



The Shipping Association of Jamaica at 85!



CELEBRATING



THE SHIPPING
ASSOCIATION
OF JAMAICA

85th
YEAR
ANNIVERSARY



MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER, THE MOST HON. ANDREW HOLNESS, ON, PC, MP

Jamaica's shipping and logistics sectors have been a significant force in national development. It is therefore with great pride that I congratulate the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ) on celebrating 85 years of service to Jamaica.

Certainly, the SAJ's commitment to fostering trade and contributing to the expansion of the maritime industry aligns seamlessly with Jamaica's economic development goals.

The contribution of the SAJ to national development must never be understated. Indeed, businesses that specialise in manufacturing and distribution have benefited immensely from the advocacy and services that have been provided over many years.

The shipping industry in Jamaica remains a vibrant pillar of the country's economic success. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, which disrupted operations, the SAJ and the sector have recovered stronger. This resilience demonstrates the commitment of the stakeholders in the sector to advancing Jamaica's mission to achieve economic independence. The government that I lead is working assiduously to capitalise on Jamaica's geographic position to ensure that our people are able to strategically advance the

full potential of the shipping industry.

The strategic expansion and improvements at our berths and in the shipping sector will result in new investments, thus bolstering growth in Jamaica's economy. This will lead to the creation of more high-income jobs, which will raise the living standards for many of our citizens.

Your government has invested heavily in the Caribbean Maritime University and Jamaica Customs Agency to facilitate a higher ecosystem of productivity and efficiency in the services provided to players in the shipping industry. Similarly, the Port Authority has also supported the advancement of the industry by implementing policies geared towards increasing the volume of shipping in Jamaica. Our country has the potential to become the logistics capital of the Caribbean, and this can only be achieved by engaging the SAJ in meaningful partnerships.

As the SAJ celebrates 85 years of service and nation-building, let us work diligently and creatively in a spirit of partnership to build a better Jamaica.

**The Most Honourable
Andrew Holness,
ON, PC, MP,
Prime Minister**

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MESSAGE FROM THE HON. DARYL VAZ, MP, MINISTER OF SCIENCE, ENERGY, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT

Heartiest congratulations to the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ) on their 85th Anniversary as key players in the maritime industry.

This significant milestone allows us to celebrate the remarkable achievements and contributions of the SAJ to our nation's progress since its inception in 1939. For over eight and a half decades, the SAJ has contributed to the development of Jamaica's shipping industry and continues to be a pillar of strength in the maritime community as it provides exemplary services to the ports of Kingston and its members.

The maritime sector holds a critical position in our nation's economic landscape, contributing significantly to trade, transportation and overall economic growth. In this regard,

the SAJ has been a cornerstone of Jamaica's economic prosperity, facilitating trade, fostering international relations and connecting the nation to the global community. The advancements and innovations within this sector continue to bolster the economy whilst also playing a pivotal role in shaping the landscape of international trade.

The Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport applauds the SAJ on this auspicious occasion and celebrates the dedication and resilience of the countless individuals who have navigated the challenges of the seas to ensure the safe and efficient transportation of goods and people.

The maritime community should be recognised for their unwavering

commitment to excellence that has not only safeguarded the shores but also positioned Jamaica as a designated maritime leader on the world stage, a charge ably executed by past Presidents, and now by the current President, Mrs Corah Robertson-Sylvester, the second woman to hold the position in the organisation's 85-year history.

The past year was an extraordinary period for the shipping and logistics industry in Jamaica, which saw increased focus on women in maritime; applied research towards making the sector more viable and competitive. The local shipping industry was not spared the impacts of the global geopolitical and security challenges presented, none the less it remains resilient.

As we look towards the future and reflect on this impressive milestone, take pride in the legacy built and the voyage facilitated. This outstanding journey reflects the hard work, dedication, and passion of every member of the SAJ and maximal love for industry.

Once again, congratulations to the SAJ on reaching this historic milestone. May the next 85 years be filled with continued prosperity, growth, and success.

Happy 85Th Anniversary to the Shipping Association of Jamaica!

Honourable Daryl Vaz, MP Minister of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF JAMAICA



As we embark on this journey, guided by our history and vision, we are poised for another eight decades of progress, resilience, and lasting impact.

celebrating this considerable milestone, and we look forward to the exciting chapters ahead.

Corah Ann Robertson-Sylvester,
President,
Shipping Association of Jamaica

Thank you for joining us in

Eight-five years ago, the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ) emerged as a beacon of change and progress amid the uncertainty, disruption, and discontent of the time.

As we reflect on our journey, we stand proud having evolved into an association at the forefront of transformation in the Jamaican shipping and port landscape. The vision and dedication of our founding fathers have paved the way for an organisation that has not only weathered storms but reshaped the labour management narrative in Jamaica.

