DIMO rolls out its first batch of locally assembled DIMO Batta HT2 in Sri Lanka

DIMO successfully completes its first export

DIMO together with Kalmar uplifts Sri Lanka’s port and inland container terminal operations

DI-Solar from DIMO, Sri Lanka’s first battery less solution to utilize solar PV generated power during daytime power outages

DIMO’s colossal victory as a Great Place To Work for the 10th year in a row
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DIMO acquires fruit, vegetable export firm

Reinforcing its strategic shift to value-added agriculture DIMO has acquired a fruits and vegetable export firm for Rs. 450 million.

The venture is Tropical Health Food Ltd., engaged in the business of processing and preparing fruits and vegetables for the export market. DIMO has acquired a 94.45% stake in the company from its German owner Orhan Yilmaz.

Tropical Health Food is a Board of Investment approved venture established in 1994 to process and export organic foods for the European market. The company is the first organic food exporting company in Sri Lanka under organic certification of Control Union-Netherland.

DIMO unveils Pela Batta, the first and only paddy transplanting machine in Sri Lanka to maintain an 8-inch gap between seedling rows

DIMO, a leading conglomerate in Sri Lanka, through its agricultural arm DIMO Agribusinesses, recently introduced the first and only paddy transplanting machine in the country capable of maintaining an 8-inch gap between seedling rows, aptly named ‘Pela Batta’. DIMO has always been in the forefront of introducing innovative and affordable agri machinery to the local farming community with the aim of driving mechanization in the agriculture sector of the nation.

The current machinery available for rice transplanting, in the Sri Lankan agriculture sector, possesses the capability of maintaining 11 to 12 inches between rice seedling rows when being planted. In comparison, the Pela Batta can reduce it to an 8-inch gap. It also ensures a 5-to-6-inch gap (variable as per requirement) between each individual seedling in a given row. Research has shown that this new machine will lead to an increase in agricultural yield by 20%-30% as a result of the more consistent spacing being maintained between seedlings. Additionally, the number of seedlings planted can also be increased.

The traditional process of planting rice seedlings is significantly labour intensive and certain methods do not maintain a level of consistency. The Pela Batta addresses both these concerns and delivers economic benefits, as a result. It can plant an area covering 3 to 3.5 acres per day, effectively increasing the efficiency of the planting process in rice cultivation. Furthermore, the consistent space maintained between the rice plants will make the process of weed and pest control relatively convenient. It must be particularly noted that this machine successfully planted 100 acres of land during this year’s Yala season.

The 4-stroke engine, the simple design and the reduced weight of the Pela Batta machine makes it easily operable by anyone. The overall robustness, ease of maintenance and the low maintenance costs make it highly beneficial for the user.

DIMO successfully completes its first export

DIMO recently made its first export through its subsidiary Tropical Health Food (Pvt) Ltd (THF).

Through this first export, the company supplied organic pineapple chunks in own juice form to EGESUN GMBH in Germany. All THF products are produced and processed under organic production methods as per the EEC regulations at the THF’s factory located in Kurunegala.
DIMO Agri Machinery Division organized a training program for all island farm managers, Assistant Managers and Technical Engineers at Agriculture training center, Gonnoruwa, Peradeniya. Directors of the agriculture department also participated at this training session.

The Training program was conducted by Mr. Ranjith Mahaduruge of Agri Machinery division. The Training program focused on the areas on how to maintain the safety when working with Machinery and product training on Mahindra Tractors and CLAAS harvesters. This training program also discussed on how to create happiness at the workplace adding more value to the training session.

The Agri Machinery Service Division conducted a country level evaluation for its Technicians and Service Advisors, to select individuals to take part in The Mahindra Champions League. The MCL is an initiative to elevate the technical knowledge and skills for the Mahindra after sales service staff in the represented countries. The competition will be held under Technicians and Service Advisors categories.

After a rigorous evaluation process, the Agri Machinery Service Division selected Pramodh Weerasinghe and Sandunika Athauda for the Service Advisors category, and W. M. D. C. Wnninayaka, E. L. Pathmasiri and K. S. S. Kodikara for the Technicians category, for the zone level competition. From the zone level evaluations, the participants will be qualified for the Global level competition. Winners will be rewarded with cash prices, trophies, and certificates.

Hatton National Bank, PLC (HNB), Sri Lanka’s premier private sector bank, renewed its long-standing partnership with DIMO Agribusinesses, the agricultural arm of DIMO, Sri Lanka’s leading diversified conglomerate. Through this partnership, HNB and DIMO will offer their mutual customers an extensive list of discounts and facilities inclusive of low interest rates, flexible repayment schemes and exclusive benefits for Agri Machinery provided by DIMO Agribusinesses. The renewed partnership was commemorated at special ceremony held at DIMO Head office in the presence of HNB and DIMO representatives.

HNB will offer leasing facilities for brand new Mahindra & Swaraj tractors as well as CLAAS and Lovol combine harvesters. DIMO will offer customers a 4-year warranty on any Mahindra and Swaraj tractors purchased and a one-year comprehensive warranty on CLAAS and Lovol Harvesters as well. Customers who purchase Mahindra or Swaraj tractors will also be eligible for the Free Farmers Kit, free oil filters for two years and 3 free services. All DIMO customers can rest assured as each purchase will be backed by over 80 years of DIMO trust and exceptional after sales care.
DIMO to revitalise green energy development with microgrid systems

With the recent successful completion of the nation's first comprehensive grid tied renewable energy microgrid project at the University of Moratuwa (UOM), DIMO, a leading diversified conglomerate in Sri Lanka, is now well equipped to implement microgrid systems for the local industries to ensure an uninterrupted power supply.

DIMO will also provide microgrid services to the Maldives and rural regions in Africa where the company has already established its footprint through other engineering solutions.

