



# The Aggregate

May 2025  
Issue #1

People. Performance. Progress - The latest news, views, and announcements from SPEL

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### SPEL Wins Praise Awards

SPEL wins the People's Choice Award at the IDB's Praise Award Ceremony

### SPEL Health Fair

SPEL successfully hosted a Health and Wellness Fair.

### SPEL Participates in Island-Wide Cleanup

SPEL proudly answered the call to participate in the national Cleanup Initiative commemorating Robinson's Day.

### SPEL's Annual Sports and Family Day

SPEL hosted its 2<sup>nd</sup> Sports and Family Fun Day.



## Why We Created the Newsletter

-SPEL Newsletter Team

At SPEL, we believe that open communication, shared knowledge, and continuous improvement are essential to our growth and success. With that in mind, we proudly introduce The Aggregate, our official newsletter, to keep you informed, inspired, and connected. This publication showcases the outstanding work happening throughout our company, celebrates our achievements and key milestones, and keeps our valued employees, partners, and stakeholders informed about important updates, initiatives, and opportunities.



The Aggregate

## SPEL Wins at Praise Award

We are delighted to share exciting news from the IDB President's Awards for Innovation and Service Excellence (Pr.A.I.S.E) 2024. SPEL proudly took home the People's Choice Award in the Service Excellence Category, a testament to our team's dedication to innovation, sustainability, and community impact.

Our winning entry, the Zero Waste Andesite initiative, captured the hearts of voters with its creative approach to environmental stewardship and social responsibility. Through this project, over 2,300 concrete cylinders—originally used for quality testing in our laboratory—were repurposed and distributed free of charge to families, small businesses, and community organisations across Tobago.

These cylinders found new life in construction, backfilling, furniture-making, and beautification efforts, turning potential waste into valuable resources. This initiative not only reduced our environmental footprint but also strengthened community ties and highlighted the power of collaboration and resourcefulness.

We thank everyone who supported this project and voted for us. Together, we continue to build a more sustainable and inclusive future.

Employee with the Most  
Positive and Motivating Presence - **Ria Roberts**

Employee who Excelled in  
Creatively Overcoming

## SPEL Awards

Winners from the 2024 SPEL Awards

Employee of the Year –  
**Dominic Waldron**

Best Leadership Qualities -  
**Dominic Waldron, Claudius Guy, Kerry Quashie, Ackim Hector**

Most Approachable/  
Personable Employee -  
**Keesher Frederick**

Challenges - **Dominic Waldron, Nigel James, Roger Thomas**

Employee who was  
Committed to SelfImprovement  
and Learning - **Roger Thomas**

Employee who Consistently  
Went the Extra Mile – **Keithson Franklyn**

Unsung Hero Award - **Gordon Richards, Ackim Hector**

Best-Dressed Employee – **Rae-Ann Benjamin-Wilson**

Employee who Lifts  
Everyone's Spirit – **Keesher Frederick**

Most Punctual Employee - **Collin Hernandez**

General Manager's Award – **Ejaz Hosein**





## Health and Wellness Fair

-Christian Virgil (Executive Director)

At SPEL, we are entrusted with the vital responsibility of managing a natural resource that belongs to the people of Tobago and must be managed for the collective benefit of all. In fulfilling this duty, we are not just employees; we are custodians of one of Tobago's most essential resources. Our guiding mantra (performance, productivity, and profitability) represents more than just targets; it represents our commitment to operational excellence, economic contribution, and community responsibility. Therefore, we must carry out our mandate with efficiency, integrity, and a deep sense of accountability to the people and environment we serve.

In keeping with this spirit, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all those who contributed to the success of our recent Health and Wellness Fair. Special recognition goes to Simone Cruikshank, who led the initiative, and the organising committee: Adrian DeSouza, Nicholas Guiland, Keeshar Frederick, Ria Roberts, and Antonio Henry. Additional thanks to Konniel, Jenniela, Brendon, Keithson, Alejandro, Beverly, Aretha, Rae-Ann, Ejaz, the Stores Team, the Electrical Team, and many others whose efforts on the day helped bring the event to life. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, especially from the children, who left inspired and uplifted. Your commitment exemplifies the best of SPEL and reminds us that true success is measured not only by what we extract but also by what we give back





## Robinson's Day Island-Wide Cleanup

SPEL proudly answered the call to participate in the national Cleanup Initiative on December 16th, 2024, in commemoration of Robinson's Day. A dedicated team of SPEL employees undertook the cleanup of the area spanning from Studley Park to the Barbados Bay Jetty, contributing meaningfully to the island-wide effort.

Robinson's Day, celebrated annually in Tobago on the birthday of the late A.N.R. Robinson, pays tribute to his enduring legacy as a former Prime Minister and President of Trinidad and Tobago, and a staunch advocate for Tobago's autonomy. The day serves as a time for reflection on his contributions to national development.





Nordberg  
Crushers –  
Winners

## SPEL Sports and Family Day

SPEL hosted its 2nd Annual Fun and Family Day on February 23, 2025, at the Buccoo Integrated Facility. The 2025 Fun Day was a resounding success, fostering employee morale and strengthening team bonds.

In attendance was the Secretary of the Division of Infrastructure, Quarries and Urban Development, the Honourable Mr. Trevor James, the Assistant Secretary of the Division of Infrastructure, Quarries and Urban Development, the Honourable Mr. Terrence Baynes, the Administrator, Mr. Karl Murray, Board members including, the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr. Ashworth Jack, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mrs. Alicia Roberts-Patterson, Director Gerald Layne, Executive Director Christian Virgil and approximately 170 staff members and their families

Attendees were well-received, with high levels of participation in both competitive and recreational activities.



Teams  
preparing for  
the 'Big Sack  
Race'



Two teams  
engage in the  
game of 'Tug  
of War'



Police Constable, Damian Mills (Left)

Executive Director, Christian Virgil  
(Right)

## Supporting Crime Prevention

We are proud to support the Schools Intervention Unit of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (T.T.P.S.) Tobago Division in advancing an important Crime Prevention Initiative. The initiative will introduce a series of programs focused on crime prevention, legal awareness, and essential life skills within Tobago's academic institutions.

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