



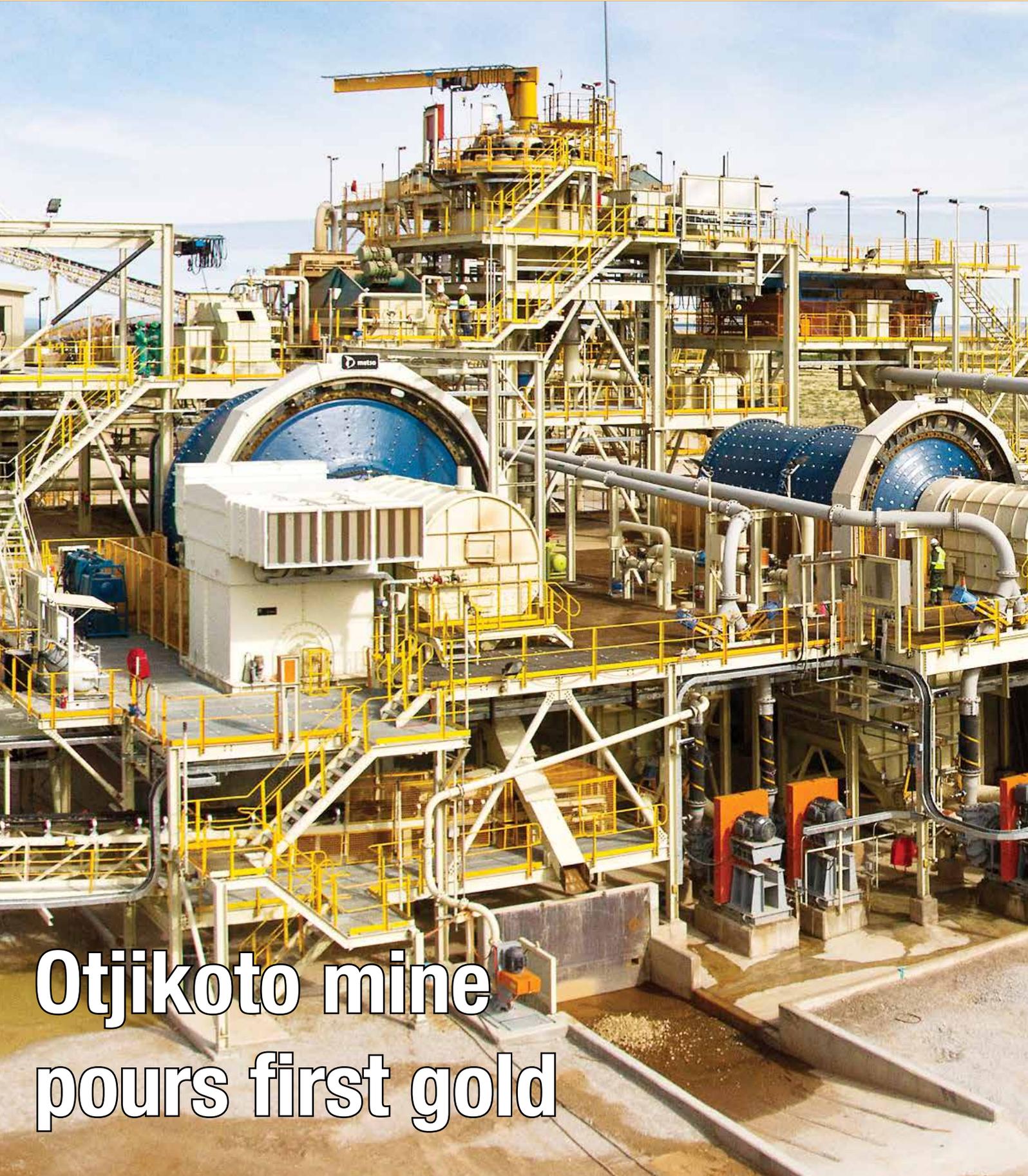
Chamber of Mines

Newsletter

A quarterly newsletter for the Namibian mining industry

• Issue 01/2015

March 2015



**Otjikoto mine
pours first gold**



PROUD TO BE AT THE HEART OF THE NATION'S PROGRESS

Since the first Diamond was discovered, the diamond industry has made contributions to the nation through employment, education, infrastructure and taken on various CSR initiatives.