As a company that continuously strives to reshape the green energy landscape of Sri Lanka, DIMO is providing advanced solutions for mini-hydro, bio mass, solar and wind power plants in the country. DIMO has also played a key role in the implementation of Sri Lanka’s first ever wind power project in Mannar and the successful completion of the nation’s first microgrid system is a true testament to DIMO’s commitment to implement innovative green energy initiatives.

The microgrid system at the UOM supplies uninterrupted power to the university despite the current power cuts faced by the country. Even during the 13-hour power cuts, the microgrid was capable of effectively managing the demand of the connected loads.

DIMO implemented the microgrid system at UOM in collaboration with Lanka Electricity Company (LECO) and with the financial assistance of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). This project connects stand-alone grids to ensure an uninterrupted, renewable power supply throughout the distribution area at any time.

The completed system consists of a 375kW of Solar PV, 418kWh of Battery Storage and a 770kVA backup Diesel generator. With this project, UOM now can generate its power requirement within its own premises, without depending on the national power supply.

DIMO also partnered with German off-grid experts DHYBRID, a leading provider of renewable energy solutions with individualised control systems for hybrid energy supply, for this project. DHYBRID has implemented over 75 projects in more than 25 countries around the world. DHYBRID’s energy solutions combine power from multiple renewable energy sources including solar and wind, with the traditional grid, diesel powered generators and battery storage, while perfectly controlling these sources to, effectively and efficiently, meet the varied power requirements of the clients.

The microgrid system is a decentralised group of electricity sources and loads that are connected synchronously to the main power grid. A microgrid runs on two modes. The off-grid mode supplies power to the loads via energy sources without the support of the grid, whereas in the on-grid mode, the system stays synchronised with the grid, and any excessive power is fed to the grid.

Microgrids integrate renewables into the energy mix intelligently and seamlessly balance the variable output of renewable energy while enabling the system to seamlessly transfer from on-grid to off-grid mode during power outages. Thus, the microgrid overcomes the transient nature of solar and wind energy through intelligently accommodating energy storage.

In Sri Lanka, power from hydro plants have dropped below 28% during the dry season and this, along with the prevailing forex crisis, has led to extended power cuts in the country. The demand for energy will continue to rise, and even if commercial and industrial sectors have implemented solar power, it is of no use during power outages. Microgrids allow renewable energy to be utilised during power outages as well.

DIMO Group CEO Gahanath Pandithage said: “The completion of the historic microgrid project is a great step towards the nation's future of adapting renewable energy. During these challenging times, the development of such solutions is vital in the nation’s progress.
DIMO, with over 80 years of engineering excellence, recently introduced DI-Solar, a revolutionary solution, enabling the power generated through the existing solar PV systems to be utilized during the daytime power interruptions, thereby preventing the power wastage. This is Sri Lanka’s first cutting-edge solution in the market that allows the power generated by solar systems to be utilized without any mode of battery storage, which is ideal for the industries facing various challenges due to the power shortage in the country, as it facilitates uninterrupted business operations and reduces the spend on fuel for generators by 50% to 70%.

In addition to the heavy focus on the industrial usage, DI-Solar also comes with a consumer solution component, which will soon be introduced to the market, further accelerating nation’s green journey.

Industries in Sri Lanka are facing many challenges in pursuit of seamlessly continuing their business operations during the regular power cuts, without incurring production losses and downtime. Although many business enterprises are having pre-installed rooftop solar PV systems, they are unable to use the power generated through the solar PV systems during power outages at daytime, as the grid is not available. Thus, they are compelled to entirely depend on generators, to continue operations at a time when fuel incurs a high cost.

The continuous offering of innovative solutions to address the issues of the country’s power sector is a testament to DIMO’s vast expertise in the power and energy sector.

DI-Solar offers, a high-tech controller from a leading manufacturer in Europe that would be installed on new or existing solar PV systems and whenever there is a daytime power interruption, it enables the premises to operate as an off-grid system and utilize the power generated through the solar PV system to cater to the internal requirement, which otherwise would have been wasted.

When power interruptions occur during the daytime, the generators will start producing electricity to serve the electricity demand in the premises. In the next instance, the proposed controller comes into operation by using the parameters in the electricity generated by the generator to trigger solar PV inverters to be switched on. The solar PV inverters will then commence its process of generating electricity and become the primary energy source to cater the load, while reducing the electricity generation by generators, resulting in a reduction of fuel consumption. Moreover, this solution can be further improved to use even during the night-time power interruptions by integrating a battery. DI-Solar can be customised according to any existing solar PV system and the company also offers solar PV systems with this solution for the industrialists who do not possess pre-installed solar PV systems to power their plants.

Mr. Ranjith Pandithage, Chairman & Managing Director of DIMO said, “This project is yet another timely offering by DIMO and we continue to fuel the dreams and aspirations of the communities we serve in, providing the nation the means to switch to renewable energy solutions, which in the current context is extremely important.”

If installed at a facility with an approximate solar PV system capacity of 650kW and experiences an average 3–4-hour daytime power interruption, during which generators are used to cater the demand, the DI-Solar system has a capability to drastically reduce the fuel consumption, as it only requires fuel to cater for the minimum load of the generator (around 30% of the generator capacity). The rest of the energy requirement of the generators (the balance 70%) will be attained by utilizing solar energy generated through the solar PV panels. Accordingly, the business enterprise will also reduce its expenditure on fuel and enjoy a swift payback period of 1-2 years.

DI-Solar also allows industries to use renewable energy without totally depending on the national grid, as a proactive measure in facing any future challenges in the local power sector while also allowing them to contribute more to the national GDP output through uninterrupted operations and reducing the foreign spend on fuel imports.
**LV solutions for Point Pedro Base Hospital**

DIMO will be providing the total Low Voltage (LV) solution for Point Pedro Base Hospital, which is a project of Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine to enhance and strengthen the standard of healthcare services in the Northern Province. Access International (Pvt) Ltd is the main contractor of the project and the expertise of VAMED Nederland BV will also be brought to the project.

