

HEADLINE

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SIPA COMMISSIONS SOUTH PACIFIC'S LARGEST DOMESTIC SEAPORT TERMINAL

INSIDE



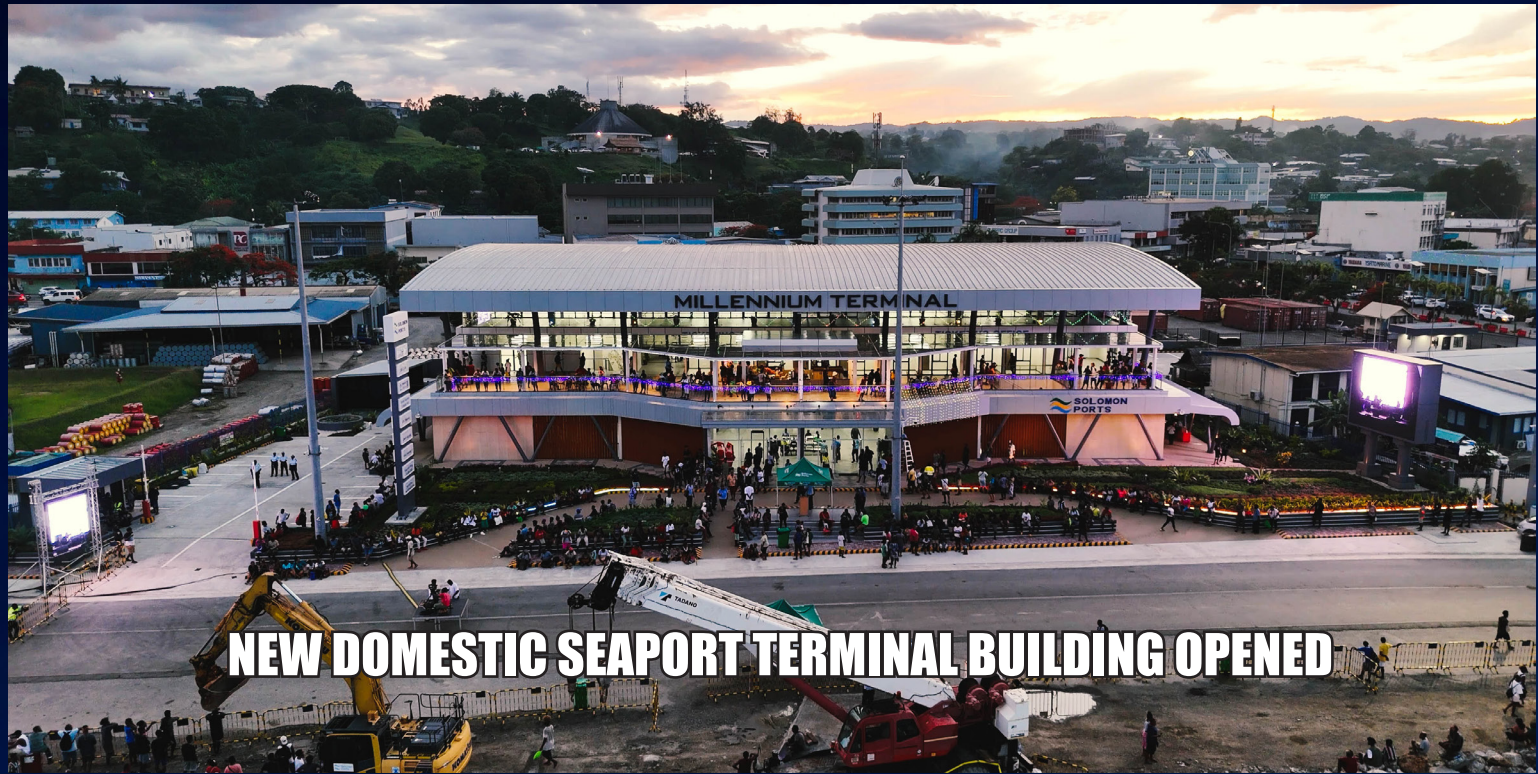
**NEW NORO
DOMESTIC
JETTY
OPENED**



**SOLOMON
PORTS WINS
NATIONAL
AWARD**



**SIPA STAFF
HOLDS FIRST
EVER HIKE**



NEW DOMESTIC SEAPORT TERMINAL BUILDING OPENED

Solomon Ports and Solomon Islands marked a monumental milestone on the 19th December, with the commissioning of the Millennium Terminal, the largest domestic seaport terminal in the South Pacific. The state-of-the-art facility, which took two years to complete, was officially opened by Prime Minister Jeremiah Manele, who served as the guest of honour and delivered a keynote speech highlighting the terminal's significance for the nation's development.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony, Prime Minister Manele emphasized the terminal's broader implications for the nation:

“Today we are not simply opening a new infrastructure facility; we are unveiling a symbol of progress, a tangible manifestation of our collective ambition, and a milestone that will forever change the way we connect with each other and the world around us. This

terminal represents much more than bricks and steel; it is a testament to our determination, the power of self-reliance, and the resilience of the Solomon Islands.”

The three-story Millennium Terminal boasts cutting-edge facilities designed to cater to passengers and businesses alike:

Ground Floor: A spacious main seating area for passengers, alongside shops, a bakery, a mini supermarket, food outlets, and public toilets.

First Floor: Home to ticketing offices, cafés, and additional office spaces.

Top Floor: Primarily office spaces, complemented by warehouses.

The terminal was funded entirely by Solomon Ports, . SIPA Chief Executive Officer Eranda Kotelawala lauded the teamwork and dedication that brought the project to fruition:

“We are here today to celebrate the commissioning of the largest domestic passenger terminal in the region. The significance of this achievement lies in the fact that it has been designed, built, and funded by Solomon Ports. This is a testament to our team's dedication and the support of our board of directors, both past and present, in realizing this significant milestone.”

The commissioning day concluded with a festive celebration as Honiara hosted a free concert, drawing thousands of people to mark this historic moment. The event featured vibrant performances and created a sense of unity and pride among the people of the Solomon Islands.

