

T&T CHAMBER'S 2019 CHAMPIONS OF BUSINESS:
BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY FINALISTS, INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN...T&T OWNED, BUSINESS HALL OF FAME

The Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce is pleased to announce the finalists and awardees for 3 categories for the 2019 Champions of Business. The awards ceremony will be held on November 15, 2019 at the National Academy for the Performing Arts North (NAPA).

The 2019 Champions of Business Awards Ceremony and Cocktail Reception is a **signature annual event** of the T&T Chamber which recognises business excellence in 4 main categories, three of which are being revealed today:

Business Technology Finalists (Category Sponsor bmobile):

This category seeks to recognise the creation of an innovative, disruptive, technology-based company or a solution that has had a significant impact on either its target users or its industry as a whole.

The following three finalists were identified and the winner will be announced on the night of the Awards Ceremony.

- **Caribbean Airlines Limited:**
Caribbean Airlines Limited (CAL) utilised technology as the medium to deliver their new customer experience strategy which includes an improved website, a mobile application, content delivery in-flight and payment portals. The free-to-download mobile app was launched to the public in July 2019 and offers a range of necessary and innovative abilities to the local market. Customers can use their mobile devices to book flights to any destination serviced by CAL or any of their interline partners; sign up for Caribbean Plus seating or pay for extra baggage among other service features. CAL's improved customer service and conveniences ensure that the company keeps abreast of trending technology while offering customers a new way to keep connected.
- **Term Finance**
Term Finance is the Caribbean's first completely web-based credit institution, offering loans and financial wellness training to employees or reputable organisations across Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and St. Lucia. Term Finance issued its first loan in T&T in April 2015 and most recently issued its first loan in St. Lucia in July,

2019. To achieve its goals of providing employees with an efficient, private and responsible solution to their credit needs, while treating them with respect and compassion, the company used innovative methods. Term Finance took the entire end-to-end loan process online, allowing employees to access their services 24/7, anywhere in the world, using any smart device. Whilst the company is registered in various markets, all loan processing and customer service is handled by the Trinidad-based lending team, solely through digital channels.

- **Vibrant Technology Solutions Limited:**

Incorporated in 2007, Vibrant Technology Solutions offers a unique and local brand of ICT Project Management and Integrated ICT Services to several corporate clients throughout the region. There have also been a few instances of service delivery in North America. The company offers solutions that seek to provide clients with the highest ROI, such as introducing methods that create greater efficiency, offering flexible solutions based budget & requirements, ensuring that the project is executed successfully while the client focuses on everyday operations and ensuring that projects are planned and executed in a cost-effective manner.

Internationally Known...T&T Owned Company of the Year (Category sponsor First Citizens)

This category recognises a company for its achievements in taking incredible steps to move their business from a local operation to an International player.

This year the award will be presented to:

- **Associated Brands Industries Limited (ABIL):**

ABIL is a leading manufacturer and distributor of snack foods, chocolate confectionery, biscuits and breakfast cereals in the Caribbean. The company has been in existence since 1974 and has built up an extensive portfolio of brands, including Sunshine Snacks, Charles Candy, Devon Biscuits and Universal Cereals. In addition to manufacturing for the local and regional markets, ABIL also distributes a range of imported products. The company has been expanding progressively over the years as it continues to build on its production lines. Apart from its local distribution, key export markets include Jamaica, Barbados, St. Lucia and Dominican Republic. It also exports to over 20 countries worldwide, reaching as far as Taiwan and Ireland.

Business Hall of Fame (Category Sponsor Guardian Life of the Caribbean Limited)

Each year, two outstanding businesspeople are selected to be inducted into the T&T Chamber's Business Hall of Fame. The conferment of this award recognises a lifetime of business excellence and exemplary service to the corporate and national community.

The 2019 inductees will be:

- **Osmond “Ossie” Carlyle Hale (Posthumous)**

“Ossie” Hale was born on July 17, 1924 and from an early age displayed the skills that would see him in leadership roles in organisations like the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Royal Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and British American Insurance Company. In business circles he was perhaps best known for his unstinting service to Hand Arnold (Trinidad) Limited, which he joined in 1946 and remained until his retirement in 1984, and thereafter as Chairman until his death in 1994. Wherever he served, he played a transformational role. His characteristics of fairness, calmness and integrity endeared him to his peers and staff. His corporate social responsibility endeavours included participation in Rotary Club, the Golf Club and sponsorship the steelband Catelli All Stars. He is remembered by those who knew him as an influencer and true leader.

- **Sieunarine Persad-Coosal**

Born into poverty in the rural agricultural district of Todd’s Road in Chaguanas, Sieunarine Coosal was the twelfth of 13 children. At the age of 16, just after finishing his secondary school exams, he was recruited by his older brother Ajodha to assist him with quarrying operations in Curepe. From this basic starting point, Sieunarine rose to eventually lead this company. Facing many adversities in his life, including bankruptcy and receivership of his company, his tenacity and drive ensured that he rose each time to overcome them. He is a member of several professional bodies and has received awards and accolades for his work in the industry. However, what he values above all is his ability to make a difference in the lives of his employees and through charitable works. Today, his work is far from over as he will continue to live according to his personal credo of spirituality leading to the discovery of self and higher truths; following a sacred and divine commitment to family; passion, commitment and determination for success in business; and using his social life & networking for the greater good.

Entrepreneur of the Year (Category sponsor EY Trinidad and Tobago)

The Finalists in the sub-categories of Start-up Entrepreneur and Emerging Entrepreneur will be shared on October 21, 2019. Two winners will be announced on the night of the Awards.

The T&T Chamber congratulates all of the category finalists, awardees and the 2 inductees in the above-named categories. To celebrate with the finalists and award recipients in all four award categories, we invite you to book your tickets for the biggest business networking event of the year: contact Alison at 637-6966 ext. 1308.

The T&T Chamber thanks the sponsors: Platinum sponsors: Guardian Life of The Caribbean, First Citizens, EY and bmobile; Gold sponsor Trinidad and Tobago Unit Trust Corporation, Bronze

sponsor: Southern Sales and Services Company Limited; and Media partners: One Caribbean Media Limited and Music Radio 97.1 FM.

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FROM THE MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS UNIT