DIMO Lumin low voltage power panels of which the capacitor bank and the ATS unit are seamlessly integrated with the main panel, will be installed throughout the project to ensure a reliable and safe power distribution methodology, customized especially for hospitals which usually carry critical load centers. DIMO has met the highest industry standards in all the solutions it provides, ensuring the maximum safety of the people inside the hospital.

What differentiates us from our competitors are that our LV solutions are designed to enhance reliability, high operational efficiency, reduce maintenance costs while offering an unmatched after-sales service. DIMO is proud to be involved in this project, which will help improve the healthcare infrastructure in the country.

**DIMO further strengthens Sri Lanka’s Healthcare Sector with the Highest Market presence in the MRI Domain**

DIMO, in its quest to strengthen the local healthcare sector with latest technology, along with its long-standing partner Siemens Healthineers, a global meditech company, has now secured the highest market presence in the nation’s Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI scanners) domain. The high market presence further enables local healthcare professionals to make well-informed diagnosis.

DIMO secured almost 41% of the market share in MRI sphere covering both the private and public sectors. All Siemens Healthineers MRI scanners installed by DIMO around the country, perform 56,160 scans a year. The Siemens Healthineers MRI scanners provided by DIMO are renowned for providing exceptional image quality, efficiency, speed and patient comfort. DIMO also offers an unparalleled 24-hour after-sales service for all installations across the country.

Government hospitals such as National Hospital – Colombo (NHSL), Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children, Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital, Teaching Hospital – Jaffna, Dr. Neville Fernando Teaching Hospital and the Army Hospital – Colombo 05 as well as several private sector hospitals including Durdans Hospital, Lanka Hospitals PLC, Nawaloka Hospitals PLC and the Northern Central (Pvt) Hospital are all equipped with Siemens Healthineers MRI scanners provided by DIMO.

Mr. Wijith Pushpawela, Executive Director at DIMO, who also oversees the Medical Engineering business of the Group, stated, “Both the government and private sector healthcare providers are keen on adopting the latest technology to upgrade their service quality. We have seen a higher demand coming from the government to improve the public healthcare sector across the country. When it comes to the local MRI sector, the government is planning to obtain 3 to 4 MRI scanners annually and the annual requirement of the private sector is approximately 3 scanners. With DIMO’s purpose of ‘Fueling Dreams and Aspirations’ of all the communities we serve in; we are proud to be able to assist in the process of elevating the overall healthcare sector of the nation.”

The key differentiators of DIMO’s Medical Engineering business from its competitors are, the availability of DIMO’s very own factory trained Bio Medical Engineers for all models on offer and most importantly, they are constantly updated with all the latest technology through training provided by the principal company, enabling them to carry out every installation without the onsite presence of the principal. As global expertise is also available locally, the time taken to rectify any issues is minimal, which is an added benefit for customers.

Mr. Priyantha Dissanayake, COO of DIMO Healthcare Solutions said, “Our after-sales service strategy comprises regular corrective service and maintenance personnel visits to ensure the smooth function of these machines. Our global partner Siemens Healthineers provides tremendous support in improving the local healthcare landscape with their fast 24-hour spare parts dispatch service, which creates a competitive edge for DIMO in the industry. Training and Development assistance provided by Siemens Healthineers is also the prime focus in offering a world-class service to the local healthcare industry. As a result, DIMO is equipped with the highest number of factory-trained technicians with over a decade of experience at minimum.”

What differentiates us from our competitors are that our LV solutions are designed to enhance reliability, high operational efficiency, reduce maintenance costs while offering an unmatched after-sales service. DIMO is proud to be involved in this project, which will help improve the healthcare infrastructure in the country.
**Carl Zeiss workshops**

DIMO Healthcare Solutions team organized a series of training sessions at Sri Lanka Air Force Hospital in Colombo 08, Nawaloka Hospital PLC, Vasan Eye Care Hospital – Colombo 03 and Mount Lotus Eye and ENT hospital in Mount Lavinia on the Carl ZEISS ophthalmic equipment installed in these hospitals.

These sessions conducted by an application specialist of Carl ZEISS, the global giant in providing complete solutions to diagnose and treat ophthalmic diseases. It was an instructive session for the consultants and the operators using Carl ZEISS equipment installed at these hospitals, to upgrade their knowledge on the latest technologies and the methods available to treat patients more accurately while assuring comfort.

**DIMO Lighting Solutions powers Sri Lanka’s mega infrastructure projects**

DIMO, has established its position at the forefront of Engineering excellence in Sri Lanka by providing world-class end-to-end solutions across multiple domains including Building Management, Fluid Management and General Engineering solutions.

DIMO has rapidly become the leading source of lighting solutions in the country by providing cutting-edge solutions that help illuminate mega infrastructure projects, through DIMO Lighting Solutions. These include airports, expressways and stadiums as well as large-scale commercial buildings. DIMO Lighting Solutions operates in the business domain of creating a positive visual impact in spaces where people live, work, travel, play and relax; through design, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of lighting solutions for commercial, hospitality, industrial and infrastructure applications. The product portfolio includes architectural, commercial, industrial, street, stadium, facade lighting solutions, lighting control systems and exquisite range of switches and sockets. By partnering with world-renowned European brands such as Jung, LEDVANCE (formerly OSRAM), RZB, Trilux, and Vossloh Schwabe – all German brands and also Italy’s Disano, Sri Lanka’s DIMO Lighting Solutions is able to provide solutions that are on par with the highest of international standards.

Among the many DIMO lighting projects that are currently nearing completion is the large-scale lighting infrastructure project at the Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA) to supply, install and commission an aeronautical ground lighting system on taxiways. This project also includes supply, installation and commissioning of apron floodlighting system in the new apron. The lighting division of DIMO has also commenced the second phase of the airport development project to supply, install and commission the flood light system and roadway as well as the landscape lighting at the BIA.