The Millennium Terminal stands as a beacon of progress, underscoring the nation's commitment to growth and innovation while enhancing connectivity and services for the people of the Solomon Islands and beyond.



CEO Eranda Kotelawala delivering his keynote address, flanked by Contractors and SIPA team behind the new terminal building completion



CEO Eranda Kotelawala briefs Prime Minister Manele and Finance Minister Hon. Sogavare inside the new building during a tour.

IMAGE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEW DOMESTIC SEAPORT TERMINAL BUILDING OPENING



IMAGE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEW DOMESTIC SEAPORT TERMINAL BUILDING OPENING FREE CELEBRATION CONCERT





SOLOMON PORTS CELEBRATES 68 YEARS OF SERVICING THE SOLOMONS

Solomon Ports staff in Honiara in June celebrated the port's 68th anniversary with a simple but special event at Unity Square, Honiara Port, marking nearly seven decades of service to the country.

The celebration saw staff members taking a well-deserved break from their duties to honour this significant milestone in the port's history.

The event commenced with the singing of the national anthem, This was followed by a solemn minute of silence to remember and honour SIPA staff who have passed away after their dedicated service to the port. The moment served as a important reminder of the legacy and contributions of the past employees who helped build the port into what it is today.

Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Eranda Kotelawala, addressed the gathering and reflected on the port's achievements over

the years, emphasizing the importance of teamwork and dedication. Mr. Kotelawala highlighted how the combined efforts of all staff members have been instrumental in overcoming challenges and driving the port's progress.

SIPA Board Chairman, Mr. Mike Wate, also spoke at the event. He expressed his acknowledgment to the staff for their commitment and hard work. Mr. Wate also acknowledged the significant role each employee plays in the port's operations, from the newest recruits to the long-serving veterans. He encouraged everyone to continue striving for excellence and to support each other as a team.

A key highlight of the celebrations today was the awarding of certificates of recognition to ten long-serving staff members. These individuals, both men and women,

have shown exceptional dedication and commitment to the port, with some having served for nearly 40 years. Their longstanding service is a testament to their loyalty and hard work.

