

Introducing your Council

Over the coming months VCCI would like to introduce you to your Council members. This week we feature the new President of the Council of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr Shaun Gilchrist.

Name, position and sector you represent on the council:
Shaun Gilchrist CEO Azure Pure Water Limited President VCCI and representing the Manufacturing Sector
Brief summary about yourself and your business:
I arrived in Vanuatu in 2009. I have worked in various sectors here and abroad including construction, IT service provision, interactive gaming regulation and manufacturing. I now own and operate Azure Pure Water with my partner Yael Sakker. Azure has been in operation in Vanuatu for the past 24 years and was the first bottled water company in Vanuatu. Azure was the first bottled water company to secure export regionally and to the cruise lines for exclusive supply.
Your vision for the sector you represent / what you would like to achieve for the sector while serving on the council:
<p>As most people will appreciate, Manufacturing is a challenging sector in any country regionally. I would like to proactively work to assist in the development of opening further export opportunities both regionally and internationally for all manufacturers in Vanuatu, regardless of the size of the operation.</p> <p>As President of the VCCI I will be overseeing the reform and restructure of the organisation. It has operated in its current structure since its inception and as is evident from member feedback there is a need to reform to meet current member requirements. A key component of this will be a focus on communication, both from the VCCI to our members as well as collaborative communication with the Vanuatu Government. I look forward to developing closer and stronger working relationships with our Minister and Director General, and at the same time strengthening our relationship and ties with our partner chambers regionally.</p>
Are you a member of a sector related association, if so, which one?:
There is currently no Manufacturers Association here in Vanuatu at present, so we are not a member of one. I would like to see these associations revived in the coming months to allow all members of the sector to collaborate on mutual challenges to achieve better outcomes for all concerned, and increase employment for indigenous Ni-Vanuatu in the process.
Way/s by which members within your sector can contact you:
Members of the VCCI are welcome to contact me at any time. The best method of communication is via email which is: shaun@azure.vu I am also available (when not in meetings) on 5500002