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CAMINEX
Copperbelt · Agricultural · Mining
Industrial · Networking · Enterprise

28TH – 30TH MAY 2024
Kitwe Showgrounds

P. 09. COMPREHENSIVE LUBRICANT RANGE FOR SURFACE AND UNDERGROUND MINING

ISSN 2600101-2

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We deliver international quality industry updates to our readers, along with fresh local news. We offer you a unique opportunity to gain maximum market penetration by combining with premier mining and construction expos in Southern Africa. We partner with major local and international exhibitions and conferences, which increases our distribution and your exposure.

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FQM'S S3 EXPANSION PROJECT: A BEACON OF PROSPERITY FOR SOLWEZI

In the heart of Solwezi, a mining transformation is underway, promising more than just economic growth. First Quantum Mines PLC's S3 Expansion Project at Kansanshi Mine is not merely extending the mine's lifespan but is becoming a catalyst for positive change in the local community.

Anthony Mukutuma, representing FQM, emphasized the project's commitment to the community.

"We're not just extending the mine's life; we're investing in the future of Solwezi," he remarked.

The S3 Project is set to create 800 permanent jobs and generate 1,800 temporary jobs during construction, aiming to contribute significantly to the prosperity of Solwezi and beyond.

The government echoes this sentiment, with Stafford Mulusa, Government Chief Whip and Solwezi Central Member of Parliament, seeing the S3 Project as a symbol of the government's commitment to economic revival.

"It's a clear demonstration of our resolve to turn around the economic fortunes of this country," Mulusa stated.
Solwezi Mayor, Remmy Kalepa, expressed gratitude for the project's positive impact on the local community.

"We extend our heartfelt thanks to FQM for the S3 Expansion Project," Kalepa acknowledged, highlighting the increase in revenue for the local authority and the contribution to vital infrastructure, such as the tarring of township roads.

Mayor Kalepa also recognized President Hakainde Hichilema's commitment to national development, ensuring that investment pledges, like the S3 Expansion Project, are fulfilled by investors.

As the $1.2 billion project progresses, it is evident that this venture goes beyond mining; it signifies a commitment to the people, jobs, and the sustainable growth of Solwezi.

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M84 GEOTECH – SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY

M84 Geotech is a geotechnical engineering company offering geohazards mitigation and work at heights solutions for African's open pit mines. Our speciality being in the installation and supply of rockfall protection, rockfall barriers, rockfall attenuator, rock scaling, slope stabilization and slope monitoring solutions.

We are an accredited installer of slope stabilization and rockfall mitigation systems for open pit mines and accredited member of The Institute for Work at Heights (IWH). We have the right equipment, trained and experienced personnel to carry out any slope support, ground support or rock scaling projects. With us, it doesn't matter how deep the pit is or how rocky the slope is, we will always find the safest way to support or clean any open pit high wall.

We are in the business of safety, more specifically in the mining space. Our job is to ensure mining can take place without the miners or contractors being worried about their safety from any rockfall hazard. As a company, we take the safety of our technicians and that of our client very serious. We use only the best rope access kit for the safety of our technicians and we have the best and most robust slope support solutions to guarantee safety for open cast operations. The systems we use for rockfall protection and slope stabilization are well tested to protect open cast from any disintegrated stones and blocks or any loose rocks from breaking out. We are familiar and experienced in the installation of the systems and it has proven to be the most robust and easy to install on highwalls.

Depending on the requirements and specifications of the project, we can either use a passive system such as a draped system which its purpose is to control the movement of the loose rocks or a rockfall attenuator system which deflect and directs rocks to a designated runout zone. We can also use an active system such as a pinned mesh which is designed to retain masses and prevent landslide or erosion. Mine draped nets are also used for controlled rockfall protection as a temporary solution.

As a company we have a 100% safety record on all the projects we have concluded and 100% completion rate on our projects. We always do our best to ensure that projects are completed on time, in scope and within budget, however, our business philosophy is guided by the safety-first mentality. That means we will priorities safety in every project we do because of the high risk of the work we do and this principle is what makes us sustain our 100% safety record. Zero harm is very important to us as a company and the lives & safety of our employees are a priority to us.

Why should you consider us as a safety partner for your site?

- **Experience.** Companies like ourselves are broad on site to mitigate (rockfall) risk and it is important to have a contractor who knows what they are doing and understand the risks they are dealing with. As M84 Geotech, we have multiple projects we have completed under our belt, from big to small, complicated and simple, high risk to small risk. Our team is made of experienced personnel with more 50 years of combined work experience.

- **Compliant.** We respect the environment we work under and follow the standards and safety procedures of working under the high-risk mining environment. Not only are we compliant in terms of the rope access profession but we also comply in terms of health, safety and environment.

- **Resourceful.** With the experience we have acquired throughout the years, we have also developed the right tools and equipment to carry out even the most difficult projects. If you need it done, we will find the safest way to do it.

- **Competent.** We have the right skills to run projects and competent people such as project managers, safety officers, site managers and supervisors who have experience on-site.

