

SEW NEWS

STRENGTHENING THE SINGLE ELECTRONIC WINDOW FOR TRADE AND BUSINESS FACILITATION

TTBIZLINK COLLABORATES WITH STAKEHOLDERS

In continued efforts to educate stakeholders in the business community about the TTBizLink Enhanced Platform and to facilitate new registrations, representatives of the TTBizLink team have been collaborating with external stakeholders.

During the month of October, TTBizLink representatives, together with other members of the Ministry of Trade and Industry participated in the Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business Alumni Networking and Business Mixer. The event was attended by many entrepreneurs and operators of small, micro, and medium enterprises.

On November 8, the TTBizLink team collaborated with CTS College to facilitate an interactive presentation on the Enhanced Platform to students and stakeholders. In this presentation, the TTBizLink team provided a live demonstration on steps involved in registering a TTBizLink account and also an overview of the Trade and Business Information Portal.

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STAKEHOLDERS MEET FOR PORT COMMUNITY SYSTEM PROJECT

A significant Government digital initiative, the Port Community System (PCS) project is considered a critical tool for trade facilitation as it is expected to help improve critical data transfer and enhance T&T's trading conditions.

T&T's Port Community System is an electronic platform that will connect the border clearance IT systems used by TTBizLink, Customs and Excise Division (CED), the ports, and other border clearance agencies. The PCS project is facilitated by the Ministry of Trade and Industry's Project Implementation Unit. SOGET, a global leader in the development of Port Community Systems, is the consultant.

During the month of October, SOGET presented the Inception Report to PCS project stakeholders. Among these stakeholders were representatives from the Ministry of Works and Transport, CED, Port Authority of Trinidad & Tobago, PLIPDECO, and Port Health.

The Inception Report presented to stakeholders covered the following areas:

- Project Objectives
- Scope & Governance
- Schedule and Deliverables
- Proposed organisational structure for the PCS Administrator
- Infrastructure
- Next steps

Following the presentation by SOGET's project manager, the stakeholders discussed feedback on the report, and the next steps of the project, including the integration of the PCS with other systems used in the trade process. Look out for more updates on this project in upcoming issues of the SEWNEWS.

Using TTBizLink helps to improve clearance times



"Since the launch of the TTBizLink Enhanced Application software, introducing the drawdown module for the payment of fees and the confirmation of fees process, our clearance time has improved by 2 days for consumer products that attract Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards (TTBS) fees. This saves us time and money as we can avoid regular trips to the bank and the continuous payment of bank charges for the issuance of bank drafts.

We thank the SEW Team, making special mention to Ms. Bidaisee, Mrs. Lemessy, Mr. Dickson, Ms. Ramsingh, Mr. Thanoo, Mr. John, and the many others who made this possible. – Alston's Marketing Company Ltd

DevelopTT to implement an Online Payment feature



Caption: Front row at left and right respectively are TTBizLink's Allison Bidaisee, Mnger Stakeholder Adoption, and Daniella Granger, Single Electronic Window Specialist, who are captured here with the participants of the User Acceptance Testing session. Front row from left are Gabrielle Solomon (TCPD representative) Jonnelle Weekes (Manager, WASA New Services Department) and Latoya Rocke (WASA representative). Back row from left are: Gregory Galera (WASA representative), Ricardo Smith (System Developer, Crimson Logic) Chinara Remy (WASA representative) and Ronella Williams (WASA representative).

The Town and Country Planning (TCPD), Ministry of Planning and Development and the TTBizLink Unit, Ministry of Trade and Industry have been continuing their collaboration on introducing new features to the Automated Construction Permitting System (ACPS), branded as DevelopTT. Launched in March of 2020, the DevelopTT platform facilitates the electronic preparation, submission and processing of planning permissions, building permits, completion certificates and many of the other approvals required for property development.

A major deliverable which has been earmarked to be launched in fiscal 2024, is the DevelopTT Online Payment feature. This facility will first be introduced at the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) and will be rolled out on a phased basis to other regulatory agencies which use the DevelopTT platform. When launched for WASA, applicants will be able to make payments related to Building Development and Plumbing applications.

As part of the development process for the DevelopTT Online Payment feature, on November 9, 2023 representatives from WASA participated in a User Acceptance Testing (UAT) session. This exercise was an important part of the development process which provided participants with the opportunity to test the feature to verify if it met the expected design specifications and thereby, identify where refinements might be required. The DevelopTT Online Payment feature is expected to be launched within the first quarter of 2024.

As a product of the Single Electronic Window – TTBizLink – DevelopTT represents a significant milestone in the Government's ongoing efforts to simplify and modernise the provision of government services through digitisation. It also represents a whole of government approach in addressing the deficiencies of manual or paper processes for conducting various trade and business transactions and, in so doing, enhance the ease of doing business in Trinidad and Tobago.

TTBizLink collaborates with stakeholders



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TTBizLink's presentation to students of CTS College on November 8 was well received with one participant commenting that he had been using the platform for well over one year and was pleased with the service delivered by the TTBizLink team.

COMING UP IN NOV. 2023

This month, the TTBizLink team will collaborate with the Greater Chaguanas Chamber of Industry and Commerce to host a webinar for its membership.

If you would like to have the MTI team deliver an in-person or virtual presentation to your membership/organisation focused on TTBizLink services or to obtain information on grant facilities and incentives offered by the Ministry of Trade and Industry, please send an email with your request to mti-corporatecommunications@gov.tt.

TTBizLink to continue expansion in 2024

TTBizLink, in partnership with several agencies, proposes to launch several new e-services in fiscal 2024. These e-services are expected to lead to greater time and cost savings for stakeholders as they will eliminate inefficiencies associated with paper-based processes.

The expansion of TTBizLink will also further the Government's emphasis on interconnectivity and digitisation.

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