



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

MEDIA RELEASE

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TTMA: T&T TRADE RELATIONS WITH CUBA STILL STRONG

The Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association (TTMA) continue to use every opportunity to reinforce business connections and create new links with Cuba with the aim of fostering effective business relationships. According to TTMA President Christopher Alcazar, "The TTMA has signed on for yet another year to participate as a member in the FIHAV trade show in Cuba which began on October 30th 2017. Last year we participated in Cuba's FIHAV 2016 and we followed this by the TTMA's hosting of a trade mission to Cuba earlier this year". Citing that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the TTMA and the Cuba Chamber of Industry and Commerce during TTMA's trade mission to Cuba in March 2016, Alcazar explained that these engagements also serves the purpose of collaboration and possible opening of trade opportunities for both Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago.

The hallmark of good relationships also extend beyond the realm of trade and with this in mind, TTMA members VEMCO Ltd and Trinidad Tissues Limited donated items to Cuba via His Excellency Guillermo Vázquez Moreno, Cuban Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago to aid the citizens of Cuba affected by Hurricane Irma. Alcazar applauded the companies on these types of initiatives stating that showing meaningful support can only serve to strengthen ties that are in the embryonic stages of being built. Some of the TTMA members who currently export to Cuba are Angostura Ltd, Associated Brands Industries Limited, Carib Glassworks Limited, Caribbean Development Company Limited, John Dickinson and Co. (West Indies) Ltd., Sacha Cosmetics Limited, SM Jaleel & Company Limited, Trinidad Nitrogen Co. Ltd. and Universal Foods Limited. Alcazar lamented that "By building the bridges that separate our countries across the Caribbean Sea, the TTMA is hopeful that business opportunities would continue to flourish and benefits would be accrued to both countries".

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