



THE OFFICE GIRLS TESTING OUT THE PPE

# Saunders Group Newsletter

## September 2014

IN THIS ISSUE

## Director's Word

By Richard Saunders

Welcome to our second monthly newsletter.

Communication is so important. Without it our company would not exist. In fact human society would not exist and it comes in many forms.

It does not matter what form this communication takes, it always requires two things: a supplier and a receiver. Without both of these it is not communication. Speaking to a deaf person is not communication, this is only noise.

The key to effective communication is understanding your receiver. The best communicators are not always those that can talk the best or write the best emails, but those who can understand the receiver and more importantly, communicate in a way that is engaging and will be understood by the receiver.

Listening is a key part of communication and without taking the time to understand and receive feedback from your receiver, communication will likely be poor.

I really hope you enjoy this newsletter and find it an effective method of communication!

### Latest Staff News

Congratulations to Michael Saunders who had a baby boy recently. Baby Nicholas came to the world in late-September and is healthy and well. We wish him and his family well.

A big congratulations to Sesili Kilasonia, who is now happily married. Some of the staff were lucky enough to attend the wedding - it was a good time for all. Congratulations.

### Quote of the month

"The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual." – Vince Lombardi.



### Projects Ongoing and Upcoming

A brief rap on the progress of our ongoing projects and a look at potential new ones.

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### Staff Function

A brief word and some pictures of the staff function held in August.

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### Meet a team member

Meet the woman who gets things done around here. Lia asks a few questions so we can learn a little more about the ever helpful Nino.

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# Active Projects

by Various Engineers

## WIMP I - 17 Cities Water Rehabilitation Project

The Joint Venture of ILF, Saunders Group and Georgian Water Project has continued with the supervision of the active water supply rehabilitation projects across Georgia. The latest Taking-over certificate was supposed to finish at the end of August 2014, but the project is still active in several cities, which are: Lanchkhuti, Ureki, Ozurgeti and Tsalenjikha. For now it is expected that WIMP – I will be finished at the end of October 2014, at the above mentioned cities. Radomir Radinovic completed his duties as FIDIC engineer for this project and is pursuing some new opportunities. Thank you Radomir and best of luck for the future.



## Batumi Transport Upgrade

The Batumi Urban Transport project, which has been executed by Michael Saunders, has been submitted to Batumi City Hall. Considering all aspects Batumi required for a better transportation system, over the past few months Michael has made numerous trips to present his solution to Batumi's transport woes to the municipality decision makers. We hope his solution will soon be executed by Batumi Transport Company and Batumi citizens will be satisfied with the changes to its public transport.



## WIMP II - 28 Cities Water Rehabilitation Project

A Joint Venture between ILF and Saunders Group has commenced with the supervision of the active water supply rehabilitation projects across Georgia. Work at seven of the 28 cities has begun and with this we welcome new team members Samir, Zurab, Vlado and also to old friends Amir, Roman, Vaja, Jandier, Temuri, Zaza and Zurab. We look forward to another fruitful cooperation between our JV Partners, the clients and contractors to achieve the best results for the city residents.



## IDP Buildings Rehabilitation

The Joint Venture of Voyants Private Ltd, Saunders Group and BETS consulting services continued with the supervision and construction management of IDP housing rehabilitations across Georgia. The rehabilitation and construction process is planned to be finished by the end of September 2014. Kutaisi Hospital, Kaspi and Borjomi Hospitals and Cottage settlements will hopefully be submitted by deadline. It was a pleasure to work with JV partners, who did their best to help and collaborate with Georgian engineers to successfully complete the project. Saunders Group hopes to continue working with Voyants and BETS in the future and explore new opportunities together.

## Manavi & Norio Road Rehabilitation Project.

The Joint Venture of IRD and Saunders Group have started working on the CANARGO project to procure, supervise and administer the construction process of two roads in Kakheti region. Manavi road started from September 1. This two road length is almost 8km each and the project duration period is set to be two

months. To meet this deadline, works are being completed and supervised from early morning until late evening and on weekends. Mike, Amiran, Giorgi, Giorgi and Alex have been working on this sometimes very muddy site. We all hope for the success of this project and we look forward to a good result.