Continuing to spread its wings into airport lighting, the design, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of solar powered simple approach LED runway lighting system project of the Ratmalana Airport was successfully completed by the division.

Further contributing towards building national infrastructure to the highest of international standards, DIMO is actively involved in providing lighting solutions for expressways and roads such as Marine Drive and several others, and have provided its expertise for many projects of the Road Development Authority (RDA), including installation of digital media screens on expressways.

Similarly, DIMO is at the forefront of developing sports infrastructure in locations such as R. Premadasa (formerly known as Kettarama Stadium) and Pallekele International Cricket Stadiums as well as the Racecourse Rugby Stadium where they were provided with stadium flood lighting systems. In 1991, R. Premadasa stadium was one of the first stadiums in Asia to introduce a flood lighting system to promote night cricket matches. At the time, DIMO expertise was brought in to provide a one-of-a-kind flood lighting system for the entire stadium with the support of DIMO’s renowned international Principals.

NSBM, a university complex designed in accordance with green building concepts, is another noteworthy project that benefitted from DIMO’s state-of-the-art lighting solutions, having been provided with over 15,300 light fittings.
Marking the most significant milestone in the Sri Lankan automotive industry, DIMO together with TATA Motors Limited rolled out its first set of DIMO Batta HT2 vehicles, the first ever Small Commercial Vehicle assembled by DIMO in Sri Lanka.

The vehicle has been in production at DIMO Vehicle Assembly Plant at Weliweriya Logistic Center, and the first batch of vehicles was ceremonially handed over to a group of customers at an event held at DIMO Weliweriya Logistic Center.

The occasion was graced by Mr. Ranjith Pandithage, Mr. Gahanath Pandithage, Mr. Vijitha Bandara, Mr. Sarath Algama, Mr. Suresh Gooneratne, Mr. Wijith Pushpawela, Mr. Rajeev Pandithage together with GMC Members & DIMO tribe members.
DIMO partners with Allianz to provide innovative insurance scheme to TATA customers

DIMO, a leading diversified conglomerate in Sri Lanka, together with Allianz, one of the largest insurance and financial service providers in the world, recently introduced a state-of-the-art motor insurance and claim settlement scheme designed exclusively for DIMO’s TATA customers.

The partnership is focused on assisting the customers to reduce costs incurred during conducting accident repairs through exemption of the owner’s payable portion for TATA vehicles within five years of date of manufacture. This innovative facility also offers all TATA customers of DIMO special insurance premium rates at the time of renewal of insurance. DIMO’s TATA customers will enjoy the utmost convenience and zero hassle as both DIMO and Allianz will coordinate all tasks from towing the vehicle to the nearest DIMO-TATA workshop, quick and efficient estimation and approval process, repairing of the vehicle according to exact manufacturer’s specifications, settlement of repair bills to handing over of the vehicle to the customer in original condition.

DIMO Chairman & Managing Director Mr. Ranjith Pandithage said, “This partnership will further assist us in offering an enhanced service for our valued customers. As a company, DIMO has always stood for fuelling the dreams and aspirations of the communities we serve in, and it is a pleasure to be able to offer an innovative insurance scheme at a time like this, in collaboration with Allianz.

Allianz Insurance Lanka Ltd. CEO Gany Subramaniam said, “We are extremely pleased to be partnering with DIMO to offer a customer-centric product, ensuring a vehicle is repaired and restored with minimum hassle. DIMO is recognised for providing a total solution in accident repair through state-of-the art technology, with trained and experienced professionals and the highest quality equipment. Our offering of unmatchable motor insurance benefits and coverage for DIMO customers is now further strengthened by this special package, assuring a smoother experience.”

As Sri Lanka’s only authorised distributor of TATA vehicles, DIMO offers the entire range of TATA Commercial Vehicles to suite the various mobility demands of local customers. This is backed by DIMO’s unparalleled after-sales care and over 8 decades of trust. All repairs are carried out according to the manufacturer’s guidelines by a team of highly skilled technicians using genuine TATA parts, special tools and equipment. DIMO guarantees that TATA vehicles will be returned to customers at optimal condition and performance after each repair or service.

In addition to the unique 24-hour roadside assistance service offered exclusively for TATA customers, DIMO operates through over 16 branches and over 500 dealers across the island to ensure a convenient and an efficient service.

Diesel Lab commences operations at Siyambalape

The DIMO Diesel Lab in Siyambalape was ceremonially opened on the 18th of May 2022. It will be undertaking pump related repairs and services of BOSCH, DELPHI, MICO, ZEXEL, DENSO and YANMAR brands.

Mr. Vijitha Bandara, Mr. Mahesh Karunarathne, Mr. Dinuk Peiris, Mr. Dinuk Peiris, Mr. Mahesh Karunarathne, Mr. Chinthaka Jayakody and Mr. Chathura Gunasekara together with DIMO Diesel Lab team participated at the opening ceremony.
DIMO together with Kalmar uplifts Sri Lanka’s port and inland container terminal operations

DIMO, a leading diversified conglomerate in Sri Lanka, and Kalmar, a global industry forerunner in port and inland container terminal automation and in energy-efficient container handling solutions, are geared to enhance and uplift local container terminal operations to the next level. This partnership reflects DIMO’s commitment to continuously fuelling the dreams and aspirations of the communities it serves in, as well as its dedication to making significant contributions to the local economy.

As the authorised dealer for Kalmar since 2018, DIMO supports the nation’s container operations by offering the wide portfolio of Kalmar products which are backed by DIMO’s value added services and unparalleled aftersales support. Kalmar offers a host of cargo handling solutions to ports, terminals and distribution centres, and heavy industry. While one in four container movements around the world is handled by a Kalmar Solution, through its extensive product portfolio, vast global network, and ability to enable the integration of different terminal processes, Kalmar manages to improve the efficiency of every movement it makes.