In addition to the formal speeches and awards, the long-serving employees were given the opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences. They spoke candidly about the challenges they faced over the years and how they overcame them. Their stories provided valuable insights and inspiration to the younger and newer staff members. The veterans shared words of encouragement, emphasizing the importance of perseverance, dedication, and a positive attitude in achieving success.

Solomon Ports would like to thank and acknowledge all stakeholders who have been part of the Ports progress over the past 68 years, and looks forward to the future.



MEET OUR LONG SERVING STAFF



Mr. Martin Suba , Serving the Port since 1986



Mr. Donald Taona , Serving the Port since 1987



Mrs. Lorraine Simon , Serving the Port since 1994



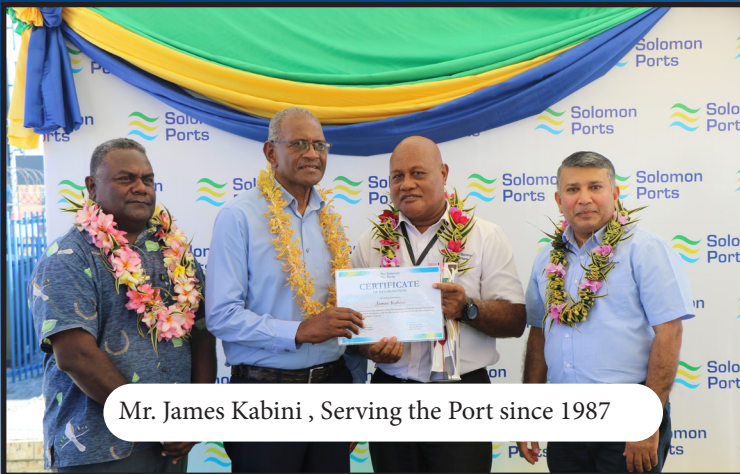
Mrs. Annette Pana , Serving the Port since 1999



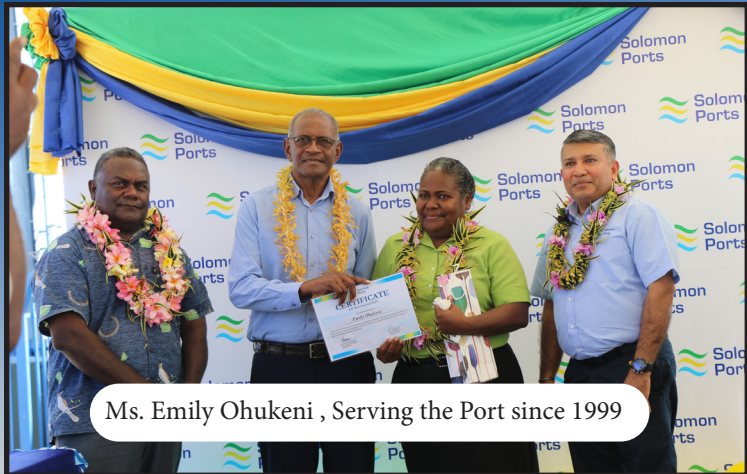
Mr. Peter Seleni , Serving the Port since 1989



Mr. Silas Tango , Serving the Port since 1988



Mr. James Kabini , Serving the Port since 1987



Ms. Emily Ohukeni , Serving the Port since 1999



Solomon Ports Opens Noro Port's New Domestic Jetty in Western Province

Solomon Ports (SIPA) has officially inaugurated the newly completed Noro Port Domestic Jetty in Noro, Western Province. This state-of-the-art jetty, which measures 20 meters in width and 25 meters in length, is now widest domestic jetty in the Solomon Islands.

Constructed over a six-month period, the project was fully self-funded by SIPA and designed and built by SIPA's in-house engineers and project team. This achievement highlights the capacity and capability of SIPA to enhance the country's port infrastructure using local talent and expertise.

The opening ceremony was attended by key figures, including the Chief Guest, Hon. Manasseh Maelanga, Minister for Infrastructure Development; Western Province Premier Hon. Billy Veo; members of the SIPA Board, Executive, and Management; Noro town officials; local chiefs; and business representatives from Noro. Also present were the dedicated SIPA Noro team who played

an integral role in bringing the project to fruition.

