



---

Seychelles Ports Authority  
Public Relations and Communications: Content for Publication

Event: Official Ceremony - Presentation of Epaulettes to New Harbour Pilots.  
Component held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2024.

---

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Four New Harbour Pilots Receive their Epaulettes.**

In a short ceremony that marked a significant milestone in their maritime careers, four trainee pilots were officially awarded their epaulettes, following the successful completion of a critical phase of their training to becoming Harbour Pilots with Limitations, effective 01<sup>st</sup> August, 2024 upon endorsement from the Board of the Seychelles Ports Authority (SPA).

This took place at the SPA Conference room on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2024, celebrating the dedication, skills, and perseverance of the trainees as they advance one step closer to full qualification.

The four young trainees embarked on a rigorous journey to become certified Pilots in their field, bringing onboard fresh energy and enthusiasm to this essential maritime profession. They underwent a demanding training program that combined theoretical knowledge with hands-on experience.

The new appointees comprise of Roland Renaud who joined SPA in 2021, Stephano Hermitte, Marti Mondon and Jeremy Albert who later joined the team in May 2023, with a Class Three Certificate of Competency.

In the bustling world of maritime trade, Harbour Pilots play a crucial role in ensuring the safe and efficient movement of ships within ports. These highly skilled professionals will guide vessels through treacherous waters, docking them securely and preventing potential maritime accidents.

In his remarks, the Harbour Master, Captain Jean-Paul Fanchette, underscored that this is a first milestone for the new Pilots and that there will be more trainings to achieve their eventual goal of becoming Pilots without limitations. Capt. Fanchette also went on to thank the Senior Pilots who have been hands on with the training sessions offering their abundance of expertise and patience towards getting the trainees to this point.

On his end, the Chairman of the Board, Mr Brian Loveday commanded the four new pilots on their appointment and further reiterating that this is not an easy feat and it is a job that requires the utmost concentration, responsibility and diligence, nonetheless, the group have exceeded his expectations making it an honour to have endorsed their appointment.

The ceremony was attended by members of the SPA board, the Deputy Chief Executive and management staff of SPA.

The presentation of epaulettes - a symbol of rank and responsibility - signified the pilots' readiness to take on more challenging roles in their journey to full qualification in the foreseeable future. Their success will not only mark the culmination of their training but also the beginning of their important contribution to the safety and success of global maritime trade.