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DTI pushes for a more innovative and inclusive PH logistics services sector



DTI Secretary Ramon M. Lopez urges partners from the public and private sectors to harness the country's logistics services sector that will build "intelligent industries" during the 2nd Logistics Services Philippines Conference and Exhibition held on 15-16 July 2019 at the Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay City.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) gathered the country's top logistics firms to discuss strategies that will help build "intelligent industries" during the second Logistics Services Philippines (LSPH) Conference and Exhibition held on 15-16 July 2019 at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC), Pasay City.

Led by the DTI-Competitiveness and Innovation Group (CIG), this conference, with theme, "Logistics 4.0: Toward an innovative and inclusive logistics services sector," discussed the vital role of the logistics services sector for the rise of the Industry 4.0 or "Intelligent Industries" through a series of knowledge sharing sessions on global trends, industry prospects, digital solutions, and future-ready government, among others.

"With our aim to improve logistics performance in the country, we must be equally cognizant of the logistics services sector's readiness to support Industry 4.0. Intelligent industries must be supported by smart logistics," DTI Secretary Ramon M. Lopez said.

For the first part of the conference, **Philippine Multimodal Transport and Logistics Association, Inc. President Marilyn C. Alberto** presented the progress report on the Ten Commitments of the Philippine Logistics Services Sector, an action agenda jointly drafted by the public and private sector during the first LSHP held last December 2018.

"We are pleased to report to the public that less than a year after the successful first LSPH, we have made significant strides toward achieving the goals enumerated in the action agenda. These include continuous stakeholders' fora with DTI, Bureau of Customs (BOC), and the Department of Transportation (DOTr) to address high utilization rate of Manila ports, high logistics costs, streamlining of government permits, creation of Philippine Standards for road

freight transport, and establishment of a logistics observatory, to name a few,” Secretary Lopez shared in his message.

The conference also featured two learning sessions on Logistics 4.0. The first session was a panel discussion by chief executives of the top conglomerates in the industry on the current challenges and opportunities faced by the sector, the readiness of the sector to support industry 4.0, and strategies to gear up the logistics services sector in this era of innovation and digitalization.

Members of the panel include **Lina Group of Companies Founder and Chairman Alberto D. Lina**, **San Miguel Integrated Logistics Services, Inc. Consultant Jorge San Agustin**, **Chelsea Logistics and Infrastructure Holdings Corp. President and CEO Chrissy Alfonsus V. Damuy**, and **Worklink Services, Inc. President and CEO Dexter A. Silva**.

On the other hand, the second session highlighted global trends and practices in the logistics services sector, and strategies that the government and private sector can apply to improve logistics performance.



Chief Executive Officers of the country’s top logistics services providers, together with DTI Secretary Ramon M. Lopez (center), CIG Assistant Secretary Mary Jean T. Pacheco (leftmost), and ROG Assistant Secretary Demphna Du-Naga (rightmost), formally open the LSPH Trade Exhibit.

Moreover, the event featured an exhibition and business matching activity participated by over 50 logistics service providers (LSPs), such as shipping lines, freight forwarders, and cargo handlers, to showcase the services they offer.

Also part of the program is a press conference moderated by **DTI-CIG Assistant Secretary Mary Jean T. Pacheco**. It highlighted the Logistics Observatory, a web portal being developed by DTI in partnership with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) expected make information more accessible for industry players. **Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Executive Director Marissa G. Legazpi** also discussed the National Technical Education and Skills Development Plan 2018-2022, which will help address manpower shortage in the logistics industry.

Furthermore, the second day of the conference was devoted to a workshop for e-tailers, which aims to facilitate information exchange between players in the e-commerce industry and LSPs.

“The conduct of the second LSPH is a confirmation of the government and private sector’s steadfast commitment to support the development of a competitive Philippine logistics services sector,” DTI-CIG Undersecretary Rafaelita M. Aldaba emphasized.

Also gracing the LSPH were other DTI Officials such as **Regional Operations Group (ROG) Assistant Secretary Demphna Du-Naga**, together with DTI Regional Directors, Assistant Regional Directors, and Provincial Directors. Also present were partners from other government agencies such as **DOTr Undersecretary Artemio U. Tuazon**, and stakeholders from the private sector.