



## NEWS ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Celine Lestrade, Tel: (868) 622-4466, e-mail: [committees@amchamttr.com](mailto:committees@amchamttr.com)

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The AmCham HSE Committee is pleased to announce its 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Health, Safety, Security and Environment (HSSE) Conference, September 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007:

### ***“From Paper to Practice – Developing a Positive HSSE Culture”***

- WHAT:** AmCham T&T is hosting its **annual HSSE Conference “From Paper to Practice – Developing a Positive HSSE Culture”, September 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007**. The event will offer five training sessions held over the 17<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> as well as technical presentations, workshop sessions and an exhibition of booths on the 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>.
- WHEN:** •**Training:** September 17<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> • **Conference and Exhibition:** September 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>.
- WHERE:** •**Training:** HHSL Safety Systems Ltd & the Hummingbird Group. •**Conference & Exhibition:** Trinidad Hilton
- WHO:** AmCham T&T's HSE Committee is comprised of highly qualified and experienced professionals in the Safety, Health and Environmental fields from approximately 40 AmCham T&T member companies. The H.S.E. Committee shares excellent information and best practices among themselves and makes this available to the wider AmCham membership and national community.
- WHY:** Arising from a general lack of awareness and sharing of information and networking in the field of H.S.E. it was determined that to directly achieve the Committee's mission, an annual H.S.E. conference and exhibition targeted at a variety of audiences was necessary. As a result, the H.S.E conference project team was established in 1996 and the first conference was also held in that year. In 2005 the conference was expanded to include the element of security and is now known as an H.S.S.E. conference.

The only local conference of its kind, the AmCham HSSE Conference brings together professionals in the fields of health, safety, security, environment as well as disaster preparedness and corporate social responsibility. Via training sessions, workshops and technical presentations the conference allows for networking, the creation of national HSE awareness, information sharing on the implementation of relevant legislation and best practices and the promotion of new concepts. It also provides a neutral forum for discussion of controversial issues with HSSE implications.

The Conference, theme this year is ***“From Paper to Practice: Developing a Positive Safety Culture”***. It will be held on **September 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> 2007** at the **Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre, Lady Young Road, Port of Spain**.

As a country we have acknowledged the need for legislation addressing matters pertaining to Occupational Safety & Health, Environmental Management and Security. Three years subsequent to the passing of the Occupational Safety & Health Act, it was felt that this theme would be fitting. The objective of this year's conference is therefore to focus on the crucial steps of implementation, monitoring and evaluation and of course continuous improvement. Indeed, one of the outcomes of the conference has been the provision of valuable feedback to the Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development and later the Occupational Health and Safety Authority on the Occupational Health and Safety Act, providing input for the development of regulations. The conference in turn acts as an avenue to promote the implementation of the compliance of the Act and has in fact been a large focus of the conference for several years.

The potential for this conference to have a broader application is huge. One of the goals of the conference is to appeal to the non-energy sector audience and include sectors such as the financial, manufacturing and construction sectors as H.S.S.E is indeed everyone's business! It is also intended that the conference will expand to include regional participation, presentations and best practices from the wider international community. By the inclusion of security issues, the conference also seeks to explore how security issues impact on the health and safety of operations.

