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Interview with  
**Ann Marie Ramsundar-Radhay**  
**Assistant Accountant**  
Point Lisas Nitrogen Limited



**Tell me something about yourself that most people in PLNL may not know?**

I never had any burning desire to be an Accountant. I really wanted to be a Marine Biologist, but at the time (a long time ago) there was little or no scope for that sort of thing in T&T.

I decided to do Accounting because a Manager I once worked with asked me to challenge myself. I had never done business studies prior to this. I still love being in nature, but I don't often get the opportunity, so I make do with a greenhouse, where I raise ornamental plants.

**How different is your experience today from when you first started at the then FMCL?**

I think that the sense of "family" that was very evident when FMCL was started has been somewhat cast aside. For all of the training that we are doing with JMW and attempting to unify the organization and its goals and objectives, I think we have lost some of the love we had back then.

**What would you say has been your most challenging experience to date in this industry? (Not necessarily at PLNL).**

Turnarounds are always a challenge, and not just for those in its direct path. When I worked in materials at another organization, I was very much involved in stock replenishment for turnarounds, and found this to be very exciting, but challenging. Later, when I moved to Accounting, I discovered that the paper trail generated by turnarounds is a very long and winding one which takes a long time to maneuver through.

**What do you like most about working at PLNL? Has there been any downside to this experience thus far?**

I like working at PLNL for the range of experiences I get, and for all the different aspects of its operations that I am exposed to. I know that I would not have been so privileged at a larger organization where there may be much specialization and narrowness of functions. I love the collaborative atmosphere we have created here.

The downside to working here is the lack of a comprehensive succession plan. I know PLNL is a lean organization, but there is need for such a plan if the organization wants to retain staff as it would allow for clear career progression and job satisfaction.

**In terms of the Company's Vision, what do you see as your role in making PLNL become "the preferred employer?"**

PLNL's competitive advantage will always be in our people. I think my best contribution will be in the development and mentoring of the younger people who may not have had the experiences and exposure that I would have had over the years. Sometimes a person does not have to make the mistake and learn from it, if someone can help them avoid it and find a better solution. In that regard, I would like the younger members of this organization to respect the advice of their seniors.

**How do you plan to fulfill the Company's Mission during the next five years?**

Ha! Ha! You are assuming that I will be here in five years' time, and not tending to my greenhouse. But seriously, I can say that I have always believed in teamwork and collaboration and I will continue to work towards that as far as I can. My hope is that we can all realize that we are in this thing together, and that we can only achieve excellence if we all work together towards our goals. I believe my biggest contribution for the future will be in the development of people, I have set personal goals in this regard and I will do my best to achieve these.

**Would you like to comment on the challenges you see in getting everyone at PLNL to 'live' out our Values**

There are still many out there in our family that have not

fully bought in to the concepts espoused in our values, either because they are resisting change, or have their own personal agendas. I believe that we all need to live what we preach, from top management through the ranks. I think some people are resisting because they do not feel that the management is as genuinely committed as they would like us to believe. We need to walk the talk now.

**What do you hope to accomplish during your tenure with this Company both at a personal and business level?**

I am doing some things personally now, but I don't really want to get into that. It gives me great personal satisfaction and allows me to sleep well at night, knowing that every day I am here, I give of my best. I may not be perfect, but my heart is most certainly in everything that I do.

**Any closing comments?**

I have always believed that people should be where they really want to be. If you do not like working at this organization, and do not believe you can make a difference, then find your niche somewhere else. But if you really are committed to our Vision, Mission and Values, then give of your very best to make PLNL the preferred employer.

# Safety Poem



## Safety Milestone

by Rammath Motilal

*Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen  
I am here once again  
Joining you in this celebration  
In which we all, in some way, made a contribution.*

*Remember this day and everyday  
Safety must be practised all day  
Instead of looking the other way  
We should, without delay, insist on the safe way.*

*Whether at home, work or play  
Our concentration should not stray  
Therefore always keep safety in mind  
Because danger is lurking right behind.*

*Don't be hasty about safety  
Always work sensibly and cautiously  
Because the guilt is hard to bear  
And is not something that you can share.*

*It all begins with the safety shoe  
Even though protective glasses may not provide the ideal view  
We all know they are very essential  
In conjunction with the appropriate apparel.*

*For some of us here, the journey now start  
We have, so far, charted an unblemished path  
Because when we see the risks that others take  
Immediate corrective actions we must make.*

*550,000 man hours—no lost time accident  
Is a magnificent achievement  
Which others can safely follow  
To keep their workplace free from sorrow.*

*Fellow employees—we should be elated  
Our achievement deserves to be celebrated  
By keeping our PLNL family safer  
We are one step closer to becoming the preferred employer.*

# PLNL Family Day

This year the Company's Family Day was a day with a difference. The event was used to say thanks to the many contractors and suppliers who had worked hand in hand with the staff during the 2012 extended shutdown. It was renamed the Family and Appreciation Day for 2013.