In his keynote address, Hon. Maelanga commended SIPA's self-reliance and use of local talent in delivering the project. He described the organization as a "powerhouse of progress" capable of undertaking complex maritime infrastructure projects without external dependence. He emphasized that the new jetty is part of SIPA's broader vision to modernize and expand the nation's maritime infrastructure.

"This jetty is built to last, designed to withstand the evolving demands of modern shipping and environmental challenges. It is an investment in the future of the Solomon Islands, ensuring a sustainable and efficient domestic maritime sector," Hon. Maelanga said.

Western Province Premier Hon. Billy Veo expressed pride in hosting the Noro International Port, recognizing the

significance of the new jetty in improving domestic shipping services for the province. He congratulated SIPA's Board, Executive, and Management for the successful completion of the project and reiterated his government's commitment to further enhancing port services in the province.

SIPA CEO, Mr. Eranda Kotelawala, also praised his team for their dedication and collaboration in completing the project within the set timeframe. "As Management, we provide the leadership, but the real credit goes to our Engineering team and everyone who contributed to the completion of this important infrastructure," Mr. Kotelawala stated.

This new jetty marks a significant milestone in SIPA's ongoing efforts to upgrade and expand port facilities across the country, ensuring that the Solomon Islands is well-positioned to meet the growing demands of domestic and international maritime trade.



Cutting the ribbon to open the new Jetty



Guest of Honour Hon. Manasseh Maelanga pose for a picture with the SIPA Projects team, the team behind the Jetty's completion

Solomon Ports Staff held First-Ever Hike



SIPA team pose for a group photo after a gruelling Hike to the famous Tenaru Falls

In a landmark event organized by the Solomon Ports Staff Health and Wellness Committee, over 54 staff members participated in the SOE's first-ever staff hike to the famous Tenaru Falls, located in Central Guadalcanal. This initiative is part of Solomon Ports' ongoing staff engagement efforts aimed at promoting physical fitness, health, and overall well-being.

The hike to Tenaru Falls, one of Guadalcanal's most scenic locations, was met with enthusiasm and excitement as staff trekked through the lush tropical surroundings. Known for its breathtaking natural beauty, Tenaru Falls provided the perfect backdrop for an activity designed to encourage outdoor exercise and team bonding.

The hike aligns with Solomon Ports' commitment to fostering a healthier workforce through its Staff Health and Wellness Committee. The committee, which has spearheaded a variety of wellness initiatives, organized the hike to motivate staff to stay active, both physically and mentally. By promoting regular exercise and wellness activities, Solomon Ports aims to cultivate a positive and productive work environment.

Staff participants expressed their enjoyment of the event, highlighting the hike as an opportunity to take a break from their daily routines, get active, and appreciate the natural beauty of Guadalcanal. For many, it was not only an adventure but also a refreshing mental

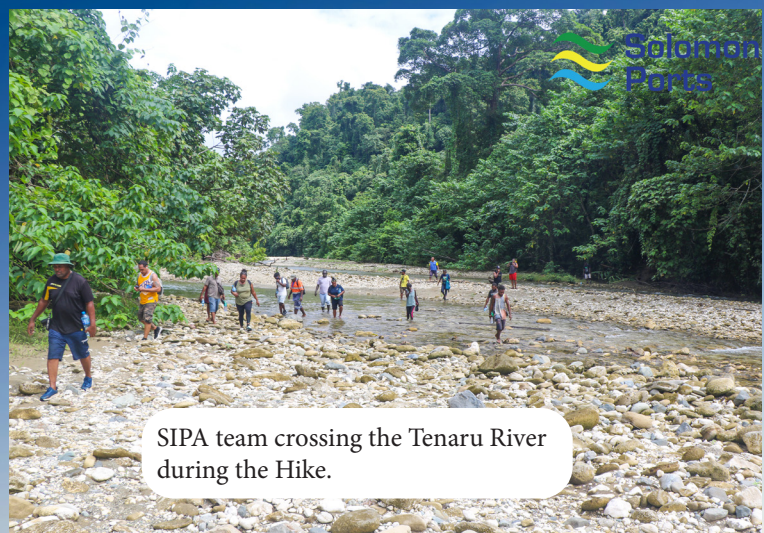
break that helped reduce stress and improve overall morale.

