

CEC Group begins construction of Isomerisation Complex



From left to right: Project Leader Neal Ramasra; President of Operations Wayne Bertrand; Representative of Fluor Daniel Latin America Gerry Fairchild; Head Project control Debra Persadie-Jones and General Manager CEC Narayan Ramtahal.

The Central Engineering and Construction (CEC) Group hosted an interfaith service to commemorate the driving of the first pile to mark the beginning of construction of the new Isomerisation Complex at the Pointe-a-Pierre refinery.

The Isomerization Complex is the first of five units to be constructed as part of the Gasoline Optimisation Programme (GOP) for upgrading the quality and quantity gasoline at the Pointe-a-Pierre (P-a-P) refinery. The GOP is one of several strategic initiatives being implemented to ensure the Company's growth and survival in the face of changing market demands and regional competition.

It involves the construction of an Alkylation Unit, Acid Unit, Prefractionation Unit, C5/ C6 Isomerisation Complex and Continuous Catalytic Regeneration (CCR) Platforming Complex. The Fluid Catalytic Cracking Unit (FCCU) will also be upgraded and additional Offsites and Utilities works conducted.

The interfaith service was held at the Isomerisation site in the South Area of the refinery on August 29. A number of Petrotrin officials including President, Operations Mr. Wayne Bertrand, General Manager, CEC Mr. Narayan Ramtahal, Isomerisation Project Leader Mr. Neal Ramasra and Isomerisation Project Coordinator

Mr. Charles Boodoo attended. Representatives of the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor for this project, Fluor Daniel Latin America Inc (FDLA) were also in attendance.

In an address at that function Mr. Ramtahal called on all involved to employ safe work practices during the construction of the Isomerisation Complex.

The Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Commissioning and Start-up of the Isomerisation Complex are being undertaken by Contractor Fluor Daniel Latin America. The Contractor's mobilization on the site in preparation for construction of the Isomerisation Complex began three months ago and detailed engineering and procurement are well advanced in the Contractor's home office in Long Beach Office, California.

The construction phase should be completed and the Unit commissioned by December 2007.

"The construction of the Isomerisation complex would offer significant short-term employment opportunities," Mr. Boodoo said after the service. "The EPC contractor has taken on only local sub-contractors to complete this phase of the project."

The Isomerisation Complex, once constructed, would produce an environmentally friendly blending component enabling the production of high-octane gasoline without using the additives of lead or MTBE.

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