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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**2022 Trukai Fun Run launched**

Team PNG’s main fundraising event, the annual Trukai Fun Run (TFR) was launched today in Port Moresby.

Papua New Guinea Olympic Committee (PNGOC) President Sir John Dawanincura and Mrs Maryanne Tom, Marketing Manager of Trukai Industries Limited (TIL) officially launched the event.

The annual Fun Run event is a PNG Olympic Committee initiative, which commenced 39 years ago in 1983.

Being the PNGOC’s largest fundraising event for Team PNG, funds raised go towards helping Team PNG attend various international sporting events. All Funds raised this year will go towards sending Team PNG to the 2022 Saipan Pacific Mini Games in the Northern Marianas in June and the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, United Kingdom in July.

CEO of Trukai Industries Mr. Alan Preston when commenting on this partnership said Trukai has been the major sponsor of the Fun Run since 2000 marking its 22nd year.

*“We are proud to continue this partnership as it signifies our continuous commitment to the development of sports in PNG and demonstrates our support for our athletes and our country,”* said Mr. Preston.

Trukai’s Marketing Manager Maryanne Tom reiterated this support expressing Trukai’s further commitment.

*“We are further committed to this cause by announcing the purchase and our donation of 50,000 Fun Run t-shirts for this year’s fundraising drive. All proceeds raised from the sale of the t-shirts will be donated to Team PNG to send our athletes to the Pacific Mini Games and the Commonwealth Games”* said Mrs. Tom.

Sir John thanked Trukai Industries Limited for their long term commitment and support to the event and Team PNG over the last twenty-years and made a special mention of Trukai’s continued support despite the challenges of the pandemic over the last two (2) years.

*“We are fortunate and grateful for the continued support from Trukai over the last 22 years which has enabled us as a non-government and a not-for profit organisation to send Team PNG contingents to consecutive follow-on games of the Pacific Games, Commonwealth and Olympic Games”,* a thankful Sir John said during the Launch.

*“On that note, we are tremendously grateful for the valuable and continued support especially during these challenging times which has greatly affected the economies of the world, including PNG”, he added.*

The launch today covered the revealing of the 2022 Trukai Fun Run shirt designs featuring a Niupela Pasin message - ‘Reduce Your Risk of Covid 19’ and were happily modeled by current Team PNG athletes.

While the physical fun run event is restricted by the current blanket measures imposed on mass congregation of people over 100 due to the coronavirus, other fixtures of the event will still go ahead. Participants can expect to buy a shirt and win some prizes.

Trukai Industries is again sponsoring 50,000 shirts this year which will be sold at the new price of K15.00.

The shirts will go on sale at the annual Trukai Fun Run Auctions to be held in Lae on 24th March at the Lae Yacht Club and in Port Moresby on 31st March at the APEC Haus. Shirts will also be sold through approved retail partners.

Keeping with the event’s tradition, organisations that purchase shirts have the option of adding their branding onto the shirts and donate to a school of their choice.

The receiving school can re-sell the shirts at a price of not more than K15 to interested buyers whilst funds raised are kept by the school to assist them in their school projects.

Interested organisations wanting more information on the Trukai Fun Run and how to be involved in the auctions can contact Miss Sangiawi Singut, Marketing & Events Coordinator at the Papua New Guinea Olympic Committee on 323 1499, 325 1411 or e-mail events@pngoc.org.pg.

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