

NEWS RELEASE
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Banks' Materials Manager earns globally recognised certification

BANKS (BARBADOS) BREWERIES' Materials Manager Yolanda Clarke is the most recent recipient of Next Level Purchasing's Senior Professional in Supply Management (SPSM) Certification and the first to receive the designation in Barbados. Ms. Clarke received her designation on March 29, 2007.

Charles Dominick, SPSM, President and Founder of Next Level Purchasing noted, "The SPSM Certification is being pursued by purchasing professionals in more than 50 countries across six continents. The program is comprised of a series of interactive online courses, which enable purchasing professionals to master invaluable skills categorized into six key facets of purchasing: fundamentals; analysis & spreadsheets; contract law; project management; best practices; and sourcing."

He added, "We applaud Yolanda for her commitment to bringing the most modern practices to her purchasing role and wish her success in delivering results for her employer while achieving her career potential."

Banks (Barbados) Breweries General Manager **Chris St. John** congratulated Ms. Clarke on her certification, adding, "If we could bottle Yolanda's self-discipline and determination to be the best she can be and feed it to our cricketers we might have seen them at Kensington in the World Cup Final. She's already a qualified Accountant (ACCA) which would be enough for lots of people; we're very fortunate to have her as a part of our Management Team and congratulate her on being the first Barbadian SPSM graduate."

Ms. Clarke, who completed the course in two-months described it as a great experience. "All of the class notes were posted online and at the end of each lesson there was a quiz to complete. Students were required to maintain an average of 70% in the quiz segment with the results going towards the final grade. There was also a final exam. What I found particularly useful was that the course provided practical suggestions as to how the areas taught could be implemented," she said.

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“I am very excited about applying the knowledge I have gained to the materials management practices at the Brewery. There are a number of programs which I am interested in introducing immediately, these include best practices for purchasing and a saving program. There are also plans to create a materials management policy and procedural document for the Brewery,” added the Materials Manager.

Next Level Purchasing is a leading provider of online training for purchasing professionals. Its training includes the Senior Professional in Supply Management (SPSM) Certification Program for world-class supply management success. Its services enable organizations to lower costs, support operations, and reduce risk by improving purchasing processes and expanding the capabilities of supply management organisations.



PIX CAPTION:

Banks (Barbados) Breweries Limited's Materials Manager Yolanda Clarke is the first Barbadian to attain Next Level Purchasing's Senior Professional in Supply Management Certification.