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HITACHI ENERGY AND SP ENERGY NETWORKS TO BOOST RENEWABLE ENERGY FLOW

Hitachi Energy has won an order from SP Energy Networks to design and deliver a first-of-its-kind power quality solution to balance the grid and boost the flow of renewable energy across the UK. The solution will enable SP Energy Networks, the electricity network operator for Central & Southern Scotland and Merseyside, Cheshire, North & Mid-Wales and North Shropshire to add more renewables into the grid and facilitate the phase-out of fossil fuels.

The project, located at SP Energy Networks' substation at Eccles, consists of two sets of an SVC Light® STATCOM1 and a synchronous condenser controlled centrally by the MACH™ control system, connected at a common electrical node.
This unique combination of technologies will maximise the future power system's potential while also providing increased system resilience, thus supporting the increasing integration of renewables into the electricity grid.

Each STATCOM installation uses Hitachi Energy's advanced power electronics and technology-leading MACH2 control and protection solution to provide system strength, instantaneous voltage control and enable maximum power flow. This technology, which entrusts a STATCOM to control a local synchronous condenser, is market leading. It builds on an earlier collaboration between SP Energy Networks and Hitachi Energy on the network innovation competition project Phoenix supported by Ofgem, the energy regulator for the UK.

"The innovative power quality solution will increase the transfer capacity across the UK by up to 280 MW by improving the transmission network's strength as more renewable generation is connected in Scotland," said Billy Moore, Senior Project Manager at SP Energy Networks. "The criticality of technology such as this will become more important as we reduce the usage of fossil fuels."

"We are delighted to have co-created this innovative solution with SP Energy Networks, which will maintain grid stability and enable more clean electricity to flow through the system in the UK," said Marco Berardi, Head of Grid & Power Quality Solutions and Service business at Hitachi Energy.

"This pioneering innovation is yet another addition to our ever-evolving portfolio of power quality solutions that help grid operators overcome the immediate and long-term challenges of the energy transition."

With the integration of more renewable energy into the grid and the move away from conventional power plants, transmission system operators face a number of challenges. In this project, the SVC Light STATCOM and synchronous condenser with combined control generates or absorbs reactive power to adjust the grid voltage and maintain system resilience.

COMPREHENSIVE LUBRICANT RANGE FOR SURFACE AND UNDERGROUND MINING

A trusted partner of the global mining industry for over 85 years, FUCHS LUBRICANTS SOUTH AFRICA offers a comprehensive range of lubricants to meet the arduous requirements of surface and underground applications, explains Dave Gons, National Sales Manager, Mining and Regional Mining Manager, Sub-Saharan Africa.

The range not only boosts equipment life but improves the health and safety for operators and other workers. This is especially important as failure to use the correct lubricants in mining equipment increases maintenance costs and leads to more downtime and production losses.

The mining industry is an important growth area for FUCHS, not only in terms of products, but in servicing the centralised lubrication systems deployed by large mining operations. "The aim is to provide our mining clients with complete solutions for their lubricant requirements," says Gons.

Depending on the specific mine, FUCHS has a field technician to respond to any maintenance or support issues, or it has an on-site technical team on a full-time basis. These technicians are responsible for looking after all equipment using FUCHS products, in addition to conducting any repairs necessary and compiling full reports.

Mines also have specific shutdown periods that provide a critical window for essential maintenance and repair of major equipment. In addition, FUCHS has the technical capability and resources to install any centralised lubrication systems on-site and provide the necessary technical and support backup.

Products for the mining industry include RENOLIT greases for permanent and long-term lubrication for high performance, reliability, and process compatibility, and RENOLIN industrial oils for diverse applications from hydraulic oils to turbine oils. FUCHS mining lubricants can make a significant contribution to improved productivity in many other applications. They can increase efficiency and reduce energy consumption and associated CO2 emissions.

"We develop technology-driven lubricants. As part of our commitment to technical excellence, we continually develop new products and optimise existing ones to better serve the requirements of our mining clients. Maintenance costs and breakdowns are reduced, productivity increases, and there is maximum value from the client's mining fleet," concludes Gons.

FIRST QUANTUM CEO INSPECTS PROGRESS OF S3 EXPANSION AT KANSANSHI

First Quantum Minerals Chief Executive, Tristan Pascall, has been on the ground at Kansanshi to personally inspect the progress the company is making with its S3 expansion project. Of a total investment commitment of US$1.25 billion, the majority of this is being spent this year to ensure the entire project is completed by mid-2025.

The S3 expansion entails an expansion of the mine pit and the mining fleet that services it, as well as the construction of a new processing plant, and a major expansion of the Kansanshi smelter. The result will be to extend Kansanshi's mine life as a world class asset into the 2040s, increase copper production to more than 200,000 tonnes a year while continuing to drive economic development and jobs in Zambia.

To ensure continuation of the S3 expansion in the face of disruption to its Cobre Panama mine in Panama, First Quantum has recently raised US$3.3 billion as part of a comprehensive refinancing package and a copper pre-payment arrangement. The company has also extended its debt facilities through to mid-2027, providing the pathway to deliver on its commitment to Zambia with the S3 expansion.

Commenting after his site inspection, Mr Tristan Pascall, said he was pleased to see the level of progress on the ground at Kansanshi.