Our achievements over the years are indicative of our commitment to progress. The establishment of the Joint Industrial Council (JIC) in 1952, the first of its kind in Jamaica, remains a benchmark for other industries.

We extend our gratitude to industry partners

and SAJ members who share our vision and have contributed to our growth. As we look to the future, we are committed to strengthening these partnerships to ensure the continued development and momentum of the shipping industry.

In our relentless pursuit of modernisation and expanded services, the SAJ is poised to cooperate with government agencies, industry partners, and stakeholders in the shipping industry. We recognise the importance of aligning with global trends, and our focus on the development of Newport West, and by extension, the realisation of the Global Logistics Hub, is pivotal. That work continues, and already we have had promising discussions with the European Union, Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce, and other public and private partners, more on which will be shared in this feature.

85th ANNIVERSARY

THE SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF JAMAICA

Congratulations from

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1988 - 2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF JAMAICA



As we commemorate the 85th Anniversary of the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ), it is fitting to take a reflective pause to acknowledge the milestones that have defined our journey since inception in 1939. We stand as a proof of resilience, evolution, and firm resolve to our members and the maritime industry.

Over the years, we have grown from a modest initiative by a small group of businessmen into a robust organisation of over 80 members. Our journey has been shaped by the collective efforts of a dedicated team, the foresight of the Managing Committee, and the competent leadership of our executives. These

crucial elements have been central to expanding our association's role beyond mere representation to an integral service provider that encourages a thriving port ecosystem.

The SAJ has been a catalyst for change, cooperating with government agencies and the private sector to ensure sustainability and growth within the shipping sector. Our commitment to the interests of our members and staff is manifested through various initiatives, including comprehensive training programmes, that go beyond rhetoric and empower our workforce with the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate the dynamic maritime

landscape successfully. By investing in the professional development of our people, we contribute not only to individual growth but also to the overall resilience and competitiveness of our industry.

As we reflect on our achievements, from historical labour agreements with unions to potent advocacy for our industry, we find ourselves at a juncture that prompts gratitude for the past and anticipation for what lies ahead.

Here's to 85 years of resilience, growth, and impactful contributions.

Trevor Riley, JP
Chief executive officer,
Shipping Association of Jamaica

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, PORT AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA



The Port Authority of Jamaica (PAJ) extends heartiest congratulations to the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ) on its 85th Anniversary. We congratulate the SAJ on its outstanding impact on the development of Jamaica's maritime sector during this period. Since its inception in January 1939, amidst the labour upheavals at Kingston's waterfront, through the many changes impacting shipping

and cargo handling, the Shipping Association has played a central role in the growth and evolution of the industry in Jamaica. SAJ's role during the pre-and post-independence periods, working alongside Jamaica leaders, Alexander Bustamante, and Norman Manley, now National Heroes, was critical to the industrial relations stability on our ports during those early years, and has remained so in the subsequent decades.

A hallmark of the Shipping Association has been its willingness and capacity to collaborate with the Government to promote sustainability and growth. At the point when the Government signalled its intention to establish the Port Authority of Jamaica in 1972, the SAJ understood the value of collaboration and cooperation and embraced the Port Authority of Jamaica.

A clear sign of the collaboration between the SAJ and the PAJ was the secondment in 1975 of Mr.

Noel Hylton, the then Secretary of the SAJ, to serve as the President and CEO of the PAJ. Under the leadership of Mr Hylton and the Presidents of the SAJ, the two organisations worked jointly to modernise the industrial relations and labour practices in the sector while embracing the changes in technology as they emerged.

In 1997, amid the continued changes in cargo handling systems and changing labour practices in the internationally competitive transshipment sector, the PAJ supported the establishment of the Muirhead Board of Enquiry to investigate the impasse between the SAJ and the Joint Industrial Trade Unions. Chaired by Ambassador David Muirhead, Professor Rex Nettleford, former Vice Chancellor of the UWI, and Gordon Shirley, the Board of Enquiry's findings led to a far-reaching set of changes in labour relations in the Port of Kingston.

In recent times, both the PAJ and the SAJ have continued to evolve

in accordance with the changes in international shipping. We are pleased to have collaborated in the development and implementation of the Port Community System, the first in the region. Currently, the SAJ and the PAJ are collaborating with other stakeholders to redevelop the entire area of the Port of Kingston with a view of transforming it into a modern, world class, secure and environmentally sustainable Port Area, and the home of an international centre of excellence in logistics. We are confident that these collective goals will be achieved.

The Port Authority of Jamaica applauds the Shipping Association of Jamaica on its 85th Anniversary and we extend best wishes for a very successful and rewarding next eighty-five years.

Thank you.

Professor Gordon Shirley
President,
Port Authority of Jamaica

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MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL, THE MARITIME AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA



The Maritime Authority of Jamaica (MAJ) sends hearty congratulations to the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ) on your 85th year of dedication to growth, innovation and progress in our nation.