Solomon Ports' leadership continues to place a strong emphasis on employee wellness, recognizing the significant benefits it brings to both individual performance and organizational productivity. The success of the Tenaru Falls hike has paved the way for more outdoor and fitness activities in the future as part of the company's ongoing wellness programs.

This memorable first hike marks a promising start to what is expected to be a regular feature of the Solomon Ports staff health initiative, helping staff stay active, fit, and engaged for years to come.



SIPA team all smiles as they tackle the rugged terrains during the Hike



SIPA team crossing the Tenaru River during the Hike.



NEW TERMINAL OPERATING SYSTEM GOES LIVE

new system effectively.

The new system used in both Port of Honiara, and Noro. It is an online (cloud) based Port Terminal Operating System. Speaking on the launching of the new system, SIPA's Chief Information Officer and Manager Special Projects, Mr. Ellison Pade, highlighted the importance of this development, stating this will significantly improve Port Operation Service delivery.

"We are proud to be the first Port in the region to implement and use this system, which is also a modern and latest system designed for medium sized port terminals, which suits us well," he said.

"This is a significant investment by SIPA, which puts the Port of Honiara and Noro fast forward into the future in terms of Port Operational efficiency and online container movement processing, which I trust will certainly support the ongoing development expansion and growth of the Port."

He said Port Operational Efficiency is a

necessity and of paramount importance to SIPA, and with this new system will certainly help the Port achieve this. The new system is also integrated with the major Shipping Line system, and also the financial system used by the Port as well.

The OCTOPI system is designed to optimize Port Terminal Operations by processing container movement in real time and also providing real-time data and analytics, improving the management of cargo and vessels, and reducing turnaround times. By adopting this system, Solomon Ports is aligning itself with global best practices, ensuring it remains competitive in our region and in the rapidly evolving maritime industry.

Solomon Ports acknowledges the hard work and dedication of all staff and stakeholders who contributed to the successful implementation of OCTOPI. The organization is confident that this investment will bring substantial benefits to the Port and the wider community

Solomon Ports (SIPA) is proud to announce the successful implementation of its new Port Terminal Operating System, 'OCTOPI', which went live on the 1st of August 2024. This advanced system marks a significant milestone in the Port's ongoing efforts to enhance Port operational efficiency and improve service delivery.

The implementation of OCTOPI follows months of rigorous preparation and training. The training was conducted in collaboration with SIPA staff and key



Solomon Ports Wins 'Business Contribution to the Community' Award at the 2024 BEA

Solomon Ports received the 'Business Contribution to the Community Award' at the Solomon Islands Business Excellence Awards (BEA) on 16th November 2024 in Honiara. Hosted by the Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce, the award recognizes organizations committed to positively impacting local communities.

This was Solomon Ports' second BEA participation, following their 2019 win for the 'Large Business Award'. Competing against nine nominees, they secured the award in a category with the highest number of entries this year.

CEO Mr. Eranda Kotelawala, accompanied by his team, accepted the award, highlighting

their dedication to community engagement: "This award reflects our deep responsibility to uplift communities, as resilient communities make resilient ports, especially in challenging times."

In 2024, Solomon Ports advanced initiatives in environmental sustainability, renewable energy, education, waste management, sports, and economic empowerment. Mr. Kotelawala attributed this success to the collective efforts of staff and community partnerships.

The award reaffirms Solomon Ports' commitment to fostering lasting positive change in the Solomon Islands.

Reflecting on this achievement, Mr.

Kotelawala emphasized the significance of community engagement:

"This award symbolizes our commitment to the community. We feel a profound responsibility to support and uplift our communities because our roots are deeply intertwined with theirs. Resilient communities make resilient ports, especially in these challenging times marked by global pandemics and geopolitical uncertainties."

The award shows Solomon Ports' dedication to creating a positive and lasting impact on the communities it serves.

SOLOMON PORTS HOSTS STAKEHOLDER APPRECIATION NIGHT



On Saturday, November 23rd, Solomon Ports hosted its Stakeholder Appreciation Night, celebrating the invaluable contributions of its stakeholders and customers throughout the year.

