



# BEYOND THE PIPELINE

A **Newsletter** for Our Pipeline Communities

## Empowering Our Future Achievers



Children participating in NGC Right on Track programme in Edinburgh, Chaguanas

### What's Inside



STEELPAN



NGC RIGHT ON TRACK



CRICKET



REFORESTATION

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**THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY  
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED**

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## Introduction

The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) has been vital to this country's natural gas based-energy sector, contributing to the treasury by its provision of corporation taxes and dividends. For over 40 years, NGC has not only been an integral and essential element of the nation's natural gas-based energy portfolio, it has shaped it.

While the sole player in the midstream (aggregation, transmission and distribution of gas to industrial and commercial consumers) of the natural gas value chain, the NGC parent has also extended its reach in the upstream (oil and gas exploration and production) and downstream (natural gas processing, industrial estate and port development) via its subsidiary and associate companies.

Today, the NGC Group – NGC, Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited (PPGPL), National Energy Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (National Energy), NGC CNG Company Limited (NGC CNG) – is the state entity which also has an international mandate to take the Trinidad Natural Gas Model of Development to jurisdictions wishing to replicate the country's strategy of energy development.

With an asset base of over TT\$39 billion, the Group is one of the largest business entities in the Caribbean region, by assets. In addition to this, however, the Group makes tangible



contributions to the national community through its substantial Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes.

In this issue of *Beyond the Pipeline*, we are excited to update you on the many ongoing projects which have been helping communities across Trinidad and Tobago to reach their fullest potential. You will read about how our sponsorship of cricket and track and field helps local athletes in their bid for glory. Our support of youth programmes such as the Police Youth Clubs is providing productive pursuits for young people. Our environmental programme of reforestation helps safeguard the natural beauty of this wonderful land. Our trained and dedicated professionals work to ensure the safety and integrity of all our activities, thus safeguarding the communities we call our neighbours.

Do enjoy this issue.



**Community Awareness and Emergency Response:** Ms. Nicole Alexander, Environmental, Health and Safety Coordinator, NGC, conducts a safety assessment with Mr. Ashton Keer, Principal, Aranguéz Government Primary School

## Facts About Natural Gas Safety

### Natural Gas Pipeline

Pipeline Right-of-Way (ROW) are marked by signage known as Yellow Marker Posts. NGC's Right-of-Way must be kept clear of trees, building and grazing animals.

### Natural Gas Fact

Natural gas is measured in million standard cubic feet of gas per day (MMscf/d)

### How to detect a leak on or near a pipeline

- You might see burnt grass or bubbles in puddles above a pipeline
- You might hear a hissing sound, like gas escaping
- You might smell a chemical called mercaptan (rotten eggs),

which is added to the gas flow to make it easier to detect.

### What to do if you think there is a leak

- Calmly evacuate the area
- Avoid all sources of ignition, such as open flames or other heat sources
- Do not start or operate vehicles, turn electrical switches on or off, or use a phone or flashlight.

When you are clear of the area, call NGC's 24-hour emergency hotline, **800-4GAS** or **800-4427**.

### Other reasons to call 800-4GAS

If you see anyone digging or operating heavy machinery near the pipeline, without the supervision of uniformed NGC personnel, call at once.

## Communities Play a Part in Natural Gas Safety

When it comes to safety, NGC's track record is certainly something to be proud of. We adhere to, and often exceed, international best practice in all our activities, from natural gas transmission and distribution to pipeline construction and operations.

But it is important for communities to recognise that they, too, have a part to play in ensuring their safety. In order to facilitate this, NGC started its Community Awareness and Emergency Response (CAER) programme, which helps equip communities, especially those in close proximity to major pipelines and installations, to respond appropriately in the unlikely event of an incident.

CAER activities include emergency response training for volunteers, the supply of emergency equipment, and educational

visits to schools. Last year, after visiting and conducting safety assessments in schools within close proximity of NGC's pipelines, NGC's staff distributed items such as high visibility vests, First Aid kits, emergency lights, muster point signs, smoke detectors, exit signs, fire extinguishers, air horns and stop signs to 26 schools throughout the country. Some of the schools were located in St. Augustine, Curepe, San Juan, El Socorro, Aranguéz, Mt. Hope, Woodbrook, Belmont, St. James and Rio Claro. NGC further contributed to the schools emergency response activities by offering basic First Aid and Fire Awareness training. Teachers were eager to participate and training was conducted during the months of May and June 2016.

