propane autogas LPG are advised while Butane and domestic LPG are suitable but may only be used under specific authorization by the vehicle's Original equipment manufacturers (OEM) which is not recommended, the four-stroke engine tricycles can accommodate CNG, LNG, propane, autogas LPG and butane while domestic LPG (cooking gas) is not ideal, while they emphasised that the four-stroke engine petrol generators must not use CNG, LNG and domestic LPG but can accommodate propane, autogas LPG and butane, noted that CNG and LNG are recommended for Vans and lorries. President, NLPGA, Felix Ekundayo said the public needs to further explore the usage of liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) other than cooking due to the rising cost of fossil fuels.

ENERGY

Destroying Vessel With 800,000 Barrels Stolen Crude Unacceptable Environmental Pollution - HOMEF

The Health of Motherland Foundation, HOMEF, has condemned the recent destruction of a vessel loaded with 800,000 barrels of stolen crude oil by a Nigerian military helicopter after the vessel was seized and the crew detained, describing the act as “unacceptable environmental pollution.”

HOMEF Executive Director, Ninmong Bassej while reacting to the manner the vessel was burnt in a statement by HOMEF Media and Communication Lead, Kome Odhomor, regretted that while the Niger Delta burns on account of gas flaring, oil spills and other forms of pollution, the burning of seized oil vessel is adding insult to injury.

Bassej, who noted that the incident also confirmed the fact that Nigeria does not know the amount of crude



oil that leaves the shores of the country on a daily basis, flayed the disregard for the environment and human lives considering the manner the vessel was destroyed with no attempt to comply with international best practice.

He said: “One drop of crude oil contaminates 25 litres of water. Imagine what 800,000 barrels of

crude oil would do. It means destruction of fisheries and of livelihoods. It also means directly poisoning our people. It is shocking and unacceptable. HOMEF believes the significance of the bombing of the vessel is the indication to the people that authorities care little about their safety and that of the environment.

“The drama that unfolded regarding the seized and bombed vessel is extremely disturbing. Destroying a vessel loaded with 800,000 barrels of crude oil should be taken as a new low in the demonstration of wastefulness on the part of those who should be watching over the nation's resources. The entire episode requires urgent investigation.

“Why would anyone blow up a vessel and dump 800,000 barrels of oil into the environment? If that volume of crude is correct, this must be one of the largest volumes of crude oil spilled in one incident.

“Our security men are often seen protecting pollution such as gas flares and rotten pipelines and stripping communities of their dignity. In this incident they have demonstrated utter disregard to our constitutional right to a safe environment.”

NCDMB: Local Content Participation in Oil, Gas Industry Grow By 107%

The Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB) has disclosed that local content in the oil and gas sector grew from 26 per cent to 54 per cent in the last five years, representing 107%.

Speaking during the opening of the 2023 edition of the annual Nigerian Oil And Gas (NOG) Energy Week in Abuja, the Chief Executive of the NCDMB, Mr Simbi Wabote, noted that between 2017 and 2022 Nigerian companies' participation in the industry rose from 26 per cent to 54 per cent.

Wabote stated that the organisation has given effect to the provisions of the law establishing it, by

launching the 10-year strategic roadmap in 2018 to drive the attainment of 70 per cent Nigerian content in the Nigerian oil and gas industry by 2027.

“In the last five years of implementation of the strategic roadmap, the board has more than doubled the level of Nigerian content in the industry by moving the needle from 26 per cent in 2017 to 54 per cent in 2022,” the executive secretary noted.

According to him, another key function of the board as stated in Section 70(d) mandates the board to supervise, coordinate, administer, and monitor the development of Nigerian content as specified in the Schedule to the Act.

RAILWAY

Mota-Engil Targets 2025 for Completion of Kano-Maradi Rail



Contractors of the Kano-Maradi railway project, Mota-Engil Nigeria Limited has stated the 400 kilometres railway line would be completed by 2025.

Speaking to journalists while taking delivery of the over \$200 million heavy duty equipment to be deployed for the rail project, the company's Logistics Manager, Mr. Nuno Colaço, said construction of the rail project has commenced even as over 300 Nigerians have been employed with a projection to hit 100,000 at the peak of the

project.

He reaffirmed the company's commitment to increased investment in Nigeria, pointing out that Nigeria is one of the countries on the continent with lots of investment potentials.

“We partnered Shoreline in 2018 to start investing in the country. We have been awarded the Kano-Maradi railway project, which is an investment of \$2 billion and 400 kilometres coming from Dutse all the way to Maradi in Niger Republic. We had to buy a lot of equipment and we believe in the

state-of-the-art equipment and brand new equipment,” he said.