"It's great to be at Kansanshi, and to see that the S3 development work is progressing on the ground according to plan. Kansanshi – and Zambia, in general – has been the mainstay of our mining activity for the last twenty years, and will be just as important to us for the next twenty. We've had to adapt ourselves to unforeseen circumstances over the last few months, but we've met challenges before, always finding a way through and coming out stronger. Completing the S3 expansion on schedule is a priority for us, and the actions we have taken recently puts us in a strong position to do just that. I look forward to my next visit here, to see this project through to its completion."

ANTLER GOLD CONSOLIDATES LAND HOLDINGS IN THE NAMIBIAN 'GOLD CORRIDOR'

Antler Gold has expanded its landholding in Namibia. Two additional exploration licenses have been awarded to Antler by the Ministry of Mines and Energy of Namibia, pending issuance of environmental clearance, as well as the renewal of Exclusive Prospecting Licenses EPL-8010 and EPL-6408 (Erongo Central Gold Project).

Two newly-awarded licenses, EPL-9134 and EPL-9135, expand the Paresis Gold Project land package to ~812 km2 (81,189 ha) within the highly prospective 'gold corridor' of Namibia.

A gold project with high potential to host gold deposits similar to the Otjikoto Gold Mine (B2Gold), the Ondundu Gold deposit, as well as recent discoveries such as the Eureka Gold Project (Osino Resources).

Additional potential on EPL-9134 for a Carlin-style gold deposit, referred to as the Victory Gold Target, an area with a large regional-scale thrust fault and numerous base metal (copper, lead and zinc) occurrences indicating a fertile mineral system.

The Erongo Gold Project, EPL-8010 and EPL-6408, bordering the Twin Hills Gold Project (Osino Resources-Yintai Gold Corp has been granted renewal for another two years.

"We are pleased to announce the granting of new licenses, further strengthening Antler's presence in the emerging Damara Gold Province, referred to as the gold corridor of Namibia. With access to roughly 2,000 km2 in the Central and Northern Zones of the Damara Belt, Antler is strategically positioned to explore the significant potential of this region. Additionally, the renewal of EPL-8010 and EPL-6408 solidifies our Erongo Gold Project, providing contiguous land adjacent to the Twin Hills Gold Project recently acquired by Yintai Gold Corp. for C$368 million in an all-cash deal. Our commitment remains in maximizing shareholder value through strategic partnerships and ongoing exploration efforts," said Christopher Drysdale, CEO of Antler Gold

Paresis Gold Project

The Paresis Gold Project is now made up of EPL-8711 (approx. 21,000 ha) and EPL-9135 (approx. 23,700 ha) situated between the towns of Otjiwarongo and Outjo, and EPL-9134 (approx. 36,400 ha) situated 7km west of the town Outjo. The project area is 300 km from the capital Windhoek, in north central Namibia.

Victory Gold Target

The Victory Gold Target is located within the new EPL-9134 (approx. 33,472 ha), situated 7 km west of the town Outjo, in north central Namibia, within the Northern Zone (NZ) and Northern Margin Zone (NMZ) of the Damara Orogenic Belt.
With this conceptual project, Antler is targeting Carlin-type/sediment-hosted disseminated gold in an area that has strong mineralization potential – regional-scale thrust, faults, layered and folded permeable carbonate host rocks, and existing base metal occurrences indicating hydrothermal activity.

Antler Gold Inc. is a Canadian listed mineral exploration company focused on organic royalty creation in Africa's Top-Ranked Jurisdictions.
The Company continues to assess new regional opportunities with the aim of building a risk diversified business model, that allows the Company to generate short and long-term income whilst providing stakeholders with exposure to potential multiple returns that are generated from the discovery process.

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Located just outside the central city of Kitwe and 56km to Ndola, the new Garden Court Kitwe is an oasis of comfort and convenience and offers guests outstanding service and a modern hospitality experience. The hotel is well located close to the Mukuba Mall and adjoins the ECL Business Park. It is an ideal base for conducting both business and corporate functions with a host of professional services.

ACCOMMODATION

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Rooms include:

- Air-conditioning
- Complimentary unlimited WiFi
- Tea and coffee station
- 24-hour in-room dining service
- Large work desk
- TV
- Electronic safe

130 Rooms in total

128 Standard Rooms

2 Executive Rooms

Garden Court KITWE

FACILITIES

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- 24-hour fitness centre
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DINING/BAR

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GROUPS & CONFERENCES

Experience a new level of modern business-first conference-simplicity at Garden Court Kitwe. The conference rooms offer privacy and have a full range of amenities. Some rooms enjoy natural light with views overlooking the landscaped gardens. A dedicated professional conference team is on hand to provide knowledgeable assistance in customising any event to your specific requirements and to deliver a streamlined event from start to finish.

