



**INSTITUTE OF BANKING AND FINANCE
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

Newsletter

ISSUE
37
2024



Pg 1: FEATURE ARTICLE: Cybersecurity, The Caribbean's Newest Buzz-Word

Pg 3: Educational Programme Opportunities

Pg 6: Workshop Highlights & Upcoming Training

Cybersecurity, The Caribbean's Newest Buzz-Word

by: Mr. Nirvan Benimadho, Attorney-at-law and CEO of Supernova Technologies Ltd.



In the heart of our vibrant Caribbean region, as we embrace the digital revolution, the importance of robust cyber security measures has never been more critical. The digital era brings unparalleled opportunities for growth, innovation, and connectivity, but it also exposes our businesses, from the smallest startups to the largest corporations, to the myriad risks lurking in the cyber domain.

Our journey towards digitalization is well underway. The Caribbean's embrace of technology has transformed traditional business models, improved access to international markets, and streamlined services, thereby enhancing competitiveness and economic resilience. However, this digital transition also means that our data and digital assets are increasingly exposed to cyber threats. Cyberattacks do not discriminate; they affect businesses of all sizes, jeopardizing customer trust, company reputation, and financial stability.

The nature of cyber threats is constantly evolving, with hackers employing sophisticated techniques to exploit vulnerabilities. Ransomware, phishing, and data breaches are but a few of the myriad challenges we face. The consequences of such attacks are far-reaching, including loss of sensitive information, financial loss, and even potential legal implications for failing to protect customer data. In response to these challenges, implementing comprehensive cyber security strategies is not optional but a necessity. This means going beyond simple antivirus software to embrace a holistic approach that includes technological solutions, employee training, and robust legal frameworks. Our businesses must understand the cyber risks specific to their operations and invest in appropriate defences to mitigate these threats.

The responsibility for cyber security does not rest solely on the shoulders of individual businesses but is a collective one that involves governments, private sector entities, and individuals. Public-private partnerships can play a pivotal role in enhancing our region's cyber defence capabilities. Through collaboration, we can share knowledge, resources, and best practices, thereby strengthening our collective resilience against cyber threats.

As a region, we must also work towards establishing comprehensive cyber security regulations that set clear standards for data protection and cyber security practices. Such legal frameworks can provide guidance for businesses on their responsibilities and the measures they must take to secure their digital assets and customer data. Compliance with these regulations should be viewed not as a burden but as a vital component of a business's social contract to protect its customers and the integrity of the digital economy.

As we forge ahead in our digital journey, the stakes are high, and the time to act is now. Businesses are urged to prioritize cyber security, investing in the necessary tools, training, and policies to protect their digital assets. Governments must also play their part, by enacting and enforcing regulations that support a safe and secure digital environment.

Let us embrace this challenge as an opportunity to strengthen our businesses, secure our data, and safeguard our region's digital future. The journey towards comprehensive cyber security is a marathon, not a sprint, but together, we can

achieve a safer, more resilient digital Caribbean. Through collaboration, innovation, and a steadfast commitment to cyber security, we can protect our digital horizon and ensure that the Caribbean remains a thriving, dynamic, and secure region in the digital era.



“Compliance with these regulations should be viewed not as a burden but as a vital component of a business's social contract to protect its customers and the integrity of the digital economy.”