Emerging in 1939 from the struggles of waterfront workers, you have evolved into a formidable organization, helping to shape the modern Jamaican labour movement and to set standards under which workers can thrive. Through disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic, global financial uncertainty across sectors, and other challenges over the years, you

have held steady and forged ahead, helping to guarantee uninterrupted maritime trade on which Jamaica's livelihood depends.

The SAJ has been shaped by inspired leadership, under first Chairman Captain S. D. List, all the way through to current President and 2021 SAJ Hall of Fame inductee Corah Ann Robertson Sylvester, who has highlighted partnerships with the wider business community as a key part of charting the way forward.

The maritime sector has benefitted greatly from the SAJ's ongoing commitment in facilitating the

provision of various critical services at our ports.

MAJ treasures the opportunities we have had to collaborate with you on various initiatives to advance maritime development in Jamaica.

We have no doubt that the pride and unity that this remarkable milestone ignites will remind us all why your work matters, and serve as motivation for the future.

SAJ, the Maritime Authority of Jamaica salutes you.

Rear Admiral (Ret'd) Peter Brady
Director General
Maritime Authority of Jamaica

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, CARIBBEAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY



On behalf of the Caribbean Maritime University (CMU), I extend my warmest congratulations to the Shipping Association of Jamaica as you celebrate your remarkable 85th anniversary this year.

The SAJ has been a cornerstone in shaping Jamaica's maritime landscape, consistently demonstrating steadfast dedication and making significant contributions to the industry. Your commitment to knowledge, innovation, and sustainability has not only strengthened the maritime sector but also played a pivotal role in the overall economic development of our beloved nation.

The Caribbean Maritime University (CMU) takes immense pride in being a partner of the SAJ.

Our collaboration has been instrumental in fostering educational initiatives, promoting research, and producing skilled professionals who contribute to the growth and prosperity of the maritime industry. Your unyielding support has enabled us to further our mission of providing world-class education and training to maritime

professionals. It has positioned us to be one of the leading maritime universities globally.

As we reflect on the past 85 years of the SAJ's remarkable journey, we are filled with admiration for the accomplishments and milestones realised. The resilience and vision demonstrated by the SAJ have set the standard for excellence in the maritime sector, inspiring all those who are part of this vibrant industry.

The CMU is honoured to celebrate this achievement with the SAJ and is excited about the prospect of continuing our partnership in the years to come. Together, we can continue to shape the future of the maritime landscape, fostering innovation, sustainability, and excellence.

Once again, congratulations on this significant achievement. May the Shipping Association of Jamaica continue to thrive and set new benchmarks for success in the years ahead.

Professor Andrew Spencer
President,
Caribbean Maritime University



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, CARIBBEAN SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF JAMAICA



On behalf the General Council, our Secretariat and our other members of the Caribbean Shipping Association (CSA), I extend greetings to the Shipping Association of Jamaica, its leadership, its members, its staff, its labour force and the shipping industry on a whole as we commemorate its 85th anniversary. The SAJ; an institution that has made decades of stellar contribution to the maritime industry locally and regionally as well as a stalwart in nation building.

This occasion not only marks a significant milestone for the SAJ but also provides an opportunity to celebrate the enduring relationship between our two organisations.

As one of the founding members of the CSA, the SAJ was integral to the establishment of the CSA in 1969. Since then, the CSA has continued to benefit from the support of the SAJ and that backing has bolstered the development of the CSA as the “voice of shipping in the Caribbean”; and I always like to make the distinction, that reference to “Caribbean” means the Greater

Caribbean, with membership in almost every country bordering the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea.

Notably, the SAJ also the host of our secretariat, and in that enduring spirit of cooperation, the leadership and executives of the SAJ have offered continued service to the CSA at its General Council, Board of Trustees and various committee levels.

As we celebrate this milestone, let us acknowledge the steadfast commitment of its leadership, the dedication of its members, and the legacy it has crafted, in this globally recognisable maritime industry.

We thank the Shipping Association of Jamaica for its partnership and sincerely hope this anniversary be a moment of reflection, celebration, and renewal. We say stand tall and hold your place with pride!

Marc Sampson
President,
Caribbean Shipping Association

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF BARBADOS



The Shipping Association of Barbados (SAB) would like to express congratulations to the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ) on their 85th Anniversary.

The SAJ impacts and enhances the Jamaican Shipping Industry through various approaches and programs. Their training and developments programmes have yielded increased employee performance and a stronger workforce overall. Through positive industrial relations within the work force, the SAJ has been able to create harmony

between the stakeholders in the shipping industry. Their involvement in the local community is testimony of their ongoing commitment and support not only to the community but helps build a corporate culture which strengthens the significance of the local shipping industry.

