

# Media Release

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## TWO MORE PNG BIOMEDICAL TECHNICIANS HEADED FOR TRAINING IN THE US

Biomedical technicians Phillip Kandaki and Onda Kupri have headed for the United States where they will spend the next six months participating in a biomedical equipment repair training program in Dallas, Texas thanks to the PNG LNG Project, operated by Esso Highlands Limited.

These two technicians, from Kundiawa Hospital and Mount Hagen Hospital respectively, will participate in the Medisend International Biomedical Equipment Repair Training program, where they will expand both their theoretical and practical knowledge of maintaining and repairing a range of complex medical equipment.

Both Philip and Onda have more than 30 years of experience between them as biomedical technicians, and said they considered this training program as recognition of the importance of their role.

Onda said the training will take their skills to the next level.

"We are appreciative of Esso Highlands Limited for selecting us to attend this program and consider this a privileged opportunity to be trained at one of the world's best institutions," he said.

Esso Highlands Limited Managing Director Peter Graham said he was pleased to see more technicians having the opportunity to learn vital skills through the program.

"We are pleased to support Phillip and Onda for the training program, which is also being attended by other trainees from around the world," Mr Graham said.

"What's most exciting about this program is the flow-on effects that their communities will receive when they return with their new skills. This training not only provides Philip and Onda with a wonderful development opportunity, but means that entire communities can benefit from newly-repaired medical equipment that was previously not working because there was nobody with the technical know-how to repair it."

Mr Graham said this was a specialised area and Philip and Onda were the second pair of biomedical technicians from PNG to attend the course, following the recent return of Tobias Gual and Sam Owil of Mendi Hospital. Tobias and Sam returned to PNG in June this year after attending the program which improved their knowledge and skills for repairing and maintaining hospital equipment ranging from small suction equipment to X-ray machines.

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*Participating interests include Esso Highlands as operator (33.2 percent), Oil Search Limited (29.0 percent), the National Petroleum Company of PNG (PNG Government, 16.6 percent), Santos Limited (13.5 percent), JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration (4.7 percent), Mineral Resources Development Company (PNG landowners, 2.8 percent) and Petromin PNG Holdings Limited (0.2 percent). Visit [pnglng.com](http://pnglng.com) for more information about the project.*

### **Photos are available**

Media Contact: Rebecca Arnold

Phone: + (675) 309 7071

Email: [rebecca.a.arnold@exxonmobil.com](mailto:rebecca.a.arnold@exxonmobil.com)