DEBMARINE NAMIBIA

Namdeb Centre 10 Dr Frans Indongo Street

P.O. Box 23016 Windhoek, Namibia

Tel: + 264 61 297 8000, Fax: + 264 61 2978100



DEBMARINE NAMIBIA
unlocking the sparkle



In this issue . . .

06 - Falling crude prices slow exploration

THE oil industry expects the drastic fall in crude oil prices to slow exploration activities worldwide as investors shy away from oil and gas investments



09 - The 'silver' in the mining jubilee

Fresh off the back of its nightmarish worst performance since 2012 – there is little doubt that the mining industry will cope well with the marauding threat of this pantomime villain and bounce back to reclaim its industry respected position going into the silver jubilee celebrations.

17 - Bannerman constructs demo plant

Bannerman has announced the award of major contracts to construct and operate the Etango heap leach demonstration plant on its Exclusive Prospecting License 3345.

18 - Otjikoto Mine pours first gold

Otjikoto Gold Project has kept to the original construction schedule and poured its first gold on 11 December 2014.

20 - Dawe takes helm at B2Gold

B2Gold Namibia has appointed Mark Dawe as the company's new managing director following the promotion of Bill Lytle to the position of B2Gold Corp. vice president for Africa – a portfolio that includes the Fekola Project in Mali and the Kiaka Project in Burkina Faso.

22 - Debmarine and Namdeb committed to Education

Debmarine and Namdeb are committed to partner with government and other stakeholders in improving the quality of education especially in rural areas where the greatest need for equipment is overwhelming.

Cover picture:



B2Gold produced its first kilogram of gold on 11 December 2014. The cover image shows the Semi-Autogenous and ball mills.

Chamber of Mines Newsletter

PO Box 2895
3 Schutzen Street
Windhoek, Namibia
Tel: +264 61 237 925
Fax: +264 61 222 638
Email: dmeyer@chamberofmines.org.na
www.chamberofmines.org.na
President: Mr. Werner Duvenhage,
Vice-president: Mr. K. Kapwanga,
Second Vice-President: Mr. J. Coetzee
CEO: Mr. Veston Malango,
HR Administrator: Ms. Signa Ndombo,
Accountant: Ms. Hilma Nampala
PA to CEO: Ms. Doreen Meyer
Economist: Ms. Lauren Davidson

Message from the CEO

The New Year has come and gone and we sincerely hope everyone has had a positive start and remains optimistic about what the rest of the year still holds in store, especially for Namibia's mining industry.

B2Gold produced its first kilogram 11th December 2014, with the official inauguration ceremony expected to take place in June/July the year.

Swakop Uranium's Husab mine is also gearing up towards full production. Swakop Uranium reported that the commissioning of the processing plant is expected to take place later on in the year and that uranium production will commence early in 2016.

Weatherly's Tschudi mine produced its first copper cathode on 16 February 2014. Whilst copper cathode has been produced according to schedule, there have been a number of challenges experienced relating to

the initial recovery of copper from the heap leach pads, requiring further investigative work.

Planning activities of the Chamber of Mines Mining Expo and Conference are in full swing, which will take place from 20th – 21st May at the Safari Hotel. Registration for exhibitors is officially open and I would like to encourage interested companies to book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

The Mining Conference will take place as usual in conjunction with the Expo, free of charge upon registration. The conference also looks set to be an exciting one, as new topics of interest are being covered and presented on in the conference programme such as reinvestments made by mines into the sector, mining & gender, and the uranium nuclear fuel cycle in Namibia.

We look forward to introducing the Mining Expo & Conference as



an annual event as from this year, and most certainly a date not to be missed on the business calendar.