The SAJ has been instrumental in the Shipping industry not only in Jamaica but also in the wider Caribbean. The Shipping Association of Barbados (SAB) is honored to have worked closely

with the SAJ in the promotion of the Maritime Sector and we endeavor to continue to build and foster stronger ties with the SAJ.

The work of the SAJ continues through the very capable hands of recently elected President Corah Ann Robertson-Sylvester. We wish them every success and applaud them on this momentous occasion. Happy 85th Anniversary!

Mrs Erica Luke
President,
Shipping Association of Barbados

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, PUERTO RICO SHIPPING ASSOCIATION



On behalf of the Puerto Rico Shipping Association, we would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to the Shipping Association of Jamaica on reaching this significant milestone of 85 years of excellence in the maritime industry!

This significant milestone is a testament to the commitment, vision, dedication, and leadership demonstrated by the association over the past eight and a half decades. Your commitment and contribution to advancing the interest of the shipping industry, promoting maritime trade, and fostering collaboration within the

maritime community has a profound impact on Jamaica's maritime sector and beyond. Your contributions have not only strengthened Jamaica's position as a maritime hub but have also enhanced global connectivity and competitiveness.

Here's to eighty-five years of excellence, resilience, and leadership in the maritime industry! We wish you continued success, growth, and prosperity in the years ahead.

Clarivette Diaz
President,
Puerto Rico Shipping Association

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



Celebrating 85 years of maritime excellence, the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ) stands as a beacon of innovation, resilience, and commitment to shaping the maritime landscape. The Shipping Association of Trinidad and Tobago (SATT) recognises this remarkable milestone as a testament to the SAJ's unwavering dedication to fostering growth, sustainability, and excellence in the shipping industry.

Since its inception, the SAJ has played a pivotal role in transforming Jamaica into a hub of maritime activity. Their steadfast commitment to efficiency, safety, and environmental responsibility has propelled the nation onto the global stage.

The SAJ's tireless efforts in advancing technology and infrastructure have not only streamlined port operations but have also contributed significantly to the economic development of Jamaica. Through strategic partnerships, education initiatives, and community outreach, the SAJ has nurtured a culture of excellence within the industry, ensuring that future generations continue to benefit from a thriving maritime sector.

The SATT has had the honor of working with the SAJ over the years on various projects and initiatives geared toward advancing the maritime

industry in the Caribbean region. This collaboration has proven to be invaluable as we have been able to share our expertise and best practices for the benefit of our members, and the development and enhancement of maritime operations within the region. The SAJ has also played a pivotal role in elevating the standards of safety, efficiency, and sustainability in shipping activities through the availability of excellent training programs. The positive outcomes of this collaboration stand as a testament to the power of unity in driving positive change within the maritime industry, ultimately benefitting both nations and bolstering a thriving maritime ecosystem in the Caribbean.

The SATT applauds the SAJ on its 85th anniversary, recognising the organisation's leadership, foresight, and resilience. Their legacy is one of innovation, collaboration, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. The Shipping Association of Jamaica has not just weathered the storms of the past eight and a half decades; it has emerged stronger, more dynamic, and ready to chart new courses for the maritime future. Here's to the Shipping Association of Jamaica – a cornerstone of maritime success and a driving force behind the nation's maritime prosperity.

Sonja Voisin
President,
Shipping Association of Trinidad and Tobago

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF GUADELOUPE



As you celebrate the 85th anniversary of the Shipping Association of Jamaica, I would like to congratulate the actual President, Mrs Corah Ann Robertson-Sylvester, her Board, and all Past Board Members.

The Shipping Association of Guadeloupe (UMEP) was pleased to collaborate with SAJ through the Caribbean Shipping Association and CELBA Guadeloupe when implemented the Port Community System of Jamaica.

Your association has always fostered

innovation, expertise, and excellence in the industry. SAJ is an essential player in advanced technology and training in Jamaica shipping environment. Our collaborative efforts have not only shaped the present but have also laid the foundation for a better future of Caribbean shipping standards.

May your association continue to embrace new opportunities and smooth sailing.

Louis-Joseph Nedan
 President,
 The Shipping Association of Guadeloupe



Congratulations to the Shipping Association of Jamaica on their 85th anniversary!



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Our range of marine services is the most comprehensive in the industry and meets various needs including harbour towing, salvage, ship construction and repair, marine transportation, and specialized marine equipment rental (barges, workboats, tugs and labour forces qualified).