Mr. Chaminda Ranawana, Executive Director of DIMO who also oversees the Material Handling business of the group said, “The partnership we have established with Kalmar guarantees to uplift port and inland container terminal operations exponentially. As trade volumes increase and stricter environmental legislation is put in place, port and inland container terminal operators explore avenues to not only expand operations, but to also improve efficiency and sustainability. To meet these requirements and adhere to safety regulations, terminal operators are looking to automate and digitalise operations, and our partnership with Kalmar will be greatly beneficial to this process.”

DIMO recently handed over two Kalmar machines to Logistics International Limited (LIL) and South Asia Gateway Terminals (PVT) Ltd (SAGT) respectively.

DIMO handed over the latest Kalmar Double Container Handler DCG100-45 ED65 to LIL. The machine is equipped with a high-performance engine and transmission, and holds the capacity of lifting the weight of two empty containers at once. This feature saves time and increases productivity at the container depot, which in turn helps save operational costs. It has a lifting capacity of 10 tonnes for single or double empty containers and comes with a resettable Container Counter, while also featuring a high mounted cab of 600mm.

The dual access stairways on the Kalmar Double Container Handler offer great flexibility along with anti-slip platforms, handrails, and LED working lights to ensure the safety of operators. The in-built ‘Kalmar Insight’ Remote Monitoring System is offered with a one-year license. The machine also consists of a lockable fuel cap with a Hydraulic Pile Slope to accommodate sloping trailers.

At SAGT, DIMO was involved in commissioning the Kalmar Essential Reachstacker DRU45, which is capable of handling ISO 20’/40’ laden high cube containers in a 5 high and three deep stacks. The machine’s lifting capacity beneath the spreader is 45 tonnes and it is equipped with the Kalmar adjustable 20’ - 40’ spreader with a side shift of +/- 800mm.

Chlorination system for Matara Stage IV Water supply Project

DIMO, a leading diversified conglomerate in Sri Lanka, recently commenced work on implementing a chlorination system for the Matara Stage IV Water Supply Project, to facilitate the disinfection process. The project is funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and was implemented to provide the Matara District with safe drinking water.

With its vast expertise in Fluid Management, DIMO will provide a state-of-the-art GAS Chlorination System to disinfect the water supply. The system will inject controlled streams of chlorine solution to treat the water supply and will maintain residual chlorine in the distribution system to ensure safe drinking water at consumer outlets. This Gas Chlorination system supplied and installed by DIMO is fully automatically controlled and is capable of effectively catering to the demands received from the Supervisory Control & Data Acquisition (SCADA) system.
DIMO strengthens Board of Directors with the appointment of Ms. Dilrukshi Kurukulasuriya and Mr. Rajeev Pandithage as Executive Directors

DIMO, a leading diversified conglomerate in Sri Lanka, is proud to announce the addition of Ms. Dilrukshi Kurukulasuriya and Mr. Rajeev Pandithage as Executive Directors to its Board of Directors with effect from 30th May 2022. Ms. Dilrukshi Kurukulasuriya is the first female Director in history to be appointed to DIMO’s Board of Directors and Mr. Rajeev Pandithage is the youngest member to serve on the Board of Directors.

Ms. Dilrukshi Kurukulasuriya until her appointment as a Director, was holding the position of Chief Human Resources Officer of DIMO. She is also a Director of DIMO Industries Ltd., and DIMO Travels Ltd., which are fully owned subsidiaries of DIMO. She is an Attorney at Law, who commenced her career with the private Bar and changed her career path to Human Resources Development. She is extremely passionate towards capacity building for organisations & empowering women and has over 20 years of experience ranging from family-owned companies to Fortune 500 companies & conglomerates. She is certified in Gender Studies and International Labour Standards from the Gender Academy ILO International Training Centre.

She was also the recipient of an award at the Top 50 Professional and Career Woman’s Awards, which was hosted by Women in Management in 2017, and is recognised as one of the ‘Top 100 Global HR Minds’. She joined DIMO in 2008 and was invited to the Group Management Committee in 2012.

Mr. Rajeev Pandithage joined DIMO in 2011 as Management Trainee and his career has seen him grow through the ranks over the years. He has held multiple positions within the company including, Business Unit Manager, Deputy General Manager and General Manager for Mercedes-Benz, Jeep, and Chrysler businesses. He was invited to the Group Management Committee in 2018 and prior to his appointment as a Director, he held the position of Chief Operating Officer for Mobility, Agri Machinery and Agricultural Exports.

He holds a Bachelor of Business and Commerce Degree in Management & Economics from Monash University and has successfully completed a Management Program from Komatsu Global Training Institute, Tokyo. Additionally, he is also Certified Qualified Manager accredited by the Mercedes-Benz Global Training Institute. He is an avid business management professional with extensive experience in automotive sales and aftersales management and has seen the growth of Mercedes-Benz, Jeep, Chrysler, and Mahindra in Sri Lanka.

DIMO unveils 2021/22 Annual Report

DIMO recently unveiled its Annual Report for year 2021/22, portraying how the company has harnessed the opportunities arising in Sri Lanka, amongst the different sectors that the company operates in, while firmly aligning to its sustainability agenda.

The Group’s revenue grew by 22% to end at Rs. 37,507 million from Rs. 30,819 million in the previous year. The primary contributors to this performance were a 30% increase in turnover in the Agriculture segment, a 27% increase in revenue in the After Sale Services segment, and a 33% increase in Retail operations.

The focal factor of DIMO’s 2021/22 Annual Report was featuring Sri Lanka’s first independently assured statement of ESG performance, which evaluates environmental, social and governance impact by the organization. This is a comprehensive statement of ESG performance with notes that explain the basis of the preparation and measurement approach. This allows readers to evaluate the ESG performance in a more reliable manner together with transparency on the measurement approach.