“We have lots of projects in the pipeline and we are very excited about the future here in Nigeria. Shoreline has 51 per cent while we have 49 per cent. Our core business is in construction, but not only railway, but civil construction, we build dams, roads. We are in all the segment of construction. We have already started the Kano-Maradi railway line.

According to him, the acquisition of the equipment is a strategic investment for the present and for the future. He further stated that the project is not only a landmark for the development of the railway infrastructure in Nigeria but also for the whole of West Africa.

Also speaking, the Customs Controller of Tin Can Island Command, Mr. Adekunle Oloyede, said there has been a decrease of cargo throughout the ports lately and expressed his delight at the sheer size of the Mota-Engil import, saying that it is evident that the Nigerian economy is on the rebound.

Task Force Clears Traders Off Oshodi Rail Tracks

The Lagos State Task Force says it has matched words with actions by clearing traders off Oshodi rail tracks, under Apongbon Bridge and other areas, vowing to sustain the tempo.

A statement by Mr Gbadeyan Abdulraheem, spokesman, Lagos State Task Force, said Chairman of the agency, CSP Shola Jejeloye, led the enforcement recently.

Abdulraheem said the exercise was to rid the state of indiscriminate display of goods on the highways, road sides, kerbs and railway tracks across various parts of the state.

The chairman said that the trading activities not only debase the environment but also caused pain and discomfort to Lagos residents.

Jejeloye said several notices had been served to traders, especially those at Oshodi rail track where the agency carried out sensitisation and subtle warning on May, 23, to discourage them from returning.

He added that the efforts to keep the illegal activities off the tracks fell on deaf ears.

“Our warnings have been sent out to them for as long as two years ago but they don't listen.

“We served notices at Fagba where some people built shanties, kiosks from Fagba all the way to Pen Cinema and Isokoko, thereby shortchanging motorists and pedestrians who should enjoy free movement along that axis.

“It is completely unfair to all Lagosians and we will make sure that they are all cleared out with immediate effect,” he said.

The chairman said although both the buyers and sellers involved in these activities should be arrested, he would strike a balance and avoid double jeopardy.

RAILWAY

FG Ask MOTA-ENGIL To Consider Gas For Kano-Maradi Railway

By Ignatius Ushie

The Federal Government has requested Mota-Eñgil, Nigeria Limited, the Contractor handling Kano-Maradi railway project to consider procuring Compressed National Gas (CNG) and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) as against Diesel Multiple Unit (DMU) engines for the rail line Rolling Stock for more environmentally-friendly operators.

In a statement made available to Transport Day in Abuja, the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Transportation, Dr. Magdalene Ajani, made this disclosure while signing the Agreement on behalf of the Federal Government for Mota-Eñgil, Nigeria Limited to supply Rolling Stocks, Operations and Maintenance Equipment for Kano-Maradi Standard Rail Line.

While acknowledging the fact that it may not have been in the original agreement and may attract additional cost, she pointed out that it was the right way to go in checking the harmful effect of



global warming.

Responding, the Executive Director, Mota-Engil, Pedro Pereira, assured the Permanent Secretary that the request for a more environmentally-friendly energy source will be considered and complied with accordingly.

Earlier, the Director, Legal Services, Federal Ministry of Transportation, Pius Oteh, had outlined the regulatory process leading to the Agreement-signing ceremony, which included the issuance of a Certificate of 'No Objection' by the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP); the approval of

the Federal Executive Council (FEC) and the approval of the draft Agreement by the Office of the Honourable Attorney-General of the Federation & Minister of Justice.

According to him, the Federal Government decided to award the contract for the procurement of the Rolling Stock to the company at this time in order to ensure a seamless transition from construction to operational phase upon the completion of construction of the Kano - Maradi Rail line in a few years time.

Operator Of Kaduna Dry Port Urge Govt To Complete Rail Project

The Kaduna Inland Dry Port operator has called for the completion and activation of the rail line to the facility, which has been abandoned for some years now.

The Federal Government commenced construction of rail to facilitate cargo delivery to and from the Kaduna Inland Dry Port in July 2019. Unfortunately, the project was suspended in October of that year.

The former Minister of Transportation, Rotimi Amaechi, had during the commissioning of the project, said rail rehabilitation

and construction was aimed at ensuring effective inter-modal transport connectivity nationwide. He said the rail connectivity to the dry port was a new vista of commercial opportunities opened not only for Northern businessmen but also for neighbouring countries. The General Manager of Kaduna Inland Dry Port, Rotimi Raimi-Hassan, who spoke to The Guardian said all efforts made to ensure the completion of the rail lines have remained futile.

“Since 2019 the former governor of Kaduna State flagged off the rail movement of cargoes, which was

done in July, three months after, the construction stopped because of the Lagos-Ibadan standard gauge.