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Corah Ann Robertson-Sylvester
President



Andre Rochester
Vice-President



William Brown
Immediate Past President



Denise Lyn-Fatt
Past President



Kim Clarke
Past President

THE MANAGING COMMITTEE



Roger Hinds
Past President



Anna Hamilton
Member



Jędrzej Mierzewski
Member



Condell Stephenson
Member



Neil Smith
Member



Charles Johnston
Honorary Member



Grantley Stephenson
Honorary Member



Trevor Riley
Chief Executive Officer

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Founding Fathers



Capt. Sibrandt Duhn List

- **Thomas Bradshaw**
- **Percival A. George**
- **C.N. Hislop**
- **Charles Edward Johnston**
- **Luis Kennedy**
- **Capt. Sibrandt Duhn List**
- **CW Varney**
- **Richard F. Williams**
- **J.E.L. Webster**

The Port of Kingston's development is intricately tied to the contributions of nine men pivotal to the progress of the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ). Their impact spans labour negotiations, operational changes, mechanisation, and the streamlining of port workers' benefits.

The SAJ, founded on January 2, 1939, by Charles E. Johnston, Captain Sibrandt Duhn List, and Luis Kennedy,

marked a significant milestone in the shipping industry.

Joining List on the steering committee in the initial two years were Thomas Bradshaw, Percival A. George, J.E.L. Webster, and Richard F. Williams, working to strengthen the fledgling association. Captain List, along with C.N. Hislop, Williams, CW Varney, George, and Webster, comprised the first Managing Committee, completed by Frederick

W. Harris.

The early years faced challenges, including ongoing labour disputes and the looming threat of World War II. Despite the adversity, the SAJ achieved milestones such as assuming responsibility for wharf security in 1939 and establishing a central clearing house to collect charges on unpaid cargo at member wharves, diversifying revenue sources.

In 1944, under their guidance, Kingston Wharves Limited was founded, consolidating three wharves to offset losses from diminished cargo volumes during the war.

The association's past achievements and prospects are indebted to the founding fathers' exceptional efforts, whose impact resonates to this day.



THE EVOLUTION OF THE SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF JAMAICA



The Shipping Association of Jamaica has undergone significant changes over the past eight decades.

to the mistreatment of a union official in Montego Bay in December 1938.

The SAJ's genesis in 1938 marked a watershed moment within the intense activities of the time. Alongside the formation of the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union (BITU) in May and the Peoples National Party (PNP) in September, the SAJ represented the first joint response of business interests to the changes in the Jamaican industrial climate.

As the unions and workers adapted to

this new landscape, the SAJ spearheaded a rational and joint approach that would culminate in a model partnership on the Kingston waterfront. By the close of the century, the industrial climate at Kingston's waterfront was hailed as among the best globally, with port workers enjoying wages and benefits at the upper end of the local workforce. Beyond its role as a bargaining agent, the SAJ assumed multiple roles, becoming the sole employer of waterfront labour, operator of security services, provider of computer services for the wharves, a port development planner, landlord for support service firms, and a representative of agents, stevedoring companies, and other interests.

This organisational development turned the SAJ into a energetic operational and commercial entity, strongly advocating for its members and developing considerable influence in the management of the port of Kingston. The effectiveness of this model contributed significantly to the growth of the port and served as a blueprint for other ports facing similar challenges.

The SAJ, with its roots in uncertainty and upheaval, is proof of adaptation and visionary leadership. Its journey from a response to industrial challenges to a means for positive change remains a source of inspiration for the ever-changing maritime industry.

January 2, 1939, stands out as a decisive moment when a small cohort of forward-thinking businessmen orchestrated the birth of the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ). Registered as a trade union on January 27 of that year, the SAJ was formed as a response to the uncertainties and disruptions on the Kingston waterfront. Unlike its predecessors, the SAJ emerged not simply as an association but as an impactful force, reforming the landscape of labour relations and port management in Jamaica and the Caribbean.

In its infancy, the SAJ articulated a clear set of goals aiming to improve employment conditions, establish uniform labour rates on wharves and ships, ensure fair and reasonable compensation, and guarantee fair day's work for fair pay. However, beneath these objectives was a more meaningful goal – a concerted effort to address the challenges that had paralysed the waterfront in the previous year.

The turbulent events of May 1938, marked by worker protests and a city brought to a standstill, compelled the SAJ's formation. The industrial unrest prompted negotiations with Alexander Bustamante, but the desired improvements remained elusive. By the year's end, three city wharves stood closed as workers, heeding Bustamante's call, initiated a solidarity strike in response



CONGRATULATIONS Shipping Association of Jamaica on 85 years of Maritime Excellence

Assessment Recoveries Limited (ARL) proudly celebrates the Shipping Association of Jamaica's 85th Anniversary. We recognize the pivotal role the SAJ has played in shaping our sector's success.

We applaud the Association's unwavering commitment to excellence and innovation. Together, we look forward to further contributing to Jamaica's maritime legacy.



