

MEDIA RELEASE

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FSC IDENTIFIES MAY 2018 SAFETY CHAMPIONS

In April this year, FSC introduced two major Safety initiatives, the Hazard Identification programme and the Safe Move Checks programme which emphasize the importance of developing a good safety culture and ethos in the organisation. The programmes recognise best safety behaviour, which is rewarded.

FSC CEO Graham Clark says “creating and maintaining a safe and healthy work environment for our employees is our top priority. We want our people to adopt a good safety culture, to identify it and practice it. This will come about through changes to the way we approach work daily, changing mindsets and eventually behaviour”.

Our primary goal is to identify the hazards and eliminate or minimise any impact by putting appropriate control measures in place. Safety is a shared responsibility. Everyone from the top management to supervisors to each and every worker must take ownership of his or her own safety and that of co-workers.

For the inaugural campaign period from May to June 2018, there were a total of forty-two hazards and unsafe moves reported – thirty hazards and twelve unsafe moves. Three Safety Champions were identified, one for each mill.

Feroz Ali, a Carpenter with some twenty years’ experience was nominated the Lautoka Mill Safety Champion for May. Ali reported a total of three while the mill reported fourteen hazards and unsafe moves.

Rarawai Mill Safety Champion for May was **Asish Kumar Lal**, a Boiler Operator, with over fourteen years’ experience. He identified nine hazards and unsafe moves while the mill reported seventeen hazards during the month.



Above: Lautoka Mill Safety Champion,
Feroz Ali

Labasa Mill's Safety Champion was **Shaneel Goundar**, a Fitter and Machinist based at the company's Malau Terminal who identified three hazards while mill totalled eleven hazards.

Clark says "the results from our inaugural OHS campaign for May are very encouraging, as we continue to promote good working habits and reward employees who advocate safe, clean, accident free work environments. As a team, we would like to take ownership of the process so that good behaviour is encouraged and practiced across the company".

ABOUT THE TWO NEW OHS INITIATIVES:

The **Hazard ID** program promotes safety within the familiarity of the working environment. Knowing the workplace and its surrounds is central to promoting

a safe working environment. Knowing what goes where and recognising when things are out of place promotes alertness to what is safe and what is not safe, within the confines of a particular work area.

Right: Rarawai Mill Safety Champion Asish Kumar Lal



With the new FSC Hazard ID program, employees are encouraged to identify and report hazards within their area of work, on a daily basis. When they identify hazards they acquire points which are linked to a series of rewards. Once the identification of the hazards is confirmed, departmental teams discuss the causes and effects of these hazards at their safety meetings. Teams are then further encouraged and challenged to identify control measures and implement solutions.

The second program titled **Safe Move Checks** is all about continually looking out for one another in the work environment. Teams are encouraged to promote a safety culture amongst them, which means if team members see that other team members are not carrying out their tasks in a safe way, they are encouraged to speak up and correct their colleagues accordingly. This increases the health & safety knowledge within employees and thus creates a safe decision making environment improving safety culture in the workplace.

ENDS

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