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- Courier service
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- Photocopiers

VENUES

	Dimensions	Boardroom	Cinema	Schoolroom	Banquet	Cocktail
Boardroom	30	12	-	-	-	-
Meeting Room 1 + 2 (D)*	80	30	40	35	30	45
Meeting Room 1	40	15	20	12	-	-
Meeting Room 2	40	15	20	12	-	-
Kafue	185	-	180	140	140	180
Mukula	73	-	70	35	50	100
Lukanga	80	-	70	45	50	100
Kafue + Mukula + Lukanga	338	-	320	240	220	340

*(D) = Dividable

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Our supply network for trailer spares is market leading & we can fully support your needs for most trailer manufactures, with excellent aftermarket options available.

In a further expansion from our core business we now offer parts for construction & plant equipment, covering the major manufacturers we can support your spare part requirements across the huge sector of construction & handing equipment, as with the truck parts we aim to provide both genuine & aftermarket options.

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For handling equipment, a simple seal, joystick, sensors or a complete hydraulic pump generally if its available we can get it, example of brands we can support - **KALMAR – FANTUZZI – HYSTER – CAT – LINDE – SMV**

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By expanding our supplier portfolio, we are now able to offer many consumables & parts commonly used in manufacturing, processing & logistic facilities – as with our core business we can export all these products worldwide.
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Autofast is also a leading suppler of multi brand diagnostics systems. We offer the market leading TEXA systems whilst also offering the excellent BOSCH system giving our customers a genuine choice & with options available for Trucks, Construction & Cars a bespoke solution is only an enquiry away !

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ATLAS COPCO POWER TECHNIQUE: PIONEERING EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA'S MINING SECTOR

Within the dynamic landscape of Southern Africa's mining sector, Atlas Copco Power Technique stands out as a reliable partner, navigating the challenges and opportunities with unwavering commitment and innovative portable power (generators), air (compressors) light (light towers) and flow (pumps) solutions, underpinned by expert after-market services.

The region's surface and underground mining operations are encumbered by tough global conditions and logistical hurdles that are adding further pressures on South Africa's already fragile economy. Mines in South Africa also have the added headache of having to balance the costs of countering unpredictable power supply while sustaining efficient operations, all within the parameters of environmental compliance.

David Stanford, Atlas Copco Power Technique Business Line Manager for Portable Products, points out that these challenges are most certainly not unique to the mining sector and are for the most part common to all industry. "Product reliability and efficiency have become the cornerstones to business success to an even greater extent in a post-Covid world. It is against this backdrop that we remain focused on our ability to adapt to our customers' dynamic and changing needs, offering the most optimum solutions."

Grounded in a corporate ethos that prioritises customer sustainability, operational efficiencies and environmental compliance, Power Technique's continuous investment in product innovations and cutting-edge technologies has propelled the addition of mobile hybrid, electric, solar and energy storage (battery) solutions to the company's traditional diesel and petrol driven machines and equipment.

This evolution, over the past eight years to eco-products, without a drop in performance, underscores Power Technique's proactive response to the urgent need for efficiencies and environmental stewardship within the industry and marks a significant stride in the company's commitment to driving more sustainable practices, reducing carbon emissions and supporting the global decarbonisation drive. "Our electric mobile compressors, solar LED light towers and battery storage systems enable us to offer a reliable, sustainable and efficient value chain that perfectly aligns with our customers' needs. It also makes our mobile product solutions, which are tried, tested and proven in the construction industry, equally suited to several other sectors including mining and oil & gas," asserts Stanford.

"Through these greener alternatives, we are able to provide the mining space, which is currently our biggest segment focus, with the tools needed to operate more efficiently and with a reduced carbon footprint and leads the industry toward a more sustainable future."

Power Technique's mobile product solutions cater to essentially all types of mining activities across both surface and underground operations. Whether its generators to address unpredictable power supply, air compressors to support contractor drilling for blasting, light towers to illuminate pits to enable night work, or pumps for dewatering applications, the company's mobile solutions are perfectly suited to meet the demands of diverse mining environments.

"Our digital offerings, like PACE (Pressure Adjusted Cognitive Electronics) and FleetLink connectivity, also play a pivotal role in adding further value," notes Stanford. "Providing real-time data on unit operation, fuel consumption and other critical insights into product usage, these digital tools not only empower our customers to make informed decisions but also enable us to tailor solutions that meet their needs."

The company's commitment to after-market support, including proactive maintenance, refurbishment and OEM parts availability, underscores the importance of maintaining high performance and reliability throughout equipment service life, enhancing operational efficiency and contributing to a lower total cost of ownership - key factors, especially when it comes to the sustainable operation of mining activities.

The refurbishment process, conducted at Atlas Copco's Jet Park head office in Johannesburg, breathes new life into equipment in line with OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) standards. Compared to new product expenditure, the benefits associated with refurbishment, including cost savings, elimination of raw material usage, reduced CO^2, etc. underpin the principles of the circular economy.

Power Technique has a wide portable pump portfolio to meet dewatering and other applications required on a mine or plant site. Stanford mentions that Atlas Copco has made a significant investment in the global flow space through the strategic acquisitions of three pump companies, two in Europe and Sykes in Australia, demonstrating a solid commitment to expanding its presence in the pump market.