Mrs. Kathleen Warner-Lall, Principal of Mt. Lambert R.C. Primary School attended First

Aid and Fire Awareness training and stated, "I am pleased and honoured to be a part of this training, it was relevant and I wish that all my staff could have attended. NGC is doing an excellent job of giving back to the community."

NGC also conducts interactive community safety awareness sessions. We held one such session in La Brea, targeting the residents in Union Village on 11th April 2016. The programme included a presentation on Union Industrial Estate Gas Receiving Facility, which highlighted its activities and safety measures implemented to ensure residents' safety. There was also a presentation and a discussion about pipeline safety, which helped residents understand how to detect possible leaks, thus reducing the risk of a pipeline emergency.

## NGC Delivers Phase III Reforestation Programme to the Forestry Division

As parents, we know how exciting it is when, after years of caring for our young ones at their most vulnerable, they reach the stage when they can strike out confidently on their own. That's how it feels when the thousands of seedlings in our reforestation programme grow into saplings that are finally able to fend for themselves with just the general care and attention afforded to all local forested areas by the Forestry Division.

Through NGC's reforestation programme, which has been ongoing for several years, we help mitigate the loss of forested areas due to pipeline construction activities. The programme is conducted on a phased basis and focuses on vital and endangered sectors of rainforest reserve.

Phase III of the programme spanned 2011 to 2015, and was centred around the areas of Edward Trace, Moruga, and in the Mome L'Enfer Forest Reserve at Grant's Trace and



Reforestation – Community groups tending to young trees

Parrylands. A total of 50.7 hectares was planted and the break down is as follows: Edward Trace (9.4 hectares), Grant's Trace (20.3 hectares) and Parrylands (21 hectares). This phase saw 14,043 seedlings being planted, including local cedar, apamate, cypre, mahogany, mahoe, chataigne and pomeric.

During their early growth phase, NGC tended and resupplied seedlings where necessary. The community groups also conducted routine fire watch. Now that the seedlings are at the stage where they are able to survive on their own, NGC has delivered the areas over to the care of the Forestry Division.



NGC Steel Xplosion performs at Panorama 2016

## NGC Cherishes our Musical Heritage through Pan Sponsorship

The more global our society becomes, and the more exposed we are to other cultural offerings, the more aware we are of the tremendous amount of skill and talent we have right here in Trinidad and Tobago.

One of these treasures is, no doubt, our national instrument, the steelpan. For years, NGC has supported unsponsored bands, not just in their efforts to participate in Panorama competition, but to make steelpan music a year round staple, encouraging youth development and community engagement. We also embrace our drumming traditions, both Indian Tassa and African drums.

At the moment, we sponsor three steelbands the NGC Couva Joylanders Steel Orchestra, NGC La Brea Nightingales Steel Orchestra,

NGC Steel Xplosion Steel Orchestra and assist the Gonzales Sheikers Steel Orchestra. NGC supports the Trinidad and Tobago Sweet Tassa Enterprises and Bao Simba Entertainers, the latter incorporating tassa with other rhythms.

The NGC Steel Xplosion Steel Orchestra and the Bao Simba Entertainers are from Tobago.

Last year, NGC's sponsorship allowed these bands to participate in Panorama competition. They also benefited from music literacy and capacity-building programmes to maximise their skills and efficiency.

The bands brought their music to community and cultural events, and, being self-motivated, also held fundraising ventures of their own.

Here are some of the highlights of 2016:

### NGC Couva Joylanders

The NGC Couva Joylanders performed at the 2016 Panorama semi-finals, placing 8th in the medium band category with the tune of choice 'Come With It' by Black Stalin. They hosted a Pan yard Lime at Couva.

### NGC La Brea Nightingales:

This group is very excited to be incorporated as a non-profit organisation. They hosted a Pan yard Lime at Tanty Park, La Brea and participated in Panorama.

### NGC Steel Xplosion:

This group placed 6th in the medium band category playing Sparrow's 'Wanted Dead Or Alive' at Panorama. Located in Cambee, Tobago, this band is an active part of its community. They hosted a Pan yard Lime at Buccoo, Tobago.