On Sunday June 09 the employees and guests with their families had a bumper time. The car park was converted into a train station, bike arena, bazaar with hoopla, basketball and all kinds of exciting games to test one's nerves and football prowess.

The field was the scene for the many types of activities and games organized by the Fire Services Division of T&T for the colourful teams in their purple, blue, orange and green polos. The Purple Dragons narrowly trumped the orange team to become the overall champions.

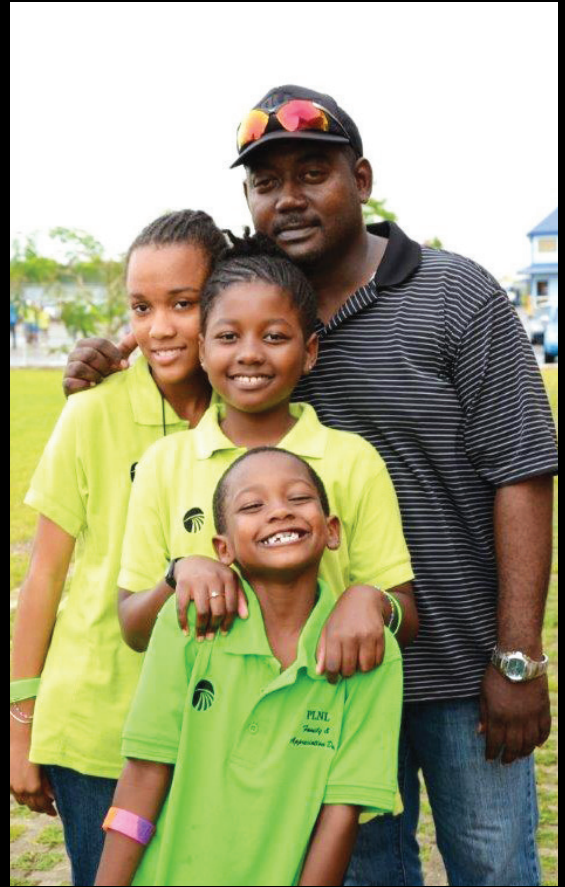
In the tug-of-war contest, for another year in a row, the females were again the winners over the males!













## Rain like dat...Friday April 26

*by Alyssa Rostant*

The Meteorological office hadn't announced the rainy season, but it started raining around noon. Quarter to one, eight-hour-day workers are looking forward to the weekend and the complex is winding down. Someone sticks their head out the back door, comes back in "Aye, it real raining boy, outside white". There's a crowd in the kitchen. Another tech looks out the front door, "that rain coming from the sea. It blowing wrong-side out there." "Allyuh know this plant don't like no setta setta rain..." It's colder than usual for lunchtime in control. "Watch that 101 alarm" a panel man says. Lights out!

When you give contractors an orientation after they've looked at the five minute video, you tell them they can always go to the security building or to the control room; Someone's always there and the lights stay on. "What the..." alarms on, screen fills up, horns blaring. "Ah \*\*\*\*!" The kitchen empties, lights back up, "101J trip allyuh." Phone rings "Control, everything all right?" "No, 101 trip."...phone rings again, people think we have time to converse, "Arright, aright", "watch it, watch the steam, watch the steam", "hold the reformer and leh we find out what going on," hat, raincoat, radio, into the rain. "Call Maintenance and E&I, what the \*\*\*\* happen?"

Operators start securing the plant. Panel operators evaluating, giving directions, stabilizing the front end and isolating the back. "Radios are hard to hear, control calls over the Gaitronics "Somebody, start the lift pumps on the 101, start the lift pumps." "Pumps on", comes back the call, "the pump switch on, they not running," "lift pump not starting," "put the hogger ejector on line, I need the hogger ejector now!" "Roger, roger." "E& I going to check the lift pumps." "Secure the PGRU, close the PGRU inlet; Bypass the ARU; Somebody take down one of the 121J's." "MOV 101I not going closed, eh, not on the hand jack, and it not moving manually." "Isolate the sealing steam on the 101 and 103J".

Everyone's boots are soaked, and we're looking over the tops of safety glasses because we can't see through them. The rain isn't letting up. It doesn't make sense to go back in to control. It's cold in there. Some raincoats get hung up outside, coveralls are almost navy blue.

The switch on the 101J rundown pump is faulty, E& I gets that and the barring gear going, the plant is loud, gas roaring through vents. E&I techs pulls plastic sheets and start working in the rain, the Tactrol on the machine needs to be changed. Checks are made on the 101—what caused the trip? Gauges are plugged on the 102J Governor—Ops and E&I doing the delicate dance of the operation. Limits are reset on the Methanator inlet MOV.

Twenty to five and the rain has mostly let up. We've opened the hurricane stores locker, apparently the Roober in stock are two sizes too small. Cotton coveralls and rubber boots replace soaked Nomex and Wolverines. Start the 101J. "That machine start sweet eh, one shot, when last that roll over so nice?" "You could go home and tell them you wuk for yuh money...you know you buying beers eh?" "Beers? What beers? I going home!"