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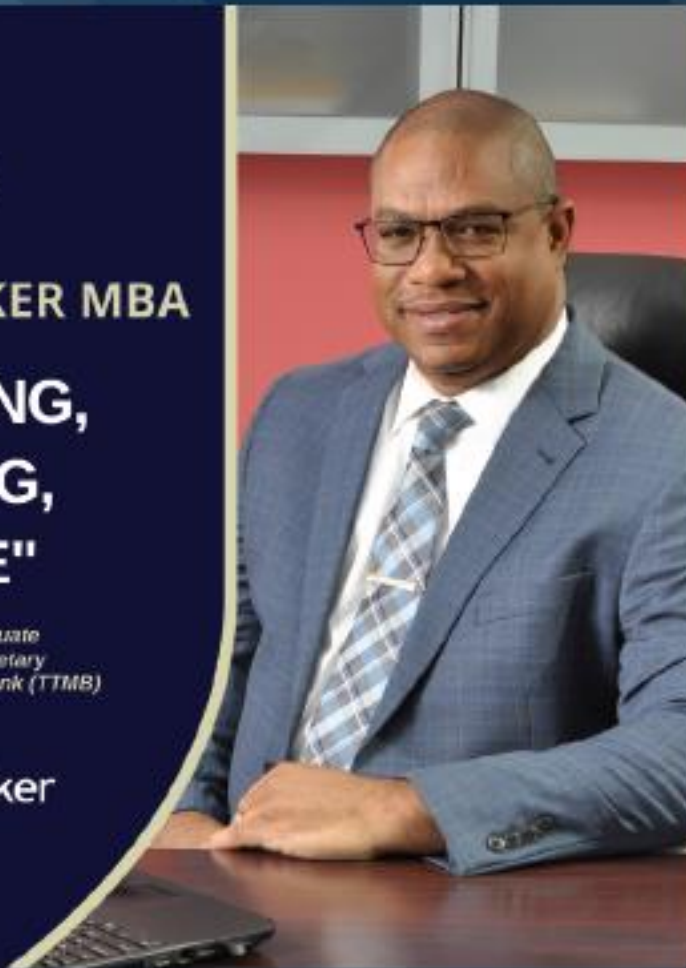
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*Brent Mc Fee, CBMBA Graduate
Chief Operating Officer/Secretary
Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Bank (TTMB)*

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Diploma in Banking (DIB) Programme

EXAMINATION PERIOD:
September 28th to October 21st, 2024

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
July 26th, 2024



TARGET AUDIENCE:

The DIB Programme is ideal for anyone interested in pursuing a career in Banking.

BENEFITS:

- ▶ DIB graduates without CAPE/GCE Advanced level passes are also eligible for admission to the UWI St. Augustine to pursue any undergraduate degree in the Faculty of Social Sciences.
- ▶ Obtain an industry-recognized professional qualification that can improve opportunities for career advancement.
- ▶ Self-study format, beneficial for busy professionals.

Professional Certificate For Financial Advisors (Cert. FA) Programme

EXAMINATION DATE:
September 28th, 2024

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
July 26th, 2024



An internationally accredited self study programme that equips finance professionals with the necessary skills required to provide sound financial advice to clients.

Become specialized in one of these three (3) fields

BANKING

MUTUAL FUNDS

SECURITIES



Chartered Banker

Accredited programme

Ideal for busy professionals!



Chartered Banker
Accredited programme



Certified Credit Professional (CCP)

This certification programme is accredited by the Chartered Banker Institute (CBI) and is offered via blended learning. Modules are delivered by UK and local tutors. Get certified in as little as 9 months! Upon completion of this programme, Certified Credit Professionals will have a comprehensive overview of the various problems and challenges that financial institutions experience in the areas of credit and lending.

"I strongly recommend the CCP programme to anyone interested in pursuing a career in the field of credit and lending"

Mr. Jonathan Superville

2021 CCP Graduate

Credit Associate Manager, Island Finance Trinidad

Registration is now open for our 2024 intake

Limited 15% scholarship available

Contact us for registration details and our payment plans



Chartered Banker
Accredited programme



Certified International Risk Manager (CIRM)

This programme is created to assist banking and finance professionals to develop competencies in international risk management. The Certified International Risk Manager Programme (CIRM) is internationally accredited by the Chartered Banker Institute (CBI). Upon completion, CIRM Graduates will be capable of analysing a variety of enterprise wide risks in order to make sound risk mitigation strategy decisions.

"The CIRM programme is all-encompassing and provides a panoramic view of risk. It espouses, remaining relevant and well-equipped for individuals to make more informed decisions relating to assessing and managing risks."

Mrs. Beverly Richards

2021 CIRM Graduate

Credit Manager, Risk Management, Republic Bank Limited

Contact us for Registration details, Discount opportunities and our payment plans

Let's hear from our Graduates...

Diploma in Banking (DIB) Programme Graduate Testimonial



Mrs. Yamuna Mohess
Business Analyst
Republic Bank Limited

I am elated to have successfully completed the Diploma in Banking Program at IBF. IBF convenient schedules provided me with the opportunity of furthering my education whilst performing my full time job as a Business Analyst at Republic Bank Limited.