Veston Malango
25 March 2015



African Wire Ropes



Oblongs sub-assembly
From 7mm to 32mm



Safety sling hooks from 7mm to 32mm



Polyester slings From 1 tonne to 6 tonne



Steel wire ropes from
1mm to 113mm



Chain slings, adjustables
from 1 – 4 legs, Tonnage up to 85 tonnes



One Legged Steel Wire Rope Sling 6-32mm
Two Legged Steel Wire Rope Sling 6-32mm
Three Legged Steel Wire Rope Sling 6 - 32mm
Four Legged Steel Wire Rope Sling 6 - 32mm



Hammer-locks from
7mm to 32mm



Chain Blocks
& Lever Hoists (Yale Brand)
from 0,5 tonne to 6 tonne



Crosby clamps from
3mm to 90mm



Grab hooks from 7mm to 32 mm



Crosby bow shackle From 0.75 tonne to 120 tonne



Fibre Ropes, Manila Ropes,
Cotton Ropes, Nylon Ropes,
Tow Ropes (with spliced eyes)
according to specifications)
from 4mm to 96mm

MINING EXPO & CONFERENCE

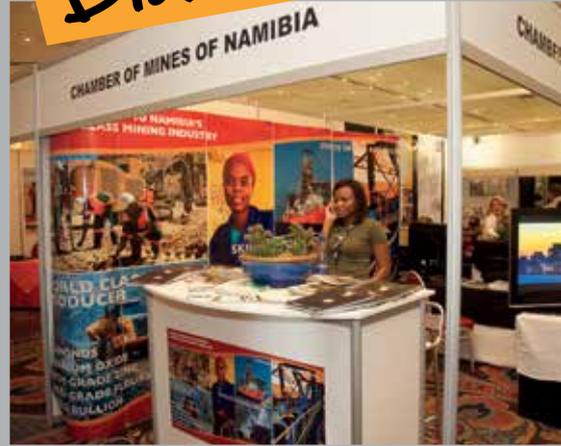
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20 & 21 May 2015

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Falling crude prices slow exploration

CHRISTINE-RITA ABANKWAH

THE oil industry expects the drastic fall in crude oil prices to slow exploration activities worldwide as investors shy away from oil and gas investments.

Furthermore, it could force some smaller operators in the Namibian oil and gas exploration industry out of the market completely.

With crude oil falling from US\$115 a barrel in June 2014 to its historical low of under US\$50 a barrel at the end of January 2015, analysts expect 2015 to be a tough year in the international oil industry.

In an interview, Petroleum Commissioner Immanuel Mulunga said Namibia had already felt the impact.

He observed that if the current crude price decreased further or remained at these low levels for a sustained period, it could substantially hamper exploration efforts in Namibia and the

rest of the world.

“For now, yes, there is an impact being felt already, especially by small listed companies and start-ups that have exploration licences in Namibia.

“I expect to see a lot of mergers, acquisitions and possibly some small operators that will be forced out of the market completely,” he said.

Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) Research Associate Klaus Schade believed that the drastic fall in oil prices would not immediately negatively affect investor sentiment or hamper exploration efforts in Namibia.

“It takes quite a number of years from exploration to production. Furthermore, exploration companies usually plan exploration activities quite [well] in advance since they need to hire platforms etcetera.

“Therefore exploration activities planned for this year might go ahead. However, should prices remain low throughout the year exploration activities planned for end of this year and

next year might be postponed,” he said.

Mulunga, however, said to his knowledge no oil companies planned to drill exploration wells in 2015, and the industry hoped that the price would rebound to levels that would give better confidence to the industry.

Schade added that since gas prices had a link to oil prices, low prices might have an impact on the development of the Kudu Gas Field, “since the viability of development and the gas extraction depends not least on the expected price.”

Schade said there were currently no signs that any of the major oil producers, in particular the largest, Saudi Arabia, were going to cut production and therefore no one knew when prices would recover.

“However, since prices for many producers are currently not at cost recovery levels, some might need to shut oil wells in order to control losses. Whether they are going to do this actually is a

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Falling crude prices slow exploration

◀◀ FROM PAGE 6

different question, because they are going to risk losing market shares to competitors.

“On the other hand, new growth forecasts from the World Bank and the IMF predict lower than anticipated global economic growth and hence lower demand for oil and other commodities. Hence, oil prices are likely to fluctuate around current levels,” he said.

However, oil prices could drop further before they start to pick up again.