“Since then we have been making all efforts to get in touch to complete the rail. If the rail is working, it will attract exporters and importers; it will also reduce the cost of moving goods from the ports to the hinterland and enhance economic and social development. “You won't believe now that moving cargo by road is not that 100 per cent safe because of the bad state, but if the rail is working, it can move mass containers. That is the problem we are facing,” he said.

NEWS

Rivers Award N195b P/Harcourt Ring Road Contract To Julius Berger

Nigeria's leading and most dependable engineering construction company, Julius Berger Nigeria Plc and the Rivers State Government have signed a contract for the construction of the Port Harcourt Ring Road in the state.

During the contract-signing ceremony at the Executive Council Chambers of Government House in Port Harcourt, Rivers state recently, the State Governor, His Excellency Sir Siminalayi Fubara was full of commendation for the construction company saying that the fact that Julius Berger has its successful professional imprint on every landmark project in the state qualifies the company to get the fresh contract.

He said, "...we are happy today because we are doing something good. Today is a special day for me and my team. We are signing this contract because of the calibre and experience of the construction company involved. For Julius Berger, the reason why we are engaging you for this project is because of your history of achieving high standard landmark infrastructures and capital projects in Rivers State."

Governor Fubara in appreciating Julius Berger's excellent and shinning performance signature in Rivers State further said, "...there is hardly any landmark project in this state that you have not been involved in, be they flyovers, roads, buildings medical centres and so on. As contractors, Julius Berger has professionally discharged its obligations. Therefore, we know that this Ring Road project awarded to the company will also be completed on schedule. With Julius Berger, there is nothing like abandoned project anywhere in Rivers State."



The Governor of Rivers State, His Excellency, Sir Siminalayi Fubara, GSSRS, in a warm handshake with the Managing Director of Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, Engr. Dr. Lars Richter, at the Rivers State Executive Council Chambers after the contract-signing ceremony for the construction of the Port Harcourt Ring Road recently

On the Government's part, the Governor said of the N195.3billion contract sum for the Port Harcourt Ring Road, the Rivers State Government will pay 77%, totaling about N150billion to commence the works.

Governor Fubara also assured the contractors, Julius Berger that the State Government is committed to paying the balance once it is certified that Julius Berger has completed about 75% of the job.

According to Gov Fubara, the project will span six local government areas of the state including, Okrika, Eleme, Echie, Ikwerre and Obia-Akpor even as he advised the people of the project area to responsibly cooperate with the contractors to accomplish the project as scheduled.

The Governor said "This project will run for 36 months so that before the twilight of the current administration we will complete and commission it."

On his part, the Managing Director of Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, Engr. Dr. Lars Richter, told the

government and people of Rivers State that though the company had been challenged several times with the construction of important infrastructural projects in Rivers State, it has never failed any of such engineering construction challenges, as every such contract awarded to the company had been delivered successfully and always before scheduled delivery date.

Dr Richter described the company's success story in Rivers State as a product of Julius Berger's commitment to the strong partnership between the company and the Rivers State Government, saying that the Port Harcourt Ring Road project consists of 45km long dualised road, 6nos flyover bridges and one creek bridge.

Dr Richter, on behalf of the Board of Directors and Management of Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, thanked the Governor for the State Government's continuing trust in the company, and for giving the company the opportunity to deliver the biggest project with the Rivers State Government, to date.

NEWS

NITT Calls For Private Sector Investment In AutoGas

The Director General of the National Institute of Transport Technology (NITT), Dr. Bayero Salih Farah, has called on private sector players to take advantage of the Federal government's Public Private Participation (PPP) to invest in the development of autogas, as it is bound to be very viable following the removal of subsidy on petrol recently.

He made this call recently at the One-Day Stakeholders engagement forum on 'Autogas as alternative fuel for transportation in Nigeria' held in Abuja, recently.

According to the DG, the forum is "suitably conceived for stakeholders to discuss the manpower and facility gaps for the development of Auto-gas industry in Nigeria.

"The Forum is necessitated by the current transportation fuel crisis that resulted from the removal of fuel subsidy and the intention of the Institute to explore alternative energy sources for the transportation sector.

"With Nigeria's natural gas reserve at 206.53 trillion cubic feet, the country needs the technical skills and facilities to exploit this God given alternative for a more sustainable transportation sector.

"However, the availability of such technical skills and facilities for the utilization of these natural resources as alternative transportation fuel is currently inadequate in the country.

"Hence, the resolve of NITT to lead in the provision of such technical skill and facilities across the country."