It is evident that this course is appropriately paced for the adult learner and more so for anyone who may have additional responsibilities outside the office as I did, being a wife and mother of 2 wonderful boys.

I must say that pursuing this program was indeed one of the best decisions I could have ever made for myself and my professional development. It was a very comprehensive and robust experience that definitely added value to my proficient and academic experience.

The content of the program was challenging enough without being overwhelming, and I was always stimulated to learn. This program has definitely strengthened my skills and confidence as a Banker and as an individual.

Professional Certificate for Financial Advisors (Cert. FA.) Top Banking Specialization Graduate 2023 Testimonial

“ The Cert. FA program offered by IBF gives a balanced and controlled avenue to explore a relatively challenging field of study in a manageable and comprehensive way. It was designed for success, to achieve high standards in the comfort of your own space via the self-study method.

Undertaking the self-study route, established a framework of approach, consistent with the goals and parameters I got to set and upkeep for myself, based on my time and efforts. It never disrupted my work-life balance. It only added to my future time as the content of this course imbued me with a firm introduction to the banking and finance field, conducive with my desired field of work.

I will highly recommend this course to anyone seeking initiation or advancement in the world of finance. Discipline is the key! Start your journey to greatness with IBF. You will not regret it. ”



Ms. Sasha Thomas
Cert. FA. Banking Graduate 2023
Senior Deposit Clerk, First Citizens

IBF's Workshop Highlights

Public Speaking & Presentation Skills Training Workshop

Dates: 9th & 10th, 16th & 17th and 30th & 31st January, 2024

Audience: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Summary:

This workshop introduced concepts that are integral for impactful and highly effective public speaking and presentations. Participants learned appropriate preparation techniques, to overcome their apprehensions towards speaking in public to become more confident and effective speakers/presenters.

Understanding the Art of Sales: Selling, Upselling & Cross-Selling Training Workshop

Dates: 22nd & 23rd January, 21st & 29th February and 20th & 21st March, 2024

Audience: TECU Credit Union Cooperative Society Limited

Summary:

The workshop aimed to enhance participants' selling skills, behaviours, and confidence, enabling them to sell products, upskill, and cross-sell services, satisfy client needs, and build long-term customer relationships.

Debt Recovery and Delinquency Management Training Workshop

Dates: 27th & 28th, 2024

Audience: Banking and Finance Professionals

Summary: This workshop provided participants with an overview of the skills necessary for effective debt collection.

IBF's Upcoming Training Workshops

Women in Leadership Conference

Dates: May 14th & 15th, 2024

Facilitator: Joel-Ann Cook-Walcott

Time: 8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Cost: \$5000.00 plus VAT

CPD Hours: 12

Project Management: Key Skills for a Professional's Toolkit

Date: June 21st, 2024

Facilitator: Dr. Joseph Khan

Time: 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Cost: \$2000.00 plus VAT

CPD Hours: 5.5

A - Z in Mortgage Financing Training Workshop

Dates: July 16th & 17th, 2024

Facilitators: Mario Young, Mark Farrel & Richard Beckles

Time: 8:30 A.M - 4:00 P.M

Cost: \$3000.00 plus VAT / CPD Hours: 12

IBF's List of Training Topics

Soft

- Administrative Professionals Training
- Boosting Productivity
- Business Writing and Communication
- Change Management
- Coaching and Mentoring
- Customer Service
- Impactful Leadership - Creating Impact from anywhere in the Organization
- Leading at Every Level: Leadership Program for Managers and Supervisors

Technical

- Advanced Treasury Management
- Analysing Financial Statements
- Blockchain and Cryptocurrencies
- Credit Assessment and Proposal Writing
- Debt Recovery and Delinquency Management
- Enterprise IT Security and Cyber Security in the Cloud
- Anti-Money Laundering/Counter Financing of Terrorism
- Essentials of Finance for Business Decision Making
- Enterprise Risk Management
- Financial Planning
- Foreign Exchange and Derivatives
- Investment Management
- Portfolio Management
- Project Management

Our Team



Chief Executive Officer:
Ms. Marsha John



Training & Business Development Officer:
Ms. Camille Applewhaite



Quality Assurance & Compliance Officer:
Mrs. Cassi Mc Kie



Administrative Officer/ Programme Coordinator:
Ms. Sharia Ahamad

Contact Us

Office Hours: Monday - Friday
from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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