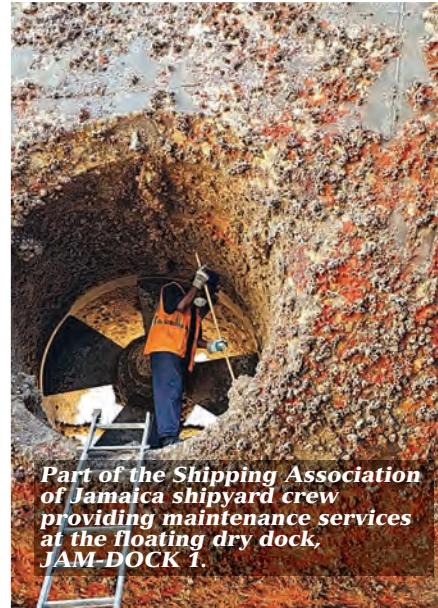
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THE EVOLUTION OF THE SHIPPING ASSOCIATION OF JAMAICA



Prime Minister of Jamaica Andrew Holness (right) shares a light moment with Shipping Association of Jamaica exhibitors at their booth at Expo Jamaica 2023.



Part of the Shipping Association of Jamaica shipyard crew providing maintenance services at the floating dry dock, JAM-DOCK 1.



Candidates are put through rigorous training programmes before becoming stevedores on the port.

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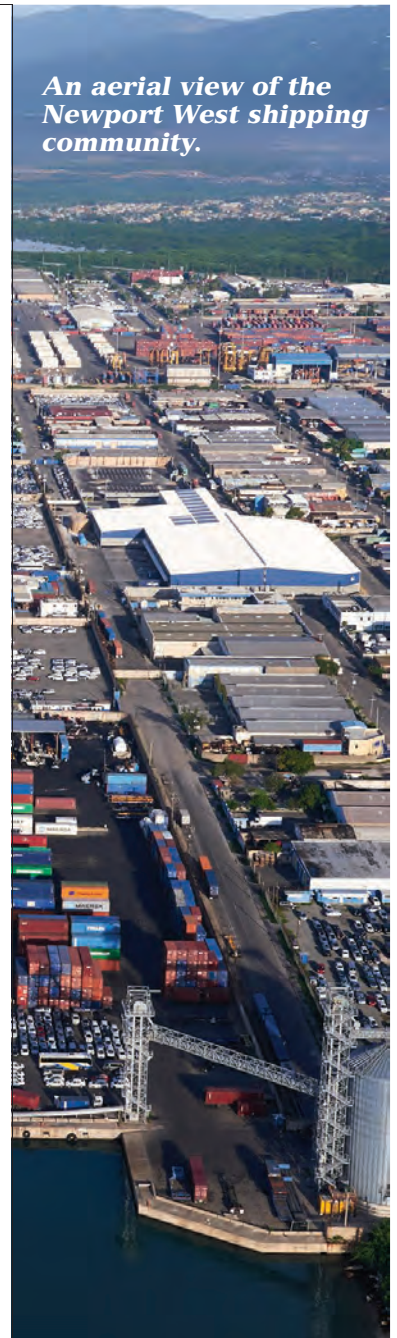
Celebrates the Shipping Association of Jamaica 85 Years of Excellence

Congratulations to the Shipping Association of Jamaica on a monumental 85th Anniversary! Your relentless dedication and achievements have been the cornerstone of Jamaica's maritime industry, fostering growth and global connectivity.

ADVANTUM is proud to support this legacy with our Software and IT-managed services, contributing to the innovative spirit that defines the SAJ. Here's to celebrating this milestone and looking forward to a future of continued success and collaboration.

THE SHIPPING
ASSOCIATION
OF JAMAICA

An aerial view of the Newport West shipping community.



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THE SAJ'S LEGACY OF CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY



The SAJ team shares a light moment with teachers at the Marcus Garvey Basic School during one of its annual treat for the students.

Since inception, the SAJ has included the principles of good corporate citizenship into its mandate, recognising the vital role it plays in promoting sustainable practices and community development.

The SAJ's commitment to social responsibility is integral to its identity, with a lasting impact on the maritime sector and the broader society.

Notably, the SAJ has emphasised in-house programmes designed to improve the qualifications and quality of life of its staff. Over the years, these programmes have included comprehensive on-the-job training initiatives, opportunities for overseas courses to widen employees' knowledge base, and assistance in qualifying for institutions such as the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers.

The SAJ goes beyond traditional training, organising seminars to keep its workforce, and that of its members, updated on industry advancements. Additionally, the SAJ has promoted a culture of learning through initiatives like the maritime quiz competition, creating a vibrant and engaged community.

Since 1977, the SAJ has offered scholarships to staff and their children to pursue tertiary education. What's more, the association's educational assistance was expanded in 1985 to offer scholarships to the children of port workers to attend secondary school based on performance in their exit examinations. All told, there

have been hundreds of beneficiaries of scholarships and bursaries to continue secondary and tertiary level education under the SAJ's higher learning mandate.



A section of the audience at the Shipping Association of Jamaica's Data Protection Act seminar, one of several training interventions offered to its members last year.