Dr. Farah explained that "The provision of these facilities across the country requires a very huge investment, preferably from the Private Sector. It is in this spirit, that the Institute resorted to pioneer a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Project in the provision of adequate technical manpower and facilities across the country that will enable the adaptation of Autogas as alternative transportation fuel at the lowest cost possible.



"This one-day stakeholder forum is one step towards actualizing the PPP arrangement as required by law.

"NITT is in discussion with some partners both local and international that showed powerful willingness to support the Institute in this regard."

Commending the NITT for taking the initiative in this regard, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Transportation, Dr. Magdalene Ajani, explained that the event is geared towards creating the most needed awareness on Autogas as alternative Fuel.

According to her, "the Nigerian Transportation industry is unique due to its large population base. The Nigerian Population grew exponentially from 180 million between 1960 & 2016 to over 200,801,334 in 2019, leading to an increase in the usage of Transport Infrastructure and rise in the demand for fossil Fuels, PMS, diesel (dirty fuels), thus making the industry a major contributor to carbon emissions, which poses a serious threat to human life and the environment.

"In view of the negative impact of these dirty fuels to the environment, the need

for alternative options for transportation fuels such as Liquefied Natural Gas (LPG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) known as Autogas became widely used and accepted as an alternative automotive fuel.

"Autogas, is mostly regarded as the second most used Fuel in the world today after ethanol, it is a nontoxic, noncarcinogenic, noncorrosive fuel

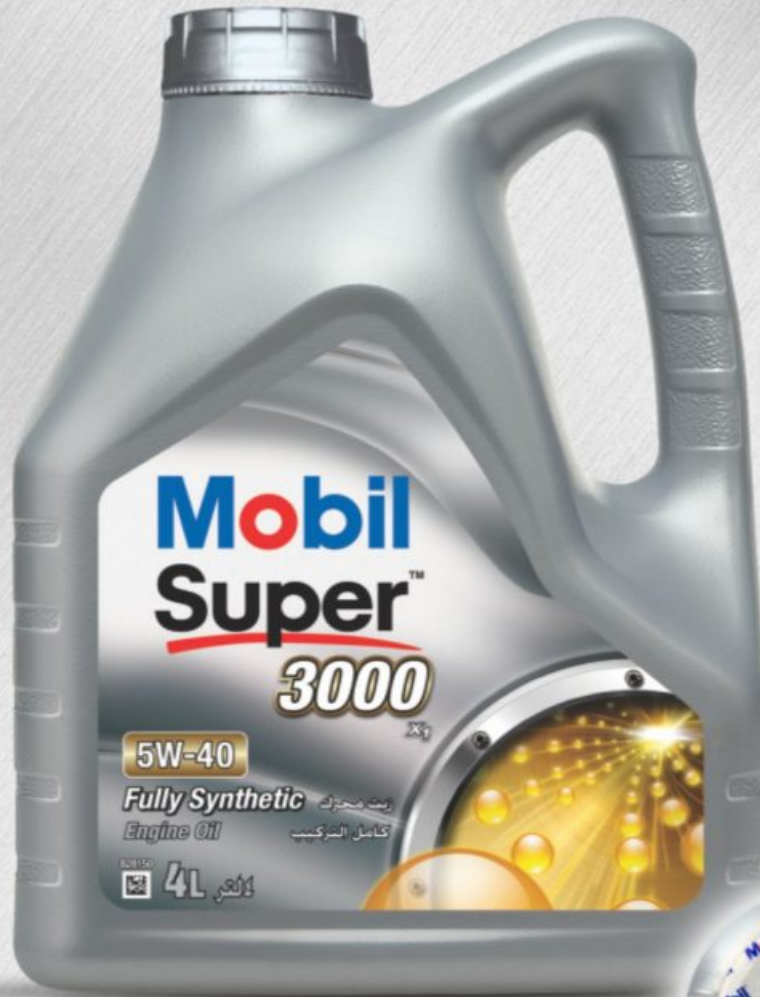
that poses no hazard to groundwater, surface water, or soil. It does not leave a residue, it is cheap, less expensive than petroleum and environmentally friendly. Autogas fuel tanks are 20 times more puncture resistant and can withstand far more pressure than typical gasoline tanks.

Explaining further, she said "Autogas became more popular in Nigeria after the former Administration declared year 2020 as the year of gas and continued to introduce programmes to enlighten citizens to use gas as an alternative fuel. This is because Nigeria is immensely rich in gas and has a vast natural gas reserve.

"It is worth noting that as at January 2022, data from the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission revealed that the Country has 208.62 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of gas reserves. However, the current per capita consumption of gas in Nigeria is still one of the lowest in the sub-region.

"This could be as a result of factors raging from Insecurity, Funding; Infrastructure deficit; Fiscal and Regulatory Policy inconsistencies; among other issues."

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