### Gonzales Sheikers:

This group placed 7th in the single pan band category playing Machel's 'Like Ah Boss' at Panorama 2016.

## Sport and Culture Come in for Big Support in Tobago

With the coming onshore of NGC's subsea natural gas pipeline at Cove Estate in 2013, NGC welcomed the island of Tobago into our wide fenceline community. Since then, we have intensified our Community Relations activities throughout the island.

In the area of cultural development, percussion entertainers Bao Simba held a Christmas concert in 2015, called 'Another Night in the Spotlight.' This tassa fusion exercise showcased a mix of Indian and African drumming, steelpan and Tobago bamboo dances, which helped broaden the public's perception of the percussion art forms.

NGC Steel Xplosion also held its Pan Yard Lime at Buccoo. That event was arranged by NGC's External Communications Department. Community Relations Officer, Mr. Myles Lewis, was on hand to praise the then defending Tobago House of Assembly champs for their



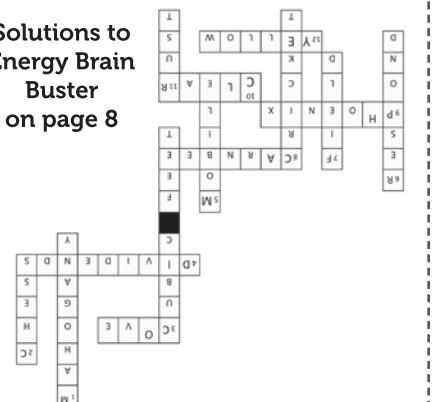
Grassroots Developmental Programme, Tobago – Cricket Launch

contributions to their community. Bands are encouraged to hold fundraising ventures as 'wealth generation' exercises, to help them become self-sustaining. In the past year, both groups benefited from capacity building and music literacy programmes sponsored by NGC.

In March, the Tobago Cricket Association (TCA), an affiliate of the Trinidad and Tobago Cricket Board (TTCB), launched the rebranded NGC Tobago Cricket Association and NGC Division One competition at Dutchfort Plaza in Scarborough. The funding NGC provides to the TCA goes to a variety of activities supporting the sport, including the above-mentioned competitions, along with the

TCA T20 Championship; the NGC Grassroots Development Programme; and the TCA's youth competition. At the launch event, TCA's 2nd Vice-President, Mr. Robert Hislop, credited some of the success enjoyed by two former national players – Lincoln Roberts and Navin Stewart – to NGC's support over the years.

### Solutions to Energy Brain Buster on page 8



- 1. True 2. False 3. True 4. True 5. False
- 6. True 7. False 8. False 9. True 10. True

Answer Key



Children participating in NGC Right on Track programme in Edinburgh and Princes Town

## NGC and NAAA Partnership Fuels Our Hopes for Future Track and Field Glory

With the whole world barely able to contain its excitement over the upcoming Olympics in Rio, Brazil, it is time for us in Trinidad and Tobago to take stock of our level of participation in international sporting activities. Nobody can deny the sheer pride and patriotism we feel when we see our colours flying high, and the national delirium when our athletes bring home the glory.

This is why NGC believes our partnership with the National Association of Athletics Administrations (NAAA) is so vital to the development of athletics in Trinidad and Tobago, and why we work closely with the entity to improve performance from the children's level all the way to the champions.

One of NGC's more popular programmes is NGC Right on Track (NGC ROT), which

engages primary and secondary school-aged children in track and field activities. We have developed a version of NGC ROT in collaboration with the NAAA's Kids' Athletics Programme, to ensure that the NGC ROT Coaching Caravan attracts mass participation by children and youth. In this way, we promote a love of health and fitness, while also making it easier to identify future stars for further training.

The NGC ROT programme strategy for this 2016 phase is to visit each education district/community on four occasions in order to ensure that the skills imparted are properly understood. So far, the caravan has completed Caroni, the South Eastern Education District and the Port of Spain Education District. President of NAAA, Mr. Ephraim Serrette,

sees the partnership as being based on a mutual objective and clearly aligned goals and states, "We have a great understanding of the objectives of our initiatives and the requirements of NGC."

The NAAA is expected to host several developmental meets to spur on local athletes to be at the top of their game. NAAA also benefit from capacity-building training sponsored by NGC to increase their ability to lead their own organisations efficiently and effectively.