# Staff Function

by Lia Jukharidze

In August a staff function was held which involved a trip to Betania Church followed by a Supra at a local village. The plan was to get out of the stifling hot city and enjoy some fresh mountain air. The road to the church turned out to be somewhat treacherous and the van driver refused to go the last 2km. So we had to walk! But it ended up being a nice walk down the hill to the church and a hot and sweaty walk back up. The supra started off quietly while everybody re-hydrated but soon kicked to life with some toasts and beautiful polyphonic singing, continuing for a good few hours before the trip back to Tbilisi. It was a fun time for all.



# Business Development

by Lia Jukharidze

We have been working on several RFQ and EOIs. Here you will see an overview of our major future opportunities for the next couple of months that will show Saunders Group perspectives and future plans.

- Saunders Group together with Technital (Italy) and Deltares (Netherlands) submitted a proposal to design and supervise the **Batumi Coastal Protection Project**. The proposal was successful and contract negotiations with MDF are underway.
- Saunders Group together with ILF (Austria) and P2M (Germany) submitted a proposal relating to a Preparation of Feasibility Study and Technical Specifications for **Telavi and Tskaltubo WWTP**. The contract has been signed and the services are underway.
- Saunders Group with ILF (Austria) have signed a contract for the water supply system rehabilitation project in 28 cities of Georgia (**WIMP II**). The contract was signed in August and work has already started at seven sites. The rest of the works are expected to commence in November and December.
- Saunders Group with IRD engineering (Italy) signed a contract in August with Canargo Georgia for the procurement, technical assistance and supervision of **Sagarejo Road** rehabilitation and drill pad construction to support their oil and gas operations in Georgia.
- Saunders Group together with Voyants Solutions Pvt Ltd have been given notice to proceed on the creation and monitoring of the Environmental Social and Management Framework (ESMF) for San Diego State University (SDSU) related to construction and rehabilitation of University facilities in Tbilisi.
- Expressions of interest have been submitted for various projects across infrastructure consulting services in Georgia.





**MRS. NINO BURDELI**

Nino Burdeli joined Saunders Group earlier this year to assist the company's financial, HR and administration departments.



**Nino, please tell us a little about yourself and your family.**

I was born into an affectionate and friendly Georgian family. Now I have my own family, which consists of four members. My son Luka goes to school and my daughter Lile used to go kindergarden. My husband is an ex-military serviceman. Now he is in charge of management of a supermarket. After work we try to spend time together and play with our children.

**You joined Saunders Group around 6 months ago; how do you find working at Saunders Group so far?**

Working at Saunders Group is somehow relaxing for me, as generally I used to work in a stressful environment and in comparison my current job is more diverse. Here I do a variety of work. It's far from routine and it's a bit challenging for me.

**We all know you as a responsible and valuable employee, what do you like most in your work and position? Is there anything you would like to change?**

I like my variety job. I have mentioned the staff of Saunders Group. Together we create a pleasant work environment.

**How do you feel about Saunders Group, and where do you see the company in 5 years?**

My intuition is not very good but I know hard work is the basic of success.

**“Saunders Group is far from routine and it's a bit challenging for me.”**

**What were your hopes for the future 10-15 years ago, when you were still a student?**

My wish was to work at the bank when I was still at school.

**Besides work, what do you like to do in your spare time?**

My roots come from mountain and as a mountain girl I love fancy-work, embroider of carpets and tapestry. I have held some interesting exhibitions in my childhood.

**What is the best thing you do to relax after work/ on weekends; usually how you spend your free time?**

1.

When I have free time I used to play billiards. I have fantastic friends; I love them very much and I always tent to spend my spare time with them. I love to go sightseeing in summer and skiing in winter.

**What would be your wish for Saunders Group and its employees?**

I wish the Saunders Group team to keep joyful and in a cheerful mood. I wish each colleague the best successes in their favorite works. The company may expand, improve and continue successfully completing projects and let's nominate it as one of the most famous companies.



**Saunders Group Monthly Newsletter**

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