

AmCham TT to host HSSE conference

By Sasha Harrinanan

Health, Safety, Security and Environment (HSSE) matters encompass much more than steel-tipped boots and safety drills. It includes things such as mental health and wellness in the work place.

This and other topics, such as total worker health, will be discussed during the upcoming HSSE Conference hosted by the American Chamber of Commerce of TT (AmCham TT) at Hyatt Regency, Port-of-Spain on November 14 and 15.

The 21st annual conference also features the chamber's fourth annual National Excellence in Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Awards ceremony on November 14.

Business Day got a preview of the conference from the chairman of AmCham TT's HSE Committee, Curt Cadet, who spoke about the ongoing effort to get more non-energy

companies invested in HSSE.

"Traditionally energy-related companies in TT have been the most compliant. Many of them have foreign owners who come from countries where the HSSE culture is more mature. We have been trying to attract and encourage more non-energy sectors to see the value of HSSE - a lot of people still think it's to do with the energy sector. But HSSE covers a wide range of work-related matters. That's why each year, we have parallel tracks during the conference where you can choose to learn more about safety, security, environment or health and wellness."

This year's speakers include CEO of Atlantic Nigel Darlow, Trade and Industry Minister Paula Gopee-Scoon, Dr Casey Chosewood, Dr Ishvan Ramcharitar, Lain Daniels and William Shireman.

Chosewood, a director of the



Curt Cadet, chairman of AmCham TT's HSE Committee

United States' National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, will discuss Total Worker Health and UK-based lawyer Daniels will make a presentation on Less Stress, Better Business. The topic of Mental Health and Well-being in the workplace

will be discussed by Ramcharitar, an occupational medicine specialist with Atlantic.

The opening ceremony's feature speaker will be William Shireman, president and CEO of the US-based company Future 500. Cadet said Shireman "will talk about systems that empower people and enhance sustainability. That's not all. For the first time, we'll be having a presentation on aviation and ground safety by United Airlines' vice-president of Corporate Safety, Michael J Quiello."

Presentations will also be made on disaster management and preparedness at this year's conference, the theme of which is People, Systems and Sustainability.

Asked why this theme, Cadet replied, "Because in a time of economic contraction and difficulty you have to focus a lot on your people,

ensuring they have right competencies and systems to get the job done. This includes systems that are efficient and can compensate for not having as many staff as you would like to. In terms of sustainability, you want to be able to sustain the culture required for high levels of HSSE performance over the long term."

An exhibition of the latest in HSSE gear, technology and training is another feature of AmCham TT's HSSE Conference. The attendance fee includes access to the various displays.

In a recent statement, AmCham TT said the HSE awards ceremony "celebrates companies that exemplify HSE excellence integrated with business excellence and has become an integral part of AMCHAM TT's focus on championing for HSE excellence in the workplace."

"The main objective of (the awards) is the promotion of the development and implementation of robust occupational HSE management systems by companies and to recognise related achievements. The award lends distinction and prestige to its recipients who will be acknowledged not only as business leaders, but as recognising the value of protecting employees and the environment," AmCham TT said.

Previous winners include Halliburton, Stork Technical Services, WITCO, BPTT, Phoenix Park Gas Processors Ltd, General Electric, Massy InfoCom and Massy WoodGroup.



Constance Estate Infused Coconut Oils in garlic, lemon and chilli flavours.



CGA Product Development Manager Gabrielle Agostini smiles for the lens at the launch of Constance Estate Infused Coconut Oil at G Spot Food Truck's location on Maraval Road, Port-of-Spain recently. PHOTOS BY JEFF MAYERS

CGA launches infused coconut oils

CGA Ltd recently launched its Constance Estate line of infused coconut oil at G Spot Food Truck's location on Maraval Road, Port-of-Spain.

The intimate settings of the location added to the overall aesthetic of the

brand. The oils come in three distinct flavours -- garlic, lemon and chilli -- and, according to the company, their uses are endless, including sauces, dressings, marinades, roasts, pasta dishes and curries. They are also said to be free of preservatives and

cholesterol, and rich in anti-oxidants.

Constance Estate Infused Coconut Oils are available at JTA supermarkets, Tru Valu and a few other locations nationwide in both 250ml and 500ml sizes. Here are some highlights from the launch.