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JP Logistics Solutions congratulates the
Shipping Association of Jamaica
for 85 years of service to the
Jamaican Maritime Sector.

We thank you for your collaboration and partnership
since your inception and wish you continued success.

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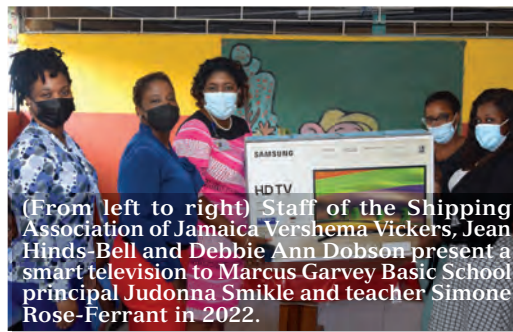


Continued from page 18



SAJ internal auditor, Jean Hinds-Bell, presents a Christmas gift to a Marcus Garvey Basic School student.

The SAJ has not only focused on enhancing the qualifications of its internal workforce but also made significant investments to numerous external programmes. In 1985 the SAJ's Training and Welfare Department was established and became a vital hub for its educational outreach efforts, aligning with the association's core objectives of human resource development and the improvement of employee welfare. This emphasis on education and training reflects the SAJ's overarching goal to enhance the



(From left to right) Staff of the Shipping Association of Jamaica Vershema Vickers, Jean Hinds-Bell and Debbie Ann Dobson present a smart television to Marcus Garvey Basic School principal Judonna Smikle and teacher Simone Rose-Ferrant in 2022.

effectiveness of its employees, ensuring a skilled and empowered workforce.

One early initiative of the department saw it organise a Summer Employment Programme for 100 high school students who were placed in service organisations at the SAJ's expense during its 50th anniversary celebrations.

Numerous organisations have also benefitted from the SAJ's largesse through the provision of grants over the years. Among the beneficiaries are the Tivoli Gardens High School, Stella Maris project, Sts Peter and Paul Church, UWI Department of Management Studies Awards, Meadowbrook United Church, among others.

Additionally, the SAJ adopted the Marcus Garvey Basic School in Greenwich Farm, demonstrating its devotion to the nearby community's educational well-being. Its three-decade relationship with the school is a testament to its promise youth and the community development with the institution benefitting from teachers' salary assistance, a feeding programme, aid with its Toddlers' Camp, an annual children's treat and other support. The SAJ also hosts a twice-monthly free clinic for the elderly, who further benefit from an annual treat of essential grocery items during the festive season.

As the association moves forward with the next phase of its existence, it continues to place importance on corporate social responsibility by investing in its workforce and supporting initiatives that contribute to industry growth and sustainability.



The association hosted a blood donation drive in conjunction with the National Blood Transfusion Service (Blood Bank) as part of its ongoing goodwill efforts in December 2022.

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SAJ kickstarts 85th Anniversary Celebration - Highlights



Maritime and transport officials, along with members, staff, and well-wishers of the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ), gathered at St Peter's Anglican Church in Port Royal on Sunday, January 28, to commemorate the association's 85 years of existence. This event marked the beginning of a year-long series of activities planned to celebrate the SAJ's anniversary.

The service was followed by brunch at the Grand Hotel Excelsior Port Royal.

SAJ President Corah Ann Robertson-Sylvester, addressing attendees, described the day as a time for reflection and gratitude towards those who contributed to the association's growth. She highlighted the SAJ's evolution from its humble beginnings

as a response to uncertainties on the Kingston waterfront, transforming into a multifaceted organisation. Robertson-Sylvester said this organisational development has turned the SAJ into a vibrant operational and commercial force.

William Brown, the Caribbean Shipping Association vice-president and the SAJ's immediate past president, expressed gratitude for the SAJ's role in forming the CSA and its continued support, which has contributed to the CSA becoming the "voice of the Caribbean shipping industry."

Professor Gordon Shirley, President of the Port Authority of Jamaica (PAJ), commended the SAJ for its rich legacy of supporting the local industry. He noted

the close collaboration between the two organisations since the establishment of the PAJ in 1972.