The event, held at the Heritage Park Hotel, brought together over 200 representatives, including top exporters, importers, shipping agents, and Solomon Ports staff. The evening provided a platform for networking, beginning with a lively cocktail reception featuring engaging activities, fun games with exciting prizes, and live music entertainment.

A highlight of the night was the presentation of appreciation plaques to 78 top-performing exporters and importers, recognizing their critical role in the port's operations. A lucky draw during dinner also added an element

of excitement, giving attendees the chance to win additional prizes.

In his address, Chief Executive Officer Mr. Eranda Kotelawala expressed gratitude to the stakeholders and customers for their continuous partnership and for attending the event.

“The port exists because of you, our stakeholders. You are integral to the growth and development of Solomon Ports over the years,” said Mr. Kotelawala. “Our job is to facilitate trade, but you are the driving force behind our success. Your achievements directly impact our performance. When you thrive, we thrive too.”

He further emphasized the collaborative relationship between Solomon Ports and

its stakeholders, highlighting their shared role in shaping the port's future and driving the economic development of the Solomon Islands.

“This event is a testament to our appreciation for your partnership. You are not just customers; you are vital to our journey, success, and future,” he added.

This year marked the second Stakeholder Appreciation Night hosted by Solomon Ports, the first having been held in 2019. Despite delays caused by the pandemic, the 2024 event successfully resumed, underscoring the importance of strengthening ties with the business community. Solomon Ports looks forward to continuing its partnership with its stakeholders as it advances its mission to support trade and economic growth in the Solomon Islands.





FATHERS DAY AT SOLOMON PORTS

In September the hardworking staff at Solomon Ports in Honiara and Noro took a well-deserved break to mark Father's Day!

Organised by the Staff Engagement and Welfare committee, staff came together to appreciate the amazing fathers working tirelessly at the Port. Cakes were shared, a delicious lunch was enjoyed, and fun games added to this special occasion.

In Honiara staff had refreshments, engaged in some fun activities, and also listen to some words of advice from some long serving SIPA Fathers.

Over at Noro Port, the event was shared with families, who also attended to share the special day with their Fathers.

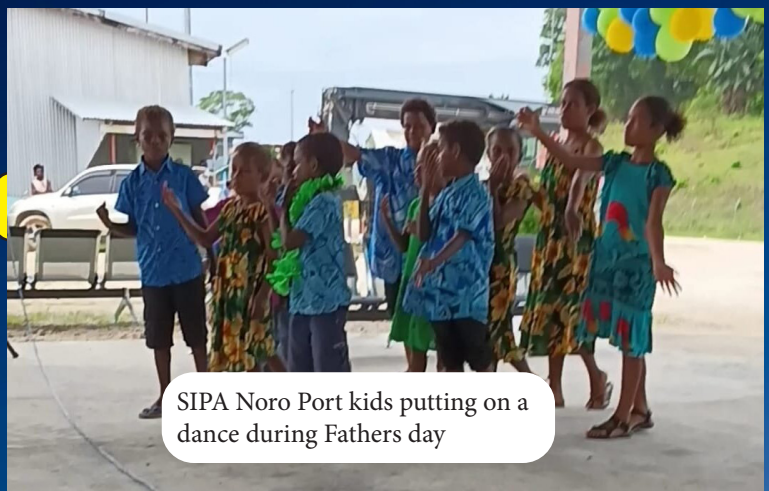
Kids put on some dance performances in honor of their fathers, and shared cakes and meals to celebrate the day.

A big thank you to all the fathers for your dedication, hard work, and love. Your contributions to both your families and Solomon Ports are truly appreciated.

Happy Father's Day to all the incredible dads!



SIPA Noro Port Fathers pose for a group photo during Fathers day



SIPA Noro Port kids putting on a dance during Fathers day



SIPA Honiara Port Fathers taking part in a eating competition Game.



