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## DTI-EMB holds virtual National Exporters' Week 2020



*Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Secretary Ramon M. Lopez served as keynote speaker, together with ASEAN-Japan Centre Secretary General of Fujita Masataka, during the National Export Congress 2020 held last 3 December 2020.*

The Department of Trade and Industry-Export Marketing Bureau (DTI-EMB), together with the Export Development Council (EDC) and the Philippine Exporters Confederation, Inc. (PHILEXPORT), held this year's National Exporters' Week 2020 (NEW) last 1-7 December 2020 with the theme "Digitization Boost: Invigorating Exports in the New Normal."

This week-long celebration, mandated by Proclamation 931, series of 1996 and House Resolution No. 33, declaring every first week of December as the NEW, features series of virtual events and activities such as the National Export Congress (NEC), the Export Enablers' Exhibit, and *Usapang Export*.

For this year's celebrations, the NEC 2020 recognized how exporters adapted to the quick digital transformation in keeping businesses alive in these trying times. It served as a venue for sharing of initiatives and best practices and introduce new business models used by both public and private sectors to promote technology and innovation, all in response to the crisis brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

*"Habang ang ating bansa ay patuloy pong binubuksan ang ekonomiya at niluluwagan ang mga restrictions, kasabay ng pag-obserba sa health protocols ng mga manggagawa, ang atin pong merchandise exports ay posibleng manatili sa sustained uptrend nito hanggang sa pagtatapos ng taon at sa susunod na mga taon," DTI Secretary Ramon M. Lopez said.*

Do you have an inspiring story to share with the DTI family? Is there a DTI staff or experience you want to brag about? Please tell us by e-mail to [KMIS@dti.gov.ph](mailto:KMIS@dti.gov.ph)

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The event's Congress also had distinguished panelists including **DTI Assistant Secretary Mary Jean T. Pacheco (DTI e-Commerce Lead)**; **DICT Assistant Secretary Emmanuel Rey Caintic**; **TESDA Executive Director David Bungallon**; **EMS Group of Companies Chairman and CEO Perry Ferrer**; **Key Merchants and Acquirers and GCash Head Maria Ana Leticia Pascual**; **Supply Chain Management Association of the Philippines (SCMAP) President-elect Pierre Carlo Curay**; **BSP-Technology Risk and Innovation Supervision Director Melchor Plabasan**; and **Employers' Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP) Director Antonio Sayo**.

The NEC 2020 also provided venue for the virtual launch of SheTrades, a hub for women to connect to businesses worldwide, export products and services, and learn and join workshops, trade fairs and other business-related events.

The Congress ended with the awarding of Top Exporter Award, Most Outstanding RIPPLES Plus Award for Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, Excellence Award for Services Exports and the Hall of Fame Award. Top Exporter Awardees include SFA Semicon Philippines Corporation, B/E Aerospace B.V. (PH Branch)/Collins Aerospace, LEAR Automotive Service (Netherlands) B.V., Sumifru (Philippines) Corporation, Philippine Sinter Corporation, Toyota AISIN Philippines, Petron Bataan Refinery/Petron Corporation, Davao Oil Mill, Inc., L & T International Group Philippines, Inc., Universal Robina Corporation, SIGLO Leatherware Manufacturing, and SCAD Services Pte. Ltd.

Peter Paul Philippines bagged the Most Outstanding RIPPLES Plus Award for Luzon, Celebes Coconut Corporation for Visayas and PHILBEST Canning Corporation for Mindanao. Animation Vertigo Asia, Inc., Potato Corner of Cinco Corporation, ADEC Innovations and Advanced World Systems, Inc., grabbed the Excellence Award for Services Exports.

L & T International Group Philippines, Inc., LEAR Automotive Service (Netherlands) B.V., Petron Bataan Refinery/Petron Corporation, SCAD Services Pte. Ltd., and Sumifru (Philippines) Corporation were Hall of Fame Awardees.

On the other hand, the two-day Export Enablers' Exhibit set out as an online helpdesk for exhibitors on export-related matters. It featured export-related services of various government agencies and trade-related industry organizations. These include DTI-Bureau of Import Services, DTI-Export Marketing Bureau, DTI-EMB Halal Section, DTI-Foreign Trade Services Corps, DTI-Strategic Trade Management Office, DTI-Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions, DTI-Philippine Trade Training Center – Global MSME Academy, *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, Bureau of Customs, Food and Drug Administration, Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines, Philippine Coconut Authority, 1Export, World Trade Center Metro Manila, Control Union Philippines, Cropital, ECFulfill Global, FedEx Philippines, Philippine Exporters Confederation, Inc. and VESL Philippines, Inc. The Export Enablers' Exhibit is still accessible at [www.nationalexportersweek.com/index.php/exhibitionhall/](http://www.nationalexportersweek.com/index.php/exhibitionhall/).

*Usapang Exports*, a four-day online session tackling exporting during and after the pandemic, focused its discussions on (1) Exporting Beyond COVID-19: Logistics and Transport, International Certification and Standards for Greater Market Access for Food and Non-Food Exports, (2) Expand Exports with the Global Halal Market, (3) The World of Digital Exporting (with Google and Amazon), (4) Export Opportunities to Europe: Processed Food, Natural Ingredients, and Value-Added Textiles, and (5) Market Trends and Opportunities in the New Normal.

Visit DTI-EMB's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/dti.export](https://www.facebook.com/dti.export) for the complete recordings of the *Usapang Exports* sessions.