DIMO sees Sri Lanka as a land of vast opportunities to grow, and corporates have the potential to harness them in the years to come. DIMO has continued faith in the hardiness, resilience, and resourcefulness of the people, and will continue to explore the countless opportunities available within the shores of Sri Lanka and beyond. Through this latest annual report, DIMO warmly invites all stakeholders, including the valued investors, to join hands to thrive together, as one nation.
DIMO Honoured with ISO 45001:2018 Certification

DIMO, a leading diversified conglomerate in Sri Lanka, was recently honoured with the coveted ISO 45001:2018 certification by Det Norske Veritas (DNV), the international accredited registrar and classification society. DNV is an independent expert in assurance and risk management, and this certification further assures and recognizes DIMO’s capability of providing a high standard in occupational health and safety.

Mr. Ranjith Pandithage, Chairman & Managing Director of DIMO, commented on this momentous occasion. “The strategic decision for the organization to implement an Occupational Health & Safety Management System (OHSMS), was made to ensure that the physical and mental well-being of the employees at work is continuously enhanced. The system minimises the risk of harm to the people that may be affected by work related activities. DIMO is committed to fuelling the dreams and aspirations of the communities it serves in, including its own employees, fondly known as the DIMO Tribe. DIMO ensures that the members of the DIMO Tribe remain safe and healthy, and firmly understands the need to improve their morale which in turn leads to exceptional performance. This certification certainly cements our dedication to ensuring that the staff is always well looked after.”

Mr. Suresh Gooneratne speaks at Colloquium of Good Governance Academy

Mr. Suresh Gooneratne CFO/Executive Director of DIMO addressed the 7th Colloquium of the Good Governance Academy which was held recently. Experts from across the world discussed and evaluated various approaches taken by global standard setters to link financial reports with ‘non-financial’/sustainability reports.

Mr. Gooneratne was the only invitee from Sri Lanka to represent this significant occasion and he educated the participants on the topic of “Integrated Reporting and the Anatomy of the Corporate”.

DITEC Water Pump Assembly Plant commenced operations

The New DITEC Water Pump Assembly Plant was ceremonially opened on the 28/04/2022 by Mr Gahanath Pandithage. Mr. Vijitha Bandara, Mr. Mahesh Karunaratne, Mr. Dinuk Peiris, Mr. Belinda Weerasinghe, Mr. Kumar Rodrigo and the DIMO Retail Team Participated at this opening Ceremony.

The DITEC Water Assembly Plant is located in the DIMO Logistic Centre.

Several types of pumps being introduced, covering farming, domestic and submersible pump range.
DIMO marks another milestone by establishing a marine workshop at the Dikkowita Ceylon Fisheries Harbour

DIMO Marine Solutions inaugurated its first Marine Workshop at the Dikkowita Ceylon Fisheries Harbour on the 28th of July 2022. The workshop is fully equipped with all necessary tools to undertake engine related repairs and services of day & multiday fishing boats.

Mr. Gahanath Pandithage, Mr. Mahesh Karunaratne; Mr. Rakhita Gunasekera; Mr. Dinuk Peiris; Mr. Chathura Gunasekara and the members of the DIMO Tribe together with the main stakeholders of Ceylon Fisheries Harbour participated at the opening ceremony. The complete project was spearheaded by Mr. Ravin Perera.

DIMO-MTU Division relocates

The DIMO-MTU Division was relocated and commenced its operations on the 26th of July 2022. New office is located in front of the DIMO Head Office. Operations related with Industrial, Marine, Refrigeration & Railway will be carried out through the new location, delivering a consistent service for the customers.

Mr. Gahanath Pandithage Mr. Vijitha Bandara, Mr. Mahesh Karunaratne; Mr. Rakhita Gunasekera; Mr. Dinuk Peiris; Mr. Roshan Fernando; Mr. Navin Seneviratne; Mr. Chathura Gunasekara and the members of the DIMO Tribe, together with the teams at DIMO Industrial Engineering Solutions, Marine Solutions, Refrigeration Solutions & Railway Solutions participated at the opening ceremony.
DIMO’s colossal victory as a Great Place To Work for the 10th year in a row

A journey of continuous learning, conscious efforts to excel and an ever-growing urge to enhance the experience of our tribe members, along with the Tribe’s everlasting trust, have earned DIMO recognition as a Great Place To Work for the 10th consecutive year. Signifying a decade’s achievement, the Great Place To Work organization has awarded DIMO the laureate title of ‘Legends 10’.

Over the past 10 years, by engaging in the Great Place To Work study, we have been able to dive deep into employee sentiments and curate best in class people practices to ensure optimal engagement at work. The success of these people practices largely amount to our leaders’ vision & direction and the Tribe’s ability to live by DIMO’s values. As an organization DIMO has overcome many challenges in the past 10 years and has undoubtedly held a stature of resilience. This does not just depict the extraordinary capabilities of our tribe but their potential to fuel DIMO’s growth and retain the title of being a great place to work. Therefore, this is indeed, a moment of pride and joy for all of us at DIMO.

DIMO Empowers its Internal Trainer Pool

Many of us possess the ability to acquire knowledge. However, it takes a special skill to be able to impart this knowledge effectively. On the 27th of May 2022, 23 of our immensely talented Tribe members were certified as internal trainers. There is no doubt that the Tribe is moving forward from strength to strength and this occasion bears testament to this. The employee engagement and transformation team had the pleasure of partnering with Luminary Learning Solutions for a four-day program that equipped and empowered each participant with the tools and capabilities required to drive a learning culture within the organization. These individuals will play an integral part in rolling out identified training programs across the organization and as knowledge champions, they will also create awareness and educate employees on topical matters. As an organization that firmly believes in investing in the development of its employees to support their personal and professional growth, we take pride in knowing that these individuals are passionate about training, and congratulate our newly certified trainers as they embark on an exciting journey ahead.
The festive season was welcomed with ardour this year as smiles donned the faces of all those who gathered in their traditional attire at the Head Office on the 8th of April to celebrate the Sinhala and Tamil New year 2022.

