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NEWSLETTER

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry



OFFSHORE TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE 2025 NEWSLETTER

EVENTS

OTC 2025



The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) participated in the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) in Houston, Texas. On May 5, the Chamber opened its booth at the NRG Stadium with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Over 35 members were part of the GCCI delegation. President of the GCCI, Mrs. Kathy Smith at the ribbon-cutting ceremony stated that the Chamber has been leading the Guyana delegation to OTC over the last few years. “This space is not just a physical space, but it has become a dynamic platform where there is an opportunity for innovation and collaboration,” she stated. She emphasised that there has been an intentional and deliberate strategy by the Government of Guyana to diversify the economy which provides a range of opportunities for investment.

Chief Investment Officer and Chief Executive Officer for the Guyana Office for Investment, Dr. Peter Ramsaroop shared Mrs. Smith’s sentiments on Guyana’s efforts at diversification, saying, “Guyana is more than oil,” as he provided insights into the productive industries within the country.

The conference is an annual event focusing on offshore energy, bringing together professionals to exchange ideas and advance technology. Over the years, members of the GCCI’s delegation have benefited from invaluable networking opportunities which paved the way for discussions into joint ventures and investments.

GCCI meets with American Petroleum Institute



Members of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) delegation to the Offshore Technology Conference 2025 on May 5 met with officials from the American Petroleum Institute (API) to discuss potential collaborations.

Led by GCCI's President, Mrs. Kathy Smith and Senior Vice President, Mr. Gavin Ramsoondar, the delegation met with API's Director for Global Business Development, Alejandro Di Nunzio and Chief Representative for Latin America, Africa and Portugal, Delma Quintanilha.

With almost 600 members, API represents all segments of the United States' natural gas and oil industry—with members involved in the production, processing and distribution of majority of the nation's energy. It is also a standards-setting organisation and has developed more than 800 standards to enhance operational and environmental safety, efficiency and sustainability. For almost a century, the Institute has led the development of petroleum, natural gas and petrochemical equipment and operating standards that are the most widely cited standards by the international regulatory community.

This meeting provided an invaluable opportunity for Guyanese companies to interact with these officials to better understand how they can tap into the services offered by API for the benefit of their organisations.

OTC 2025 – Around the World Series: From Emerging to Thriving: Guyana’s Economic Development and its Private Sector Growth in and era of Oil and Gas



The Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) 2025 continued on May 6 with Guyana being featured on the 'Around the World Series'—a panel discussion, which saw the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) delegation providing crucial insights into the country's energy sector development.

During the discourse, which was moderated by Chief Executive Officer of Sagacity Inc. Mr. Christopher Chapwanya, President of the Chamber, Mrs. Kathy Smith provided a candid overview of the GCCI's focus on local content and ensuring benefits for local companies that are in partnerships with foreign companies. She noted that the GCCI was the proponent of local content legislation in Guyana. She also provided insights into the development of the local private sector's development, as well as the growth of the Chamber's membership to close to 1000 over the last several years.

Meanwhile, Chief Executive Officer of the Guyana Office for Investment, Dr. Peter Ramsaroop spoke of the country's measured and integrated plan of development—one that is focused on the modernisation of the pre-oil and gas industries and the development of new industries. He also emphasised the importance of aligning investment with local content utilisation.

Councillor and Executive Member of the GCCI, Mr. Richard Rambarran, who is an Economist, provided the audience with his perspective on the country's economic development and the safeguards that have been implemented to protect from "overheating of the economy," saying, "Everyone wants to know that the economy and the environment that they are coming into is one that is stable and ensuring that one guards against direct exposure to price volatility is of paramount importance." He pointed to Guyana's Natural Resource Fund, which is the country's Sovereign Wealth Fund, as one of these safeguards as it ensures that there are resources available for the stable and sustainable growth of the government's work programme.

Also part of this discourse was President of ExxonMobil Guyana Limited, Mr. Alistair Routledge who reflected on the company's journey from exploration and discovery to production. "...Just last week we produced 668,000 barrels per day of crude from three developments," he stated, also announcing that the fourth FPSO will be operational by August 2025, which will increase the daily production to 900,000 barrels per day.

Among the Guyanese businesses present on the GCCI's delegation is Blue Water Shipping, a transport and logistics company.

Senior Vice President of the company, Mr. Richard DeNobrega spoke of the importance of capacity-building in the local content journey. "Some of the most successful companies in Guyana right now are the companies that have balanced training and capacity enhancement with investment," he stated. He disclosed that Blue Water Shipping made this a key focal area in the development of the company by training their employees at an internationally accredited freight-forwarding academy based in Europe.

Director of the Vreed-en-Hoop Shore Base, Mr. Nicholas Deygoo-Boyer also spoke of local content development, providing a different perspective—local companies investing in developing the infrastructure that was needed for the energy sector. He said, "We recognised that one of the things that were missing from Guyana was critical infrastructures for Exxon's operations. When we conceptualised this, we looked at those factors and then we internally made the decision—are we willing to take the risk and invest?" He said that he and his partners listened to the stakeholders within the industry and the projections for the industry in Guyana, adding, "The risk was there on paper, but our gut and instinct told us that we felt very confident that it was a very safe bet."

MEETINGS

GCCI meets with TechnipFMC in Texas



Led by President of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI), Mrs. Kathy Smith and Senior Vice President, Mr. Gavin Ramsoondar, the Chamber's delegation to the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC), visited the TechnipFMC facilities in Texas.

The delegation met with the company's officials, Tom Hergarden and Julia Hedderson who shared information on subsea facilities and their international footprint.

The delegation also benefited from a visit to the company's demonstration area.

GCCI's Calendar of Events 2025



MAR
19

**135TH ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING**

MAY
5-8

**OFFSHORE
TECHNOLOGY
CONFERENCE**

JUN
18

**BUSINESS
BREAKFAST
SEMINAR**

JUL
7

**CARICOM DAY
BARBECUE**

JUL
18-27

**NATIONAL
SMALL
BUSINESS
WEEK**

SEP
24

**ENERGY LUNCHEON
& LAUNCH OF THE
BUSINESS GUYANA
MAGAZINE**

OCT
23

**NADENE GILBERT-
RAMBARRAN
CANCER
AWARENESS &
FUNDRAISING
MIXER**

NOV
18-19

**BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT
FORUM**

DEC
11

**136TH ANNUAL
AWARDS
PRESENTATION
& GALA DINNER**

DATES ARE TENTATIVE & SUBJECT TO CHANGE