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Friday 18th May 2007

**Press Release
For Immediate Release**

RIC SPEARHEADS HOME SAFETY INITIATIVE
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The Regulated Industries Commission (RIC) is known primarily for its function as a regulator in guiding policy and establishing Quality of Service Standards. However, the RIC has taken on a new role - that of the mastermind of a socially responsible initiative, dubbed the **Home Safety Initiative (HSI)**. The initiative was launched today, **Friday 18th May 2007 at 10:00am** at the **Crowne Plaza Hotel** and has the support of many prominent health and safety stalwarts.

Electrical hazards are a major cause of fires, with aged wiring, overloaded circuits and worn outlets being among the electrical hazards that can start fires and cause electrical shock. Through this awareness campaign, the RIC aims to increase awareness of and sensitivity to safety issues as they relate to the home, workplace and the school environment. Professor Dennis Pantin, Chairman, noted that "Home Safety is an issue that is important to all households and is also an area that up to now, had been under-represented in terms of other organizations."

As the initiative unfolds, various methods aimed at promoting public awareness of safety will be incorporated. These include talk show appearances, newspaper articles and lectures encouraging safety audits at offices, workplaces, homes, schools and other community facilities throughout Trinidad and Tobago. Of particular note are the Home Safety Workshops, which will be staged for primary schools throughout T&T. A full-scale educational mural has been created for the benefit of the primary schools and informative posters will be distributed to publicize safe practices. In the words of the Executive Director, Mr. Harjinder S. Atwal, "the opportunity to improve the quality of life of consumers, families and local communities is a core value of the RIC" and that the RIC is "committed to this on a long-term basis."

As a responsible corporate citizen, the RIC sees this as an opportunity to build new and deeper community networks as it responds to the growing needs and concerns of a range of stakeholders, whose interests the RIC protects.

End of Release

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