Power Technique's focus is on offering products that provide significant value and demonstrate tangible benefits to customers. "As technology continues to evolve rapidly, we encourage robust engagement with our customers, guiding them through the array of available options and offering expert advice," asserts Stanford. "We help customers to navigate toward solutions that will optimise their sustainability, reliability and operational efficiencies. Well-informed customers are empowered to make good decisions that align with their operational requirements and future strategies."

By continuously expanding its portable product portfolio, embracing new technologies and engaging in open dialogues with customers, Atlas Copco Power Technique is a trusted partner at the forefront of driving efficiency, sustainability and operational optimisation for mining, construction, oil & gas and general industry sectors.

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KENMARE RESOURCES GEARS FOR GROWTH WITH A NEW US$200M FACILITY LED BY RAND MERCHANT BANK (RMB)

The tailored facility allows Kenmare to meet their strategic objectives in the most efficient way possible, giving them the financial flexibility they need to position the company for future growth in this bespoke commodity sector

Kenmare Resources plc, operator of the Moma titanium minerals mine in northern Mozambique, has secured a funding package to refinance a maturing revolving credit facility and a five-year term loan facility. RMB, acting as the Initial Mandated Lead Arranger (IMLA) on the deal as well as one of the lending banks, worked with Kenmare to structure a new five-year US$200m RCF. The tailored facility allows Kenmare to meet their strategic objectives in the most efficient way possible, giving them the financial flexibility they need to position the company for future growth in this bespoke commodity sector.

Kenmare has a strong track record of successfully executing several growth and business improvement projects, having invested more than US$1.4bn into the Moma mine since inception. Their focus on environmental, social and governance (ESG) has resulted in more than 90% of the electricity they consume being derived from low-cost hydroelectric power, and in 2022, Kenmare was awarded the ESG Producer of the Year at the Mines & Money Outstanding Achievement Awards.

Having worked with Kenmare since 2019, RMB has developed a sound understanding of the company's strategic priorities at both a corporate and project level, leading to a differentiated funding solution that allows the company to continue focussing on some of their core objectives. These include the ability to operate both sustainably and responsibly, ensuring a strong balance sheet while allocating capital efficiently and delivering value to shareholders, and maintaining long-life, low-cost production via the move of one of their processing plants to a new orebody that will underpin production sustainably for decades. Kenmare continues to be the largest employer in the Nampula province and has contributed more than US$200m in taxes and royalties. Through the Kenmare Moma Development Association (KMAD), they have also implemented development programmes in the mine's host communities, investing US$16m to date.

"RMB's commitment to expanding the resources sector in Africa, combined with our extensive knowledge and experience in Mozambique, played a crucial role in successfully securing this deal. This transaction highlights our capability to orchestrate syndicated deals across the African continent, with a specific focus on the mining sector. It represents the culmination of thorough diligence and unwavering dedication to understanding our clients' unique requirements." says Andre Lubbe, Resources Sector Focus Lead at RMB.

ARSP AND CMOC FORGE AGREEMENT TO BOOST CONGOLESE PARTICIPATION IN TENKE FUNGURUME MINING VALUE CHAIN

The Congolese Regulatory Authority for Subcontracting in the Private Sector (ARSP) has announced a groundbreaking agreement with China's CMOC Group, the majority shareholder of Tenke Fungurume Mining (TFM), to enhance Congolese involvement in the project's value chain.

Under the agreement, CMOC, holding an 80% stake in TFM, commits to ensuring that subcontractors involved in the project are at least 51% Congolese-owned, as mandated by regulations.

In its facilitative role, ARSP is assisting CMOC by providing a curated list of recommended Congolese businesses, such as Elephant Trade, Panaco, GHS, and Bofa, focused on the mining sector and TFM.

This collaboration aims to foster connections between Congolese companies and international investors across various sectors, with the list continually updated to facilitate more partnerships.

The announcement follows constructive discussions between CMOC and ARSP director-general Miguel Kashal Katemb, who lauded the development as a step towards enhancing Congolese participation in the valuable TFM project.

The agreement signifies significant progress at TFM since the resumption of operations in 2023, with ARSP and CMOC committed to ensuring that the benefits from the mine's copper and cobalt reserves contribute to the economic development of the region.

Aligned with President Félix Tshisekedi's vision of generating 6.4 million new jobs in the DRC, this partnership between ARSP and CMOC is poised to create more economic opportunities and jobs for the Congolese people in the Lualaba region.

ZAMBIA'S PRESIDENT INVITES BOTSWANA INVESTMENT EXPERTISE TO MINING SECTOR

President Hakainde Hichilema has extended an invitation to Botswana to invest in Zambia's mining sector, citing Botswana's expertise in managing diamonds as a key factor.

Speaking at the launch of the Lusaka International Arbitration Center (LIAC), President Hichilema emphasized the importance of learning from Botswana's successful management of diamond resources and replicating similar strategies for Zambia's emeralds.

President Hichilema expressed confidence in attracting investors like Botswana to utilize LIAC for resolving disputes efficiently. He highlighted LIAC's role in addressing commercial issues promptly, stressing its significance in maintaining Zambia's positive reputation and ensuring that businesses settle disputes swiftly to meet investors' high expectations.