The day’s events commenced with the lighting of a traditional oil lamp and an invitation to partake in a beautifully laid out breakfast spread, complete with a variety of traditional food. The Tribe enjoyed several festive games such as the lime and spoon race, ‘kana mutti bindeema’, avurudu kumari and kumaraya contest, ‘banis kema’ to name a few.

Our Tribe members were given an opportunity to sell their hand made arts and crafts, food and other confectionary items to encourage their many talents outside the workplace. In the light of all that is taking place in our country today, the sentiments at the event were a testament to the true spirit of a new year and all that it represents such as a new beginning, hope and prosperity.
In line with its objective of developing Vocational Education in Sri Lanka, DIMO, a leading diversified conglomerate, has ventured into manufacturing training equipment via its vocational education arm, the DIMO Academy for Technical Skills (DATS).

It recently completed a project for Sri Lanka German Training Institute in Kilinochchi (SLGTI), funded by GIZ. The project involved the supply of cutaway models of a wide range of gearboxes including hybrid and Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT) which caters to automobile related courses. Working automobile climate control and gasoline fuel injection simulators along with a special tabletop wheel alignment parameter simulator were also supplied for this project. Technical data, user manuals and operational training were provided as well.

In addition to training equipment for automobile training courses, DATS also provides training equipment for the building services field.

DATS entered the training equipment manufacturing realm in Sri Lanka as training models and simulators, most of which are European, are extremely costly which limits the practical sessions in the vocational training courses. While there are cheaper options available, the quality and finish are not on par with global standards. As such, DATS, with its expertise and access to the latest technology, now offers customized training solutions to local institutes.

A leader in the Vocational Education Training (VET) sector over the last 30 years, DATS has attained great experience developing its own training facilities with the latest industry developments and on par with international standards. As the provider of German Dual VET, DATS has always lived up to the high standards of German craftsmanship.

Ranjith Pandithage, Chairman & Managing Director of DIMO, said “Vocational Education is vital to the development of country’s economy, and it is a part of DIMO’s sustainability agenda which is a significant step in our efforts to continue fuelling the dreams and aspirations of the communities we serve in.”

With its long-term vision for the nation and its youth, DATS hopes to continue promoting its capabilities to VET institutes, universities, and schools as a provider of high quality, highly customizable training aggregates, at a considerably lower cost in comparison to those that are imported.

Over the years, DATS has offered multiple training programs to a variety of clientele on a wide range of topics to elevate vocational education standards. In terms of training the trainers and instructors, DATS recently hosted a program for the SLGTI for the second time and hosted another for the Ceylon-German Technical Training Institute (CGTTI) in Moratuwa, for the first time. The training programs include providing up-to-date knowledge to the instructors in the latest automotive technology together with new teaching techniques & tools. Technical areas covered include Occupational Health & Safety, Diesel Engine Management, Petrol Engine Management, Automatic Transmission, Suspension Systems, and Air Conditioning systems. The training sessions were conducted by instructors from DATS Colombo and Jaffna, with the support of DIMO’s very own Health & Safety Officer. DATS constantly updates the training syllabus by focusing on the latest developments, in order to ensure international standards for the valued local students.

There is an immense potential amongst a considerable portion of the nation’s population for the development of skilled individuals to assist in reviving the local economy. Additionally, the potential of exporting skilled workforce to gain foreign remittances is greatly enhanced.

The DATS, currently located in Colombo and Jaffna, was established in 1990 in collaboration with Daimler AG Germany, with the aim of providing world-class vocational training in the automotive sector. In 2018, DATS partnered with the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka to offer German certified vocational qualifications in Sri Lanka.
DIMO continues commitment to environmental sustainability and protecting marine life

DIMO, a leading conglomerate in Sri Lanka, constantly engineers marine environment protection initiatives, aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which focus on ‘Life Below Water’ and ‘Life on Land’. DIMO has partnered with like-minded organizations to ensure successful implementation of these projects, which are carried out as a part of its sustainability agenda, identifying the dire need to protect our marine environment to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.

Mr. Ranjith Pandithage, Chairman & Managing Director of DIMO, stated, “Initiatives such as environment and biodiversity protection is driven by great passion and DIMO is proud to be at the forefront of these initiatives. DIMO continues to commit to protect the marine environment and preserve it for the future generations while fuelling the dreams and aspirations of individuals by focusing on uplifting the livelihoods of nearby communities as well.”

DIMO first ventured into such a marine environment protection initiative back in 2012 with the ‘Panama Project’, which focused on turtle conservation. Sea turtles, while playing a key role in the marine ecosystem at a global level, are facing many threats such as illegal trading and climate change. These endangered species are prone to extinct unless immediate measures are taken to conserve them and their nesting grounds.

Such has been a major concern in the stretch from Panama to Okanda which is a famous nesting ground for mainly Olive Ridley (90%), Green turtle (5%) and Loggerhead turtles (5%). DIMO, together with the Wildlife & Ocean Resource Conservation (WORC), carried out several timely initiatives and the company was able to release more than 150,000 hatchlings to open water. In order to protect the eggs from natural predators, DIMO took the initiative to build a cage, with an emphasis on the safety of the nests, covering them where the turtle hatchlings could come out through the gaps of the cage. In addition, DIMO also offers a steady wage to the appointed members of the community for looking after the eggs, thereby empowering the community, and discouraging illegal activities within the locality. Taking another step forward, the community was also enlightened with useful knowledge on how they can contribute to protect the turtle nests. The awareness programs were especially helpful for the children and their parents to refrain from collecting turtle eggs leading to them being damaged and also to pledge to protect the turtle nests.

