

## MEDIA RELEASE

29 April 2019

### **FSC's Deepak Lal is the OHS Champion of the Year**

**FSC's Occupational, Health and Safety Manager Deepak Lal, has won the inaugural Occupational, Health and Safety Champion Award at the Fiji National University National Safety Awards for Excellence in Occupational Health and Safety (OHS).**

The National Safety Awards were introduced to honor and recognize OHS practitioners who had gone over and beyond their call of duty in making their organizational work environment free of hazards and accidents.

A delighted CEO Graham Clark said "FSC's OHS landscape has gone through significant changes since Deepak joined in April, 2018. With his wealth of experience and expertise laced with sheer passion and enthusiasm, he has mapped a very clear safety journey for the Corporation".

Some of Deepak's key achievements since joining the FSC are as highlighted below:

- Introducing Hazard ID and Safe Moves Check program. As a result of this program, 330 hazards were reported in 2018 and opposed to 24 for the same period in 2017.
- Introducing Mill Hazard Registers in each mill to keep track of hazards and solutions reached.

**Right:** Deepak Lal, FSC OHS Manager  
with his award



- Running Behavioral Safety Workshops for each Designated Work Group (DWG). This was further complemented by OHS Induction sessions across all FSC offices.
- Facilitating of On-the-Job Workshops on Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment Training for all DWG's
- Robust formation of an OHS Committee in FSC, where we now have a system where every DWG can voice their concerns which is then escalated to central committees.
- And being a fitness freak, Deepak also introduced the health weight loss program – Biggest Loser - last year and we are happy to note that it is now being run a second time.

In accepting the award, Deepak dedicated his win to all the employees who had provided their individual support one way or another in helping the implementation of the OHS programs and initiatives in their work groups.

Further adding “I would also like to thank the Mill Management team and Executive Management Team for their support throughout this safety journey. Without all your support this would not have been successful. I also look forward to your continued support for our future safety initiatives”.

**Right:** a recent training on OHS for FSC OHS reps, held at the FSC's Training Centre, in Lautoka. Deepak Lal, in the red bula shirt, is standing in the middle, second row from the front.



FSC's revitalized safety strategy is now well and truly on a progressive trajectory. The outcome of which is a more OHS compliant organisation, changing attitudes amongst our people towards developing a safety mindset in their area of work and a better working environment.

**ENDS**

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