



YSATT

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Newsletter January 2021

A NEW YEAR – A NEW YSATT!

Seasons Greetings to all!

It is my honour to have been elected and accepted to the role of President of YSATT.

It is with pleasure and humility that we can announce also, that a new YSATT board has been appointed to help serve and advance the interests of all the stakeholders within our community. This board is made up of fine individuals, each with a wealth of experience that we will be utilizing fully to help get us through these dismal times and to tackle the myriad challenges ahead.

Personally, with nearly three decades in the industry, and longer still as a member of the global mariner community, I am all too familiar with the many shortfalls and areas of opportunity for us here in Trinidad & Tobago.

On behalf of the new board at YSATT, I would like to assure all concerned, of a steadfast commitment to work diligently to achieve the simple, yet impactful goals to develop a more welcoming, productive and flourishing yacht services sector in Trinidad & Tobago.

We look forward to serving all YSATT members, the broader community of yacht service providers, and our dear customers.

Peter Peake
President of YSATT

Our new Board Members are:

- Mr. Peter Peake-President
- Mrs. Salisha Sooparlle Sec/Treasures
- Mr. Jesse James
- Mr. Andrew Aleong
- Mr. Dennis Mosley
- Ms. Mc. Kenzie Scipio
- Mr. Carlos Fensom
- Mr. Meryl Ramdial

Welcome!

Hello, and a warm welcome to all our members! I am Ms. Sue-Ann Lee Loy the new Administrative Manager here at YSATT's Office, you can call me Sue. I am pleased to be on Board here at YSATT and going forward to have YSATT be instrumental in enhancing the lives of you our members and board.

Update

Our main focus at the start of this New Year after having all protocols in place for Yachts to safely enter Trinidad in light of this Global Covid Pandemic is trying to move the Government to allow Yachts to sail in for the upcoming season.

We have had success last year in having YSATT-PHSS (Port Health Safety System) approved on the 6th August 2020. Mr. Jesse James and our President met cordially with Minister Young and Minister Imbert in June 2020 to discuss reopening our boarders to Yachts, however due to the pandemic it was halted.

Our Annual General Meeting was held in November 2020 and thereafter letters were written to the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Trade and Tourism, Ministry of National Security and the Prime Minister in regard to opening up the boarders to the Yachts. They were all hand delivered and emailed. So far we are awaiting the Minister of National Security to give the go ahead to open the boarders to the Yachts as the last correspondence stated he was in talks with the Ministry of Health regarding the matter. For the past month we have been sending emails and calling Mr. Young's Secretary to highlight to them the urgency of the matter.

We also wrote to Mr. Faris Al-Rawi commending him on his role in passing the Bill for the Single Harmonized Form in Parliament in August 2020, however as to date we have had no word as to when it will be fully implemented, again the answer from his secretary was that an officer is working on it. A letter was also sent out to the CMO Dr. Parasram requesting permission to quarantine exempted international yachting customers at hotels in Chaguaramas but so far no update.

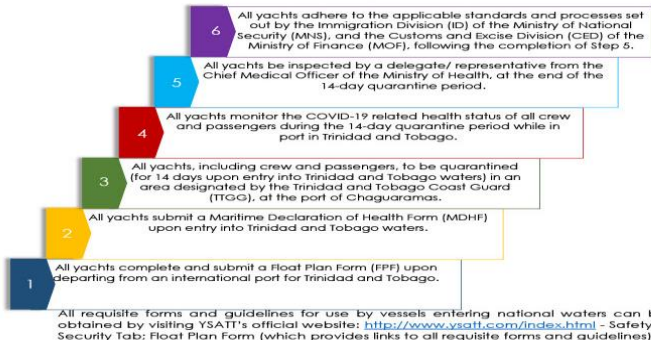
Ministry of Trade and Industry

The Ministry of Trade and Industry have been very helpful and supportive to us as they too are awaiting word from the Ministry of National Security for the reopening of the Tourism Industry. They have included the Yacht Services Industry in their Tourism promotion leaflet and have used our six steps to a safe reopening of our boarders to Tourist.