Its overcast outside and dark, in the Control Room... the lights are on.

# Up Close and Personal



## Reshma Ramai (RR) Shiva Ramjattan (SR)

### What was your happiest moment?

**RR:** I can't use the traditional answers of wedding days or birth of children since I am child and husband-free. However, my life has been made up of many happy moments so it's difficult to pinpoint one.

**SR:** Becoming accepted as a permanent employee at PLNL.

### What is your secret fear?

**RR:** Spiders. I am entirely grateful to the higher powers that spiders do not crawl around the plant the way those millipedes do.

**SR:** The natural gas supply in Trinidad running out in the near future and the recession that would soon follow.

### Which living person do you admire the most and why?

**RR:** My mommy: she gave birth to an amazing person like me. Also Angelina Jolie: I'm impressed that she is using her fame and fortune to help heal the world and managed to snag Brad Pitt in the process.

**SR:** Brian Lara...because he was the best at what he did and

he did it in a dominating, exciting and fashionable manner.

### What is your greatest extravagance?

**RR:** Gas. I own a Mazda 3 and might have to look into purchasing a gas station soon to keep up.

**SR:** I'm not really an extravagant person...maybe tyres for my car I have the biggest set that can be fitted on my car.

### What is your pet peeve?

**RR:** An untidy work station. And yes, I am talking about my own. I'll get around to cleaning and filing properly one of these days but until then, it irks me no end.

**SR:** People who drive like idiots.

### What do you get most complimented about?

**RR:** Other than the rude comments from random guys on the road, I seem to have longer than usual eyelashes, so I mostly receive compliments from envious females about that.

**SR:** My good looks...ha-ha...joking...my helpful nature.

### What quality do you like most in men?

**RR:** Being able to think outside the box and hallowed customs of society and actually help with the traditionally-female-dominant roles of house and family.

**SR:** Honesty and dedication in their actions.

### What was your most embarrassing moment?

**RR:** This involves alcohol and falling flat in public so we will not speak about it.

**SR:** No comment.

### What place would you like to visit before you die?

**RR:** I'm quite happy with living on a Caribbean island and I make full use of it. However a drastic change of scenery might be nice so probably the Himalayas or the Andes.

Barring that, Antarctica because I like penguins.

SR: Dubai.

**What was the first thing you did this morning?**

RR: My phone is an extension of my body so I checked my messages.

SR: Make up my bed.

**What are your hobbies?**

RR: World of Warcraft: best invention ever. Also outdoor activities like beaches and easy hikes, and the occasional concert.

SR: Playing football, cricket and photography.

**What is your favourite food?**

RR: The jury is still out on this one. Pasta is extremely awesome though.

SR: Steaming hot dhalpuri, curry chicken and aloo with slight pepper.

**What do you consider your most cherished virtue?**

RR: I'm loyal to a fault. Not always a good thing.

SR: Respect for my parents and elders.

**What trait do you deplore in others?**

RR: Lack of respect for other people whether it's their time, their opinions or their feelings.

SR: Dishonesty.

**When was the last time you cried?**

RR: I can't remember the name of the movie but it was really, really good (and really, really tear-jerking)

SR: At the funeral of a close friend who died unexpectedly

**How do you deal with stress?**

RR: Liming with my best friends and long drives. This also

explains my excessive gas usage.

SR: I say my favourite prayer.

**Where do you see yourself in 5 years?**

RR: Probably married with a kid. Can't comment about my career because my boss is reading this.

SR: Living in my own home and happily married.

**What is the most important lesson life has taught you?**

RR: Nothing is permanent, no matter how good or how bad. When you hit rock bottom, the only way to go is up.

SR: Do everything in moderation.

**What is your current state of mind?**

RR: Generally happy with a few isolated showers.

SR: Calm.

**If you had one wish which you alone can benefit from, what would it be?**

RR: It's hard to think of something that I alone can benefit from but being the emotional being that I am, I'd wish that all my favourite people (and pets) would live forever.

SR: The ability to learn easily...use 100% of my brain... like in the movie Limitless.

## World Environment Day



Stephen Broadbridge

The theme for this year's World Environment Day's celebration was: Think. Eat. Save. Citizens of every nation were urged by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to wage a campaign against food wastage and loss. According to the FAO 1.3 billion tonnes of food is wasted every year. On the other hand, out of every 7 persons in the world one goes to bed hungry and more than 20,000 children under the age of five die daily from hunger.

The HSE Committee used the opportunity on Wednesday June 05, 2013, [World Environment Day] to invite Stephen Broadbridge, world renowned photographer to lecture to members of staff.

Mr Broadbridge has thirty years of experience in varying fields of photography and was the recipient of the Green Leaf Award in 2005.

He shared with employees his keen interest in a number of projects in which he is involved that highlight the preservation of wildlife in T&T.

He informed that Trinidad and Tobago was home to more than 420 species of birds and more than 600 varieties of butterflies.



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