R943bn mooted govt infrastructure spend is good news for zinc sector

In his budget speech on 21 February, the South African Finance Minister outlined the government's plans to invest over R943 billion in public infrastructure over the next three years to support the refurbishment and maintenance of existing assets and build new infrastructure. The government's mooted Infrastructure Investment Plan will promote projects in six key sectors, namely energy, water and sanitation, transport, digital infrastructure, human settlements, and agriculture and agro-processing.

The Finance Minister also outlined reforms aimed to streamline the supply chain, improve efficiency, and ultimately attract greater private sector participation. "Supporting public infrastructure investment, I am proud to announce that as part of this budget, we are introducing fundamental and far-reaching reforms to infrastructure financing and delivery," he said. Through these reforms, greater efficiency gains and infrastructure delivery will be fast-tracked. This will benefit all sectors, social infrastructure, PPPs, and projects with other finance mechanisms.

"If the South African government actually means what it says, and from past experience we are gravely doubtful, then this is good news for the zinc and galvanizing sectors," acknowledges Simon Norton, Director of the International Zinc Association (IZA) Africa. "To restore our position as a strong, thriving economy, we must grow our employment base and rebuild our deteriorating waterworks, wastewater works and infrastructure."

As South Africa grapples with infrastructure challenges and the need to resolve these quickly and effective, zinc galvanizing of steel remains a vital tool to protect and extend the life of critical steel structures. Corrosion, the deterioration of steel due to its interaction with the environment, poses a significant threat to the longevity and safety of steel structures particularly at the coast and in corrosive environments such as wastewater treatment plants.

Hot dip galvanizing using zinc effectively prevents corrosion by creating a protective barrier between the steel and the surrounding environment. Composed of iron-zinc alloys, this barrier acts as a sacrificial anode, preferentially corroding in place of the steel. In rail infrastructure, railway lines are galvanized as are electric power line poles. Galvanizing safeguards steel components from the corrosive effects of moisture and other contaminants.

Power infrastructure, including transmission pylons, substations, and other steel structures also rely heavily on galvanizing using zinc to maintain its integrity. Corrosion of these components can lead to power outages, disruptions in electricity supply, and even catastrophic failures when pylons collapse as a result of rusting. Zinc galvanizing safeguards these critical structures, ensuring the reliable delivery of electricity.

Beyond its protective benefits, zinc galvanizing offers significant economic advantages. By extending the lifespan of steel components, zinc galvanizing reduces the need for frequent replacements, saving on material and labour costs. "If engineers hot dip galvanize steel, the capital expenditure is well spent and in the long run much cheaper than repair. Moreover, it minimises the risk of structural failures, which can lead to costly repairs and disruptions to operations," concludes Norton.

GHH TO EXPAND IN TÜRKIYE AND BEYOND

Strategic move for GHH: The German manufacturer of machines for mining and tunnelling industries GHH has agreed a partnership with the Japanese machine and truck distributor Marubeni Dağıtım ve Servis in Türkiye. This opens up growth opportunities for both companies far beyond the country's borders.

In addition to its geopolitical importance, Türkiye has numerous mineral resources, including copper, iron ore, coal and chrome, as well as the world's largest boron deposits. These resources have helped to make the country an important player and hub in the global commodities market.

As one of the major distributors of heavy machinery in Türkiye, Marubeni Dagıtım ve Servis A.S. has already established a network of 6 locations with 270 employees and 50 sales and service centres, reaching as far as Azerbaijan and Georgia. Founded in 1983 and based in Istanbul, the company is part of the Marubeni Corporation of Japan, one of the world's largest distributors of its kind with 45,000 employees in 463 companies.

This constellation of skills, experience and footprint is highly interesting for the German machine manufacturer. As one of the world's leading brands in the industry, the company already serves a significant amount of customers in Türkiye. However, the need for a stronger network for consulting, sales and service was identified as a key milestone to support the expansion of its product portfolio in the region. Loaders (LHDs), dump trucks and other vehicles, specifically designed for mining in soft and hard rock, are the domain of the manufacturer who knows how to combine cost-effectiveness with robustness, ease of maintenance and driver ergonomics. The company supplies an almost complete range and operates on all continents.

With the pending Komatsu closure around the corner, GHH, which is preparing to become part of the Komatsu family, is also strengthening its dealer network with this partnership. Marubeni Dagıtım ve Servis is already a strong Komatsu dealer in the Turkish region, having worked with Komatsu in the Turkish market since 1983.

"GHH is very pleased to have reached an agreement with Marubeni Dagıtım ve Servis in Türkiye, we are really looking forward to strengthening our position in the Turkish market together," says Matthias von Buzay, CEO & CFO of GHH Group. "Marubeni Dagıtım ve Servis has extensive experience in product sales and service and is therefore an ideal partner for us." Esref Zeka, Chief Executive Officer of Marubeni Dagıtım ve Servis A.S. and Burçak Birand, Marubeni Dagıtım ve Servis Construction and Mining Machinery COO, agreed: "We are excited about the cooperation with GHH as it is a next step in our strategy to grow and strengthen our business in Türkiye and we look forward to a strong and fruitful partnership."