Yachting Operations

The Yacht Services Association of Trinidad and Tobago (YSATT) Port Health Safety System for Re-opening Trinidad and Tobago to Yachts (YSATT-PHSS)¹, identifies a comprehensive system to be implemented by YSATT and its stakeholders. The system, referred to as the Yacht Services Association of Trinidad and Tobago Port Health Safety System (YSATT-PHSS), aims to protect Trinidad and Tobago from possible COVID-19 threats that may be associated with the yachting industry. A six-step pathway delineates the measures which core stakeholder groups are required to take to reduce the risk of infection to others through a Risk-to-port-health-based Approach (RTPHBA). Stakeholders must comply with the guidelines presented.

The following diagram illustrates the YASATT-PHSS's six-step pathway:



WITHIN A MILE FROM DOCKING...

Get away from the hurricane zone and find world-class customer care and premier yacht repair, maintenance and ancillary services all within a one-mile cluster.

And with the lure of adventure, natural wonders, fine dining, entertainment, boat yard and marina accommodations plus diverse cultural experiences in close proximity, let Trinidad and Tobago be your next stop.

SAIL, SERVICE, STAY!

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REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

trinidad&tobago

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In its efforts to benefit its members, YSATT has also rejoined its membership with TTCSI (Trinidad and Tobago Coalition of Services Industries) This also gives us a voice for our Industry and our members receive the many services and opportunities offered by TTCSI to the business community.



BENEFITS of MEMBERSHIP

Who are we?

TTCSI is the national umbrella body that brings together all service sector organisations and associations in Trinidad & Tobago. As an alliance of professional services associations and organisations, we function as a focal point to lobby, channel and address trade-in-services issues and services development issues, which are critical for the sector to thrive in this competitive global environment.



Our Vision

The Trinidad & Tobago services sector will be recognised as a vibrant, diverse, and internationally competitive sector, comprised of a variety of different companies, organisations and individuals selling their services both locally and internationally.

Our Mission

The TTCSI will monitor and assess the global business environment, in order to facilitate and assist the local services sector to become increasingly competitive internationally and better contribute to the development and growth of the national economy.

How does the TTCSI support growth of the Services Sector?

- Provide service providers with information about export opportunities,
- Identify and exploit market opportunities,
- Encourage national services associations to engage in developing export programmes and promotional activities through local, regional and international collaboration,
- Promote the development and competitiveness of the national services sector,
- Support and facilitate the development of service industry standards,
- Educate services providers on relevant aspects of trade agreements that affect trade-in-services,
- Represent the interests of the national services sector by lobbying the Government of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago (GORTT) and other state entities as appropriate,
- Promote fair multilateral rules for trade-in-services, and
- Participate at the CARICOM Services Sub-Committee level.



www.ttcsi.org



How does the TTCSI benefit Service Associations?