Since its inception in 1999, NGC ROT programme has benefited over 15,000 participants in 105 communities and eight institutions; training 88 coaches, and forming or restoring seven sport clubs.

## NGC's Sponsorship of Cricket Positively Impacts Communities

Do you remember the excitement of the recent ICC World T20 Championships? The nail-biting semi-finals, and the sheer euphoria when the West Indies men's and women's teams brought home the trophies?

As a Trini-born company, NGC shares in that joy and pride. Victories like these prove that our ongoing sponsorship of cricket at various levels isn't just necessary, but justified.

Between 2011 and 2016, NGC has invested close to TT\$20 million in cricket development. Among the programmes to benefit are zonal cricket, women's cricket, the Trinidad and Tobago Cricket Board's (TTCB) NGC sponsored Grassroots Development Programme, and the NGC/TTCB National Cricket Academy. Funds have also gone to NGC T20 Cricket Festival, the Premiership 50-Over final, and the national senior and junior male and female teams.

Apart from the usual necessities such as equipment, uniforms and other expenses, these funds have been heavily invested in training and development. Leaders have



NGC T20 Cricket finals, Alescon Comets from Charlieville

been exposed to the basics of administration, financial and human resource management. This training helps alleviate the problem that frequently plagues many organisations.

But cricket doesn't have to reach the international level to be positive and impactful on our society. At one such event, the NGC Group T20 Cricket finals staged at the National Cricket Centre in Balmain, Couva on Friday 15th April 2016, produced an exciting victory for Queen's Park Cricket Club over Alescon



NGC T20 Cricket finals, Queen's Park Cricket Club (QPCC) from Port of Spain

Comets. According to Alister Narinesingh, Community Relations Officer, "Through NGC's Grassroot Development Programme, youngsters from various communities have been able to improve their skills in cricket."

The cricket season is not yet over. Here's to more excitement in the months to come!



Police Youth Clubs – Children participating in chess, personal development workshop and swimming

## Police Youth Clubs Continue to Engage the Youth

The key to happier, safer, and more productive communities across Trinidad and Tobago lies in the positive and sustainable engagement of the nation's youth. One such initiative is the Police Youth Clubs.

NGC sponsors Police Youth Clubs in Couva, Penal, La Brea and Laventille Road. The clubs are managed by volunteers from the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS), who offer their young members wholesome and life-enhancing activities.

Last year, NGC's support resulted in many positive developments, including the training of the officers in areas like administration, financial management, and conflict resolution, to better equip them to manage the clubs.

The youngsters also had a bumper year in 2015. They enjoyed activities such as drumming, dance, sailing, Carnival workshops, and etiquette. The Couva club hosted its first chess tournament, at which children showed off skills learned during their training sessions. The Couva and Penal Police Youth Clubs were also engaged in a personal development workshop, which focused on social and emotional intelligence competencies. Club members are regularly recognised and encouraged for their successes.

For NGC, sponsorship of these clubs involves not only financial assistance, but a sincere emotional investment. According to Ms. Wynda Chandler, Head, Community Relations, "the nation needs clubs such as these because it is easier to build strong children than to repair adults."

This year, the clubs plan to continue their good work, with the highlights being seasonal cultural activities such as celebrations of Emancipation, Eid-ul-Fitr and Divali; a range of sports; summer day camp; martial arts; field trips; homework assistance; and Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day tributes to their parents.

There is certainly no limit to what can be achieved when adults work with children. At a recent event, Superintendent Curtis Paul, Leader of the Laventille Road Police Youth Club, said, "I thank the facilitators for their knowledge, inspiration, and how they engaged us on that wonderful journey."

## Accessing CNG is Becoming Easier

With the recent increase in the prices of some fuels, it is even more important for the motoring public to consider their pockets when it comes to choosing and using vehicles. Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is still the cheapest automobile fuel available in Trinidad and Tobago, and when you consider the other incentives, such as tax breaks, converting to CNG or purchasing CNG-ready vehicles makes a lot of sense. The fuel is also clean-burning and safe to use.

Refuelling with CNG will become easier and more accessible with the opening of several new CNG supply points (gas stations) and the deployment of five (5) Mobile Refuelling Units (MRUs). The new supply points will be located in close proximity to all the major thoroughfares across Trinidad and Tobago. This is good news for motorists switching to CNG.