The two companies sealed their partnership in February when Mr. Zeka and Mr. Birand travelled to GHH's headquarters in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, and spent time reviewing the offering and way of working and strategizing on business opportunities going forward. It was a productive session and a great start to a strong working relationship. The first deliveries are due to follow shortly. These might include vehicles such as the new LF-10 NEO, a loader with the highest tipping height in the 10-tonne class, or the world renowned MK-A20 dump truck. For more information, visit GHHrocks.com and Marubeni-TR.com on the Internet.

NEW TECH REVOLUTIONISES DUST CONTROL IN TANZANIAN MINES

AFRIKA KAZI-DUST-A-SIDE partnership signifies a commitment to sustainable mining practices in Tanzania and beyond

AFRIKA KAZI Field Services and South African company DUST-A-SIDE have joined forces to introduce a cutting-edge product called Total Dust Management (TDM) in their deliberate move to enhance safety and environmental standards in Tanzania's mining sector. The innovative dust suppression solution was unveiled during a meeting of the Tanzania Chamber of Mines Committee on Safety, Health, and Environment held in Dar es Salaam.

Total Dust Management (TDM) involves the application of advanced dust suppression techniques, wherein low volumes of water are atomized under high pressure exceeding 40 bar to create a fine mist capable of effectively capturing airborne dust particles.

Speaking at the event, DUST-A-SIDE Group Chief Technical Officer Fillipus Masipa said safety was an important element in mining operations, stressing that TDM offers a comprehensive approach to dust prevention and suppression. Mr Masipa outlined the key components of TDM, highlighting the utilisation of low-pressure water for pre-wet materials and increasing humidity, thereby reducing dust generation during material handling processes. He underscored the significance of conducting plant surveys to determine the specific requirements for dust control, noting that TDM offers a tailored solution based on the outcomes of these surveys.

"Dust suppression and dust prevention systems are not exclusive, as many operations have both systems configured to effectively control dust," said Mr Masipa, adding that while dust prevention can be used in material handling operations, dust suppression is the preferred option owing to low water consumption, especially in areas where water is scarce. The implementation of Total Dust Management (TDM) is poised to revolutionise dust control practices in Tanzanian mines, offering a range of benefits, including reduced respirable dust, minimised water usage, and improved housekeeping standards.

Ms Francisca Mushi, Business Development Manager at AFRIKA KAZI, emphasised the holistic approach of TDM, which not only enhances dust control but also extends equipment life and reduces downtime.

DUST-A-SIDE, an international company with a proven track record in dust suppression technologies, has partnered with AFRIKA KAZI to bring Total Dust Management solutions to Tanzania's mining and construction industries. With operations spanning multiple countries, including Australia, Botswana, and India, DUST-A-SIDE brings extensive expertise to the partnership, ensuring the effective implementation of TDM in Tanzanian mining operations.

The introduction of Total Dust Management (TDM) represents a significant milestone in Tanzania's mining sector, promising improved safety standards, reduced environmental impact, and enhanced operational efficiency. As the partnership between AFRIKA KAZI and DUST-A-SIDE continues to evolve, stakeholders can expect to see further advancements in dust suppression technologies, reaffirming the commitment to sustainable mining practices in Tanzania and beyond.

OILSERV TARGETS NAMIBIA'S BOOMING OIL SECTOR

Pan-African industrial energy group, Oilserv Ltd has set its sights on establishing a footprint in Namibia ahead of first oil production and associated infrastructure development.

As a leading provider of oilfield services for clients across the Middle East and Africa, Oilserv has participated in some of the largest gas pipeline projects on the continent, leveraging its experience and capacity to carry out large-scale engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) work.

In a recent interview, Oilserv Chairman Sir Engr. Emeka Okwuosa noted that Namibia's regulatory environment had drawn they company's attention further affirming that due its capacity and experience, Oilserv is positioned to help Namibia realize its energy ambitions and infrastructural development going forward.

"The potential to invest and develop new emerging markets in energy, mining and renewables was the attraction to Namibia, while ample workforce in developing local capacity and capability skills is the "magnet." Namibia's regulatory environment is receptive and enabling to allow fair consideration to new entrants like ourselves," said Okwuosa adding "Namibia is entering into the energy sector in its infancy and is still very much a blank canvas compared to many countries on the continent and beyond. Mining is established and growing, but the energy sector as it develops will accelerate the development of Namibia for its people and future."

Oilserv Ltd specializes in engineering, procurement and construction (EPC), not only constructing pipeline projects on- and offshore, but also infrastructure development for the oil, gas and utilities sectors. A recent notable project is the 617-km, US$2.3-billion Ajaokuta-Kaduna-Kano (AKK) gas pipeline project across Nigeria, which is among other projects we are developing in the liquefied natural gas (LNG) and methanol space.

"Oilserv has the experience and pedigree in the oil and gas sector for almost 30 years. Where many companies have fallen off the edge, we have grown exponentially in workforce, technology and project complexity. For instance, we have the most advanced welding and non-destructive testing (NDT) apparatus in Africa, as well as one of the largest heavy earth machinery inventories in Africa, and have successfully managed projects in challenging environments," he added.