- 1 Access to regional & global networks**
The TTCSI is a Member of regional and international networks of Coalition of Services Industries organisations. As such we have access to a vibrant network that is focused on driving growth of services and collaborating in an effort to raise awareness of and find solutions to service sector issues.
- 2 Export & Market Development Training Programmes**
Services Go Global Training Programme
The Services Go Global (SGG) Programme is an export readiness training programme for service providers which includes a 4-stage roadmap taking participants through 12 modules of export preparation. Over 100 competencies can be achieved through the completion of exercises and the implementation of recommended tools and templates included in the programme. The programme was developed by the Global Coalition of Services Industries for implementation by Coalitions of Services Industries organisations across the globe. Therefore, the TTCSI is the only agency in Trinidad & Tobago certified to offer this critical training.
Gateway To Trade Accelerator Programme
This is an accelerator programme which supports the growth of trade-in-services by building the export capacity of service sector stakeholders including: SME service providers, intermediary organisations, industry associations and government.
All training programmes are offered at reduced Member rates to the membership of our Member associations.
- 3 Access to opportunities from regional and international donor agencies**
As the representative collective services body for Trinidad & Tobago, TTCSI receives access to regional and international funding and training opportunities, which are then shared with Members for uptake.
- 4 Meeting Facilitation**
The TTCSI through its wide public and private sector network of stakeholders can facilitate meetings with the following entities:
• B2B: through our network of professional private sector trade associations, we have access to decision-makers in leading businesses across Trinidad & Tobago, and
• GORTT: our team can also arrange meetings with Ministries and State Entities, where appropriate.
- 5 Access to cutting edge knowledge products**
The TTCSI is at the forefront of gathering and collating national statistical data which will help businesses make more informed, data-driven, strategic planning decisions. As a Member of the TTCSI, you will among the first to access these real-time reports.
- 6 Nominate Members to serve on State Boards**
As the leading services sector association in Trinidad & Tobago, the TTCSI is often invited to nominate Members to serve on State Boards, Committees and other governmental decision-making collaborative groups. Suitable candidates are selected from among our Members.
- 7 Advocacy & Lobbying**
As a research driven organisation, we prepare position papers and other advocacy documents to lobby GORTT and regional bodies on key issues impacting the services sector and in the interests of our Members.
- 8 Rental Facilities**
TTCSI's conference room and training facility are situated in the heart of the capital city, ideally located to host your meetings, workshops, seminars, training sessions and press briefings. Members can access a reduced rental rate. Our team can assist with all your catering and AV needs.
- 9 TTCSI Event Mail-out**
As a Member, we share e-invitations to your events via our Facebook and Instagram pages which have an active growing following. This is at no additional cost.

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Press Release

A Press Release was sent out on the Monday 18th January 2021 to all the relevant media houses in an effort to have our voice heard regarding the plight of our dying Yacht Services Industry and the hundreds of families that are being affected.





These are just some of the publicity we have gotten, along with a radio interview and voice interview with TV6.

We are continuing our efforts to have our plight heard and hope to partner and collaborate with other industries to aid us in our efforts.

A call to reopen T&T to yachties

We are writing to support of the efforts of the Yacht Services Association of Trinidad & Tobago (YSATT) urging the government to relax its border restrictions and allow the entry of international yachts.

We have been traveling to Trinidad for the past ten years. When we are in Trinidad, we rely on the excellent services provided to us by the skilled workers and world-class facilities in Chaguaramas. Each summer, we spend an average of \$20,000 US dollars on boat work, supplies, dockage, hauling, as well as eating, entertainment, and sightseeing.

The number of cruising yachts coming to Trinidad is a significant number. We are not unique. There is a large community of cruising yachts which spend months each year in Trinidad getting serviced, while their crews enjoy your beautiful country, your cuisine, and the welcoming hospitality of your people. The economic loss of the infusion of foreign currency to Trinidad via the yachting industry has to be devastating.

In response to the pandemic, many countries in the Caribbean now require the crews of cruising yachts to arrive with negative COVID tests, and/or quarantine upon arrival. As a result, sailors on cruising yachts can be an extremely low-risk group for the countries they visit. Quarantining on board a boat in an unpopulated area such as Chacachacare or Scotland Bay, would be easy and safe.

For many years, Trinidad has been a destination of choice for yachts arriving from foreign ports.

Compared to other Caribbean islands, Trinidad is a perfect blend of cosmopolitan amenities, world class workmanship, and natural beauty.

It is a loss to us to not be able to go to Trinidad for the summer, as well as an economic loss to the yachting industry.

We hope that the citizens of Trinidad will support YSATT in urging the government to allow the entry of foreign yachts, with appropriate safety considerations.

MARK & AWILDA ("WILLIE") HASKINS
SV LIAHONA