Brentwood Service Station, Chaguanas, supplying CNG since 2014

As with any highly technical initiative, one of the keys to success is good maintenance by appropriately trained personnel. Last year, 20 CNG service technicians were recognised at an achievement ceremony, after completing a skills training course, called "CNG Engine Maintenance Fundamentals." The course was conducted by the National Energy Skills Centre (NESC) based on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the NGC CNG Company Limited and NESC. The participants were employees of NGC, NGC CNG, UNIPET, the National Petroleum

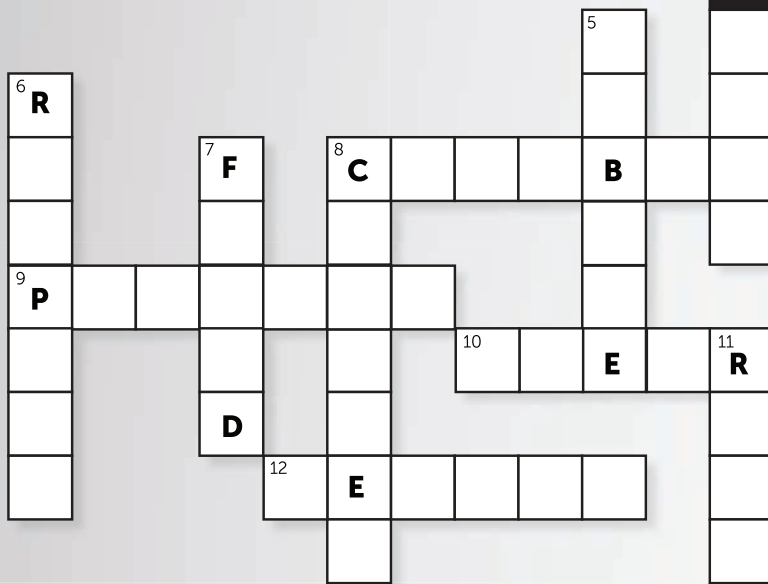
Marketing Company, Sterling Service Limited and Dumore.

During the graduation ceremony of this pioneering programme, Minister in the Ministry of Education, the Honourable Dr. Lovell Francis, praised both NGC and NESC for their efforts, and congratulated the graduates. He observed that their new-found expertise in CNG "will be put to the test and the success of the national CNG initiative will depend on the collective effort of all of us."



THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY  
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

# Energy Brain Buster



### Across

- NGC's subsea pipeline to Tobago comes ashore near this industrial estate.
- As the major shareholder in the NGC group, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago receives these every year.
- NGC Steel Xplosion calls this Tobago village its home.
- PPGPL means ----- Park Gas Processors Limited.
- NGC's Right of Way must be kept ----- of trees, buildings or grazing animals.
- NGC's pipeline marker posts, tile markers and stencils are this colour.

### Down

- One of the trees being replanted during NGC's reforestation programme.
- Young members of the Couva Police Youth Club are learning this game, known as "the game of kings".
- Natural gas is not measured in these units. (Two words)
- Compressed Natural Gas ----- Refuelling Units can be moved from location to location to give motorists easier access to CNG refuelling.
- NGC's CAER programme teaches communities and schools how to ----- to a natural gas emergency
- The NGC-sponsored Right on Track programme helps train young athletes in track and ----- activities.
- In April, the West Indies rejoiced when winning at this sport.
- Community Awareness sessions help residents understand how to detect possible leaks, thus reducing the ----- of a pipeline emergency.

## TRUE OR FALSE

- NGC has been operating for over 40 years.
- Effective 2016, NGC has ceased sponsorship of cricket.
- It is easier to build strong children than to repair adults.
- CNG is still the cheapest vehicular fuel in Trinidad and Tobago.
- NGC's sponsorship of the NAAA includes snowboarding.
- NGC-sponsored music literacy programmes help pannists become more marketable internationally.
- NGC is wholly owned by its subsidiary company, LABIDCO.
- It is safe to start a vehicle in the vicinity of a natural gas leak.
- NGC sponsors steelbands because it recognises the importance of preserving and promoting our national instrument.
- NGC's reforestation programme helps replace trees lost to forest degradation and construction activities.