



MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

MEDIA RELEASE

Point Fortin Business Park formally commissioned



The unveiling of the commemorative plaque - l-r His Worship the Mayor of Point Fortin, Alderman Clyde Paul; the Honourable Major General Edmund Dillon, Minister of National Security and Member of Parliament for Point Fortin; Senator the Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon, Minister of Trade and Industry; Mr. Robert Salandy, President, eTeck; Mr. Imtiaz Ahamad, Chairman-elect, eTeck

November 24, 2015:- 'This new Park signifies our commitment to create new economic spaces for local companies to develop and grow; and we are delighted, as a new Government to do this in Point Fortin. This Park and other economic spaces operating in Trinidad and Tobago are an integral part of the Government's economic recovery strategies to build out the manufacturing sector,

diversify the economy and encourage and retain investment. For any of these activities to flourish, there must be the availability of suitable and modern economic spaces'. Opening words of Senator

the Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon, Minister of Trade and Industry at the Formal Opening of the Point Fortin Business Park, with eTeck as the landlord, on Monday 23rd November, 2015.

The Trade and Industry Minister noted that *'we, as a responsible Government, are committed to acting appropriately and expeditiously in pursuing suitable economic policies to create alternative revenue streams and possibilities for increased business activities. The Government has recognized that to continue strengthening the manufacturing industry and more importantly, our local businesses, upgrades are required, both infrastructural and regulatory. We must therefore establish the framework to encourage further expansion, and monitor to ensure full utilization, in the ways intended.'* Further that the *'Government's interest and support for this Park is leveraged on the knowledge that this space will play a critical role, not only in the development of the immediate Point Fortin/La Brea community, but the wider Southwest Peninsula, as residents will be given opportunities to access employment in close proximity to their homes. **Our drive is not solely focused on providing***

infrastructure but also in ensuring societal welfare gains and improving the social conditions of our citizens.'

The Honourable Major General Edmund Dillon, Minister of National Security and Member of Parliament for Point Fortin said that he was *'extremely heartened by this Project because I know that it will benefit our constituents'*, noting that *'this is a big step for the people who will do business here'*. He also spoke of the Government's economic thrust to diversify; and outlined planned developmental projects for the Point Fortin constituency, namely upgrades to the Mahaica Oval, by the Ministry of Sports.

Mr. Julien Bascombe, Chief Executive Officer of Bascombe and Daughters Company Limited, one of the eleven new tenants, spoke of why he chose the Point Fortin Business Park to set up his business and outlined his construction firm's short and long term goals.

eTeck's President, Mr. Robert Salandy in his Welcome Address outlined the work and activities of the Company, saying to the audience that *'this Park is a start of what eTeck can and must do to promote growth and development for the area'*. He also formally welcomed the eleven (11) new tenants with the words *'we are indeed happy to be your landlord. We will be working hand in hand with you to ensure that your needs are met. We know that our relationship will be a mutually beneficial one that is both positive and fruitful'*.

Attending the Commissioning were His Worship the Mayor of Point Fortin, Alderman Clyde Paul; eTeck's Chairman-elect, Mr. Imtiaz Ahamad; former Member of Parliament for La Brea, Mr. Fitzgerald Jeffrey; and other notable business persons from the Southern Borough.

eTeck supports the economic diversification of Trinidad and Tobago through its mandate to develop and manage land spaces for businesses in the non-energy sector. The Point Fortin Business Park is a 13.35 acres facility, with 11 half acre lots. The types of business which the tenants will be operating at the Park are light manufacturing, service based and warehousing.

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