The ‘Life to Reef’ project, another impact project launched by DIMO, was initiated in 2017 aiming to restore beautiful coral reefs in the Bonavista Reef at Rumassala near Galle. In its journey so far, several coral restoration techniques have been used, including planting corals on cement structures, metal frames and nursery racks which have been deposited by divers at the bottom of the sea. Since the project’s inception 5 years ago, a total of 3,500 nubbins have been planted while also restoring 10 reefs with nursery panels and steel racks at the sea bottom, promising continuous coral conservation activities. With these restoration techniques the project has restored nearly 4 acres of coral reef. The Bonavista reef was identified as one of the highest biologically diverse coral reefs. However, 95% of its live coral cover was destroyed due to the El-Nino caused in 2016. DIMO initiated the Life to Reef project aiming to restore the coral cover as naturally as possible, with the technical support from WORC. With this revival process, Rumassala has developed again as a major tourist destination, creating several income generating opportunities for the community.

Protecting the country’s beautiful beach stretch is another important aspect in marine environment protection under DIMO’s sustainability agenda, which indeed supports the tourism industry and recreational activities for the public. DIMO stepped forward to fund a beach cleaning project in the Dikkowita area, which is carried out in collaboration with the Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA), the Department of Samurdhi Development and Biodiversity Sri Lanka (BSL). Under this Public-Private-Community partnership, DIMO has funded for 2 beach stretches - Dikkowita (800m) and Dikkowita to New Bridge (800m). Post the completion of this year-long project, to ensure its continuity, a selected family will be mandated with the task of cleaning each of the beach stretches and will be financially assisted for their contribution.

While BSL and MEPA provide directions to make the best use of the collected waste, the beach cleaning initiatives will open up opportunities for the nearby communities to recycle the trash as well. Through its hands-on experience, DIMO continues to create awareness amongst the communities on the immense benefits of recycling even a small amount of trash.

DIMO, together with its public and private sector partners, remains committed to engaging in environmental and biodiversity initiatives to help create and conserve a sustainable environment for generations to come.

DIMO volunteers for Grandpass Community Kitchen

DIMO Nature Club volunteered at the Community Kitchen which was held on 14th of June 2022 at St. Joseph’s Church, Grandpass. The Community Kitchen is an initiative by Sarvodaya and Singularity Sri Lanka. DIMO Nature Club volunteers were able to serve dinner for around 1600 – 1700 community in the area.
DIMO celebrates World Environment Day promoting home gardening

Commemorating the World Environment Day this year company provided its Footprints home gardening kits to DIMO tribe members at a concessionary rate to promote home gardening among them.

The company also believes this initiative will help tribe members to start growing their own vegetables at home with their family members while creating stronger relationships among themselves and with nature. DIMO believes that creating and enabling experiences that are closer to nature can help to foster these bonds and create deeper and more meaningful connections within the family.

DIMO supports communities near DIMO 800

Supporting nearby communities of DIMO 800 premises, the company distributed dry rations to low-income families at Nagalam Street on 29th of June 2022. Company believes that it is vital to support neighbouring communities during these difficult times, to foster a positive culture and help the community to thrive as a whole. The project was initiated with the support from Sri Lanka Police.

“DIMO Ability” Internal Campaign

“DIMO Ability” internal campaign to create awareness among DIMO Tribe on the importance of aligning their job roles towards a sustainable working culture was launched recently by the Sustainability Team at DIMO 800 with the participation of DIMO management.

With this initiative Company expects to redefine its sustainability agenda while reinforcing sustainability in the DIMO culture.

DIMO presents the revolutionary renewable energy solutions at the UNGC Network Sri Lanka Climate Emergency Task Force meeting

DIMO presented the Microgrid concept and its latest and Sri Lanka’s first cutting-edge industrial solution, DI-SOLAR at the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Network Sri Lanka Climate Emergency Task Force meeting held recently.

The UNGC Network Sri Lanka facilitates corporates in the country who are working towards achieving the global sustainability goals.

As a country, we are currently facing an energy crisis and the industries are facing numerous challenges in continuing their operations smoothly. In this context, DIMO’s DI-SOLAR solution was embraced with immense interest by all the corporate sector participants in the meeting, especially due to its unique ability of enabling industries to fully utilize their solar power during power outages and thereby reducing the fuel consumption of generators by 50% - 70%.

Microgrids are identified as a sophisticated system which has the capacity to operate either independently or with the national grid and is perfect for generating power for a building complex or an island. DIMO’s expertise together with the successful completion of Sri Lanka’s first ever microgrid was also highlighted at the meeting.
Partnership With BSL & MEPA

DIMO as a responsible company entered into a partnership with Biodiversity Sri Lanka (BSL) and Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA) on a Private-Public-Community project. Under this project, DIMO funds two beach cleaning sites in Dikkowita area.

BSL and MEPA provide directions to make the best use of the collected waste of these sites while beach cleaning initiatives will open up opportunities for the nearby communities to recycle the trash while also generating an income.

The initial technical training on collecting and identifying different types of plastics and other waste was conducted by BSL to the community with the support from MEPA, on 28th of June 2022 at Dikkowita (Ela-kanda).

DIMO Nature Club

Company launched DIMO Nature Club as an initiative to engage our DIMO Tribe Members in the wildlife conservation and social welfare projects. Mr. Ranjith Pandithage was the first tribe member to obtain the membership of DIMO Nature Club and Tribe members now can register for DIMO Nature Club through contacting the Sustainability Team.

Foreign Operations Team of DIMO upgrades rural school in Uganda

DIMO foreign operations team came together to upgrade the standards of a rural school in Mbarara district, Uganda.

The team came across a less privileged school in Mbarara District of Uganda while working on the electrification lines of that area and found that this school has only one classroom and the children who study there didn’t even have the basic equipment and they were doing their studies on the floor, with real difficult facilities. DIMO team, using their own funds arranged to provide desks, chairs and other stationaries required for these children to carry out their studies smoothly. The making of chairs & tables was completely done by DIMO team, and the children and their parents were delighted to see the new classroom. Further, DIMO team arranged a special lunch for the children and their parents on the day of handing over their new classroom.

DIMO foreign operation team look forward to provide the assistance required for this school in future too.