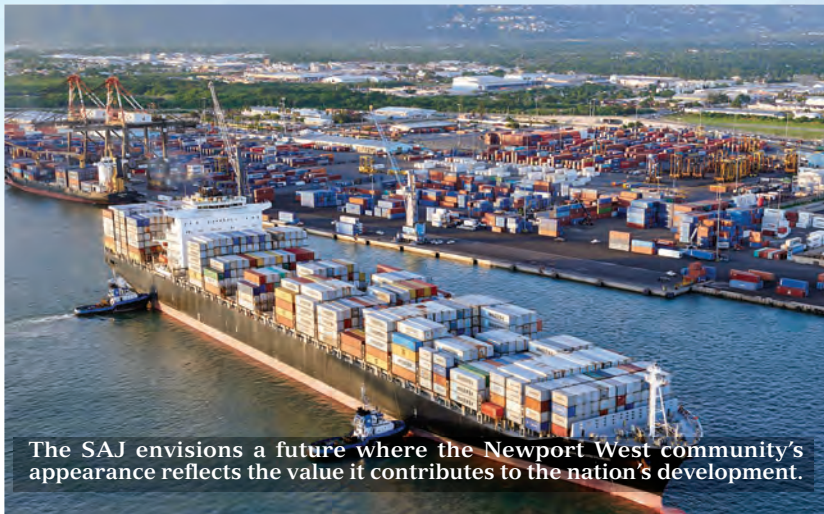
The liturgist and preacher Reverend Father Barrington Jones led the proceedings, with readings from Dionne Mason-Gordon, SAJ's operations manager for member services, and retired port worker Wongsetta Edwards.

Attendees at the service included custos rotulorum for Kingston, Steadman Fuller; rear admiral (ret'd) Peter Brady, director general of the Maritime Authority of Jamaica; Sacha Vacciana-Riley, executive director of the Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica, as well as members of the SAJ, representatives of its managing committee, management, and staff.

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The Shipping Association of Jamaica led a tour of the Kingston harbour and Newport West as part of its efforts to collaborate with the European Union on sectoral developments.



The SAJ envisions a future where the Newport West community's appearance reflects the value it contributes to the nation's development.



Jamaica welcomed its first floating dry dock, Jam-Dock 1, in 2023, a major development for the local shipping and maritime industry.



(From l-r) President of the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ), Corah Ann Robertson-Sylvester, makes a point during a consultation meeting with the European Union, while Minister of Industry, Investment and Commerce (MIIC), Senator the Hon. Aubyn Hill, and Jamaica Producers Group chairman, Charles Johnston, listen during a press briefing at the Kingston Wharves Limited's corporate office in Newport West on Friday, January 26, 2024.

Towards a resilient logistics hub: The SAJ's vision for Newport West and Jamaica

Jamaica's shipping legacy resides in Newport West community – a hub of trade and resilience invaluable to the development of the nation and its people.

Despite its rich history, the community is plagued by chronic issues affecting commercial activities.

The Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ) has witnessed the area's gradual decline hastened by issues of recurring flooding, dilapidated roadways, unregulated parking, and varied safety concerns. In the ongoing quest to revitalise Newport West and realise the association's dream of creating a world-class industrial park, successive SAJ presidents have engaged the public and private sectors to combat the pervasive challenges.

Though some progress has been made, the Association often finds itself awaiting action to further the project, balancing the situation's urgency and the deliberate pace of change.

The SAJ, in its 85th year of operation, has entered an era of reimagining and retooling. In an encouraging step to secure support for Newport West and the nation's Global Logistics Hub objective, the SAJ recently dialogued with the European Union (EU).

The meeting conveyed the importance of these projects and the efficacy of a public-private sector partnership approach. The association aims to secure funding on two fronts integral to EU's broader support of sustainable projects.

The primary thrust involves a comprehensive review of the Logistics Hub's broader vision, culminating in a pilot project: the Newport West Economic Zone. This project, championed by the SAJ for years, is an extensive proposal captured in a feasibility study with revenue models, implementation plans, and a budget.

Alongside that, a second study will address flooding on Marcus Garvey Drive and in Newport West, serving as the foundation to engage private sector partners in a sustainable drainage solution.

The SAJ foresees Newport West as more than an industrial zone but a core of possibilities. The focal points of this vision are grounded in the following goals:

Road Network Connectivity: A web of roads, including the integration of an underpass or overpass north of Marcus Garvey Drive, laying the foundation for seamless connectivity and future expansion.

Road Rehabilitation and Development: A comprehensive plan ensuring the highest standards for efficient transport and logistics operations.

Drainage Rehabilitation: Robust systems and sea defences to safeguard infrastructure.

Solid Waste Management System and Infrastructure: The SAJ envisions a state-of-the-art waste management system with global sustainability standards.

Water Storage, Production, and Transmission: A strategic approach ensuring the community's self-sufficiency.

Port Infrastructure, Equipment, and Connectivity: Transforming Newport West's port infrastructure to embrace cutting-edge equipment and digital connectivity to meet the global supply chain demands.

The SAJ foresees meticulous zoning and building codes, security measures, entrance gates fortified with safety measures and signage, electronic surveillance and internal traffic and parking plans with strict enforcement, and thoughtfully designed landscaping. What's more, public amenities, including daycare facilities and food services, will enhance the quality of life for those contributing to the zone's success.

Underpinned by resilience, sustainability, and joint partnerships, the logistics hub is not a distant dream; it's a credible solution ready to usher in years of economic growth.

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