Oilserv Limited is Africa's leading Oil and Gas Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Installation, and Commissioning (EPCIC) Pipelines and Facilities Company. The company, which was founded in 1992 and commenced operations in 1995, has relied on innovation to become a globally competitive integrated energy company with a history of completing turn-key projects in Nigeria and across Africa while utilizing advanced technologies.

"As opportunities in our sectors of interest evolve and we get actively involved, South Africa and the wider region will be entwined for Oilserv going forward. The oil and gas development will be at least five years away, but it will allow Oilserv to establish its capabilities and footprint in preparation for the infrastructural development in other sectors in the interim.

This will allow us to be firmly embedded in the future development of Namibia, but also establish ourselves as a regional player.

"We set out as an oil and gas infrastructure service provider, but with our expansion and the energy transition that is taking place globally, we have positioned the company to meet this transition and operate across oil and gas, utilities, renewables, infrastructure and mining sectors," further explained Okwuosa

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PRESIDENT EMMERSON MNANGAGWA COMMISSIONED KAMATIVI SPODUMENE MINE

CHINESE investor, Yahua Group, which is mining lithium in the Kamativi area of Hwange District in Matabeleland North province, has channelled more than US$2 million towards various community development projects with positive impact on ordinary people ' s lives.

President Mnangagwa officially commissioned the repurposed Kamativi Mining Company (KMC) ' s Phase One Lithium Processing Plant while construction of the second plant is underway and is expected to be completed in July.

This will see production at the company rising to 2,3 million tonnes of raw ore and 300 000 tonnes of lithium concentrate per annum.

The investment has excited traditional leaders in the district and the local community who are already feeling its impact and have commended Government facilitation. KMC started operations in 2019 with construction for Phase One of the project commencing in March 2023 focused on lithium exploration, mining and processing within Kamativi, a former tin mine that closed in 1994 when international prices of tin plummeted to unsustainable levels. At that time more than 3 000 people were employed by the mine, which still had a 40- year lifespan. KMC has reopened the mine and expects to invest a total of US$249 million with US$100 million already injected into the first phase.

In his remarks during the commissioning of the Plant, Yahua Group president, Mr Meng Yan, said the revival of Kamativi Mine was a grand moment for communities that had been isolated for almost 30 years. He said so far significant resources have been invested in community projects while millions more have been paid in taxes. "We take corporate social responsibility seriously and we have so far invested US$2 million in various community projects and these include rehabilitation of roads, resuscitation of electricity and water supplies and assisting local schools and clinics," said Mr Yan. "KMC has contributed significantly to Zimbabwe ' s fiscus as it has paid more than US$8 million in taxes and after the completion of Phase Two, this project will create more jobs and pay more in taxes."

Mr Yan said the company ' s CSR efforts are meant to instill confidence and have a community buy-in so that the community shares the company ' s vision.

The company is employing 300 people directly and approximately 1 000 others indirectly through subcontracts.

During the resuscitation and development of Kamativi Mine, Mr Yan said there has been a remarkable seamless integration between stakeholders from China and Zimbabwe thereby overcoming a myriad of challenges.

He thanked the support from all stakeholders that enabled the company to complete and commission the project.

Mr Yan said Yahua Group has always embraced the ethos of sustainable development hence it takes seriously issues to do with environmental conservation including efficient water-saving technologies.

KMC is a Joint Venture company operated and controlled by Sichuan PD Technology Group, a subsidiary of the Chinese-listed entity Yahua Group and a local partner, Defold Mine (Private) Limited.

The group is resuscitating Kamativi Mine, which closed in 1994 and for three decades Kamativi had become a ghost town.

Also President Mnangagwa expressed excitement that Zimbabwe was recognized as one of the top lithium giants in Africa with the KMC project being key to the country ' s development agenda.

He applauded KMC for creating jobs, opening opportunities for skills transfer saying the Second Republic will continue to create a conducive environment for investors.

Meanwhile, Mr Yan said the success of the resuscitation of the Kamativi Mine project was testimony to the whole world that Zimbabwe under the Second Republic is indeed open for business and an investment destination of choice.

"Zimbabwe with its tranquil and rich mineral resources is the ideal setting for our endeavours. Yahua Group, boasting a legacy of 72 years, feels privileged to develop Kamativi mine together with the Government of this remarkable nation," he said.

"This achievement stands as a milestone, a tangible testament to the enduring friendship and co-operation between China and Zimbabwe.

"Under the support of the Government of Zimbabwe we will develop Kamativi Mine into a paragon of modernity, technological prowess, safety, environmental stewardship, global renowned and sustainable development," said Mr Yan.

"While Yahua Group remains the world's suppliers of lithium hydroxide, the group envisages Zimbabwe becoming a significant base for the development and processing of lithium resources."

He said the cordial relations between China and Zimbabwe, which date back to the pre-independence times, remain anchored in the operation principle of consultation, collaboration, construction, shared prosperity and win-win co-operation.

As such, Mr Yan said his investment group was committed to contribute more towards Zimbabwe ' s socio-economic development to ensure Government achieves Vision 2030 of an empowered upper middle-income economy.

He said the Group also believes that its confidence in the Zimbabwean economy will also attract other investors.

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