SIPA Honiara Port Fathers holding hands together for a prayer



NORO PORT FAREWELLS LONG SERVING MANAGER

Solomon Ports this year bid farewell to Captain Chris Sade, the long-serving Port Manager for Noro Port, in a special ceremony held in May. Captain Sade, who joined Solomon Ports in 1998, dedicated nearly 3 decades to the organization, serving with distinction as a pilot and Port Manager.

The farewell event, held at Noro Port, was attended by Solomon Ports CEO Mr. Eranda Kotelawala, colleagues, and staff. The occasion was marked with warm speeches, a ceremonial cake-cutting, and shared

moments of gratitude and celebration over food.

In his farewell speech, Captain Sade reflected on his journey with Solomon Ports, expressing his appreciation for the support and camaraderie he experienced throughout his career. CEO Mr. Kotelawala commended Captain Sade's commitment and leadership, highlighting his vital contributions to the growth and success of Noro Port.

As Captain Sade steps into retirement,

Solomon Ports welcomes Mr. Moses Runikera as the new Port Manager for Noro Port. A long-serving member of the team, Mr. Runikera brings extensive experience and a deep understanding of port operations to his new role. Captain Sade leaves behind a legacy of dedication and excellence, and he will be greatly missed by all at Solomon Ports. We wish him a happy and fulfilling retirement and extend our best wishes to Mr. Runikera as he takes on this new chapter of leadership at Noro Port.



Solomon Ports Concludes Successful Volleyball and Dart Leagues

The Solomon Ports Sports Leagues for 2024 concluded in September, marking the end of an exciting journey of teamwork, camaraderie, and spirited competition. This initiative, which began in May, was aimed at engaging staff members through sports and fostering a culture of healthy living and teamwork in our workplace.

The volleyball league saw incredible energy and skill on display as teams battled it out over several months. Ultimately, the championship title went to the Shift 1 Beggars, who demonstrated exceptional

coordination and resilience throughout the tournament. Congratulations to them for their well-deserved victory!

Both winning teams were celebrated with grand prizes as a token of appreciation for their commitment and hard work. These prizes not only recognized their achievements but also served as a motivation for all participants to continue engaging in sports and teamwork.

The leagues underscored the importance of balancing work with physical activity

and social interaction. By participating in these events, our staff members not only enhanced their fitness but also strengthened inter-departmental relationships, making Solomon Ports a more connected and vibrant workplace.

A heartfelt thank you goes to all the teams, organizers, and supporters who made this initiative a resounding success. Let's continue promoting healthy lifestyles and workplace engagement as we look forward to more exciting events in the future.

Solomon Ports' Football Team Shines at the 2024 Honiara Football Masters Tournament



The 2024 Honiara Football Masters Tournament saw a spirited performance by the Solomon Ports football team, showcasing skill, determination, and teamwork. Held in at Lawson Tama stadium, the tournament featured eight competitive teams from various companies, State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs), and organizations across the capital City Honiara.

Solomon Ports entered the tournament with high hopes and delivered an impressive run, progressing through the group stages and into the semifinals. Their journey was marked by resilience and hard-fought matches, culminating in an intense semifinal clash against the SIFF Titans. The Titans, a formidable team composed of former national players and seasoned veterans,

provided a challenging test for Solomon Ports.

The semifinal turned out to be a nail-biting encounter, with both teams matching each other's intensity and skill throughout regulation time. With no winner emerging, the game went into a penalty shootout. Despite their valiant efforts, Solomon Ports narrowly bowed out to the Titans, who later went on to claim the championship title.

In the third-place playoff, Solomon Ports faced off against TKO in another fiercely contested match. Unfortunately, the Ports team came up short, finishing the tournament in fourth place. While the outcome was not what they had hoped for, their performance throughout the competition earned

them respect and admiration from fellow participants.

The Solomon Ports football team's journey in the 2024 Honiara Football Masters Tournament is a testament to their commitment and sportsmanship. Competing against some of the best teams in the Solomon Islands, they showcased the spirit of unity and excellence that Solomon Ports represents.

Congratulations to the SIFF Titans for their championship win and to all participating teams for making the tournament a memorable event. Solomon Ports is proud of its team and looks forward to building on this experience for future tournaments.





SOLOMON PORTS XMAS PARTY HIGHLIGHTS