Mulunga expects low international crude prices to persist for the next several months but that the market may see recovery towards the end of 2015 or earlier.

The low oil prices would mainly affect the oil exploration and production industries because producers had less revenue from crude oil sales to apportion to their exploration and development budgets going forward.

Furthermore, it would become more difficult for companies to raise money for exploration, development and production projects around Africa as investors shied away from oil and gas investments because of the prevailing prices, the Petroleum Commissioner added.

The share prices of some major oil companies have already come under serious pressure.

“We have already started to see large oil projects around Africa being postponed as they have suddenly become unprofitable with this sharp decline in the international crude oil price,” Mulunga said.

Oil giants are succumbing to the toughening market conditions brought about by the falling price of crude. BP recently announced it would cut 300 jobs in its North Sea operations.

Premier Oil also revealed the impact of the falling value of a barrel of crude on its balance sheet, warning of a US\$300 million hit to its finances, international media reported.

UK-listed Tullow Oil had also reportedly started preparing for job cuts in response to falling prices.

However, Mulunga said the state of the oil exploration industry in Namibia was still healthy.

“We have issued so many licences to a variety of international oil companies that are affected differently by this sudden fall in the international crude price. We have super-majors, listed and unlisted companies with enough cash which we expect to sustain their exploration programmes in the country for the foreseeable future; meaning we have hedged our bets very well.

“This was a deliberate strategy to make sure that we maintained the exploration momentum in the event of future challenges, such as a lack of immediate exploration success, and a drop in worldwide oil exploration that we are experiencing now.

“Both of these eventualities have now occurred but we will not see a cessation of exploration in Namibia just yet. 2015 will be a relatively quiet year on the exploration front with many



Petroleum Commissioner Immanuel Mulunga



IPPR Research Associate Klaus Schade

companies busy with mostly seismic processing and interpretation work to prepare for the 2016 drilling campaign,” he said.

Meanwhile, the number of EPLs issued by the Ministry of Mines and Energy has been declining since 2012 as the number of available prospective blocks started diminishing.

In 2012 13 licences were issued while 7 licences were issued in 2013 before the number declined to three last year.

“We do not expect good exploration campaigns in all licensed blocks especially during the prevailing market conditions. As I said before we will have enough to maintain our exploration momentum until we make our first discovery, which would then change the landscape completely,” Mulunga said.

He nevertheless remained optimistic about the Namibian oil industry.

“The oil industry is a robust industry and has withstood many shocks in the past and it will rebound. What we are experiencing now is merely one of the shocks and we expect a recovery in international crude oil prices in the near future.

“We hope at least to go into the leagues of petroleum producing countries when we start producing gas from the Kudu Gas Field in 2018. This will provide more confidence in our oil and gas exploration and production industry going forward,” he added.

The Fracking Revolution

Hdraulic fracturing or fracking means oil companies can now extract previously unrecoverable reserves of oil and gas. The exploration of shale gas has not only transformed America’s energy markets, for instance, but also led to massive opportunities for investors, industry analysts say.

Natural gas prices in the US are now less than a quarter of those in the UK, while energy imports into that country have fallen, according to international reports.

“The fracking revolution has already had an impact on the world’s oil and gas balance of power. The United States had suddenly become the largest producer of crude oil just before the oil price collapse and led to a situation where worldwide supply has suddenly eclipsed demand, further putting pressure on the international oil price,” Mulunga said.

There is currently an oversupply of crude oil on the international market because of OPEC’s refusal to cut production, which is why prices might continue to fall.

“The cost of fracking and producing oil from shale is still relatively expensive and most of these producers in the United States and Canada will find it hard to continue operating under the prevailing oil price.

“We have not undertaken any oil exploration for shale oil and gas in Namibia yet so talking about fracking is premature at this stage,” Mulunga explained.

Schade noted that they were considering fracking in South Africa’s Karoo.

“Generally, quite a number of experts are critical about this new technology since the process uses a lot of chemicals and water and the impact on underground water resources and other environmental impacts are not yet known fully.

“In the Karoo, specifically, people are concerned about the impact on the water resources since it is a very dry area and the oil companies would consume large quantities of this scarce and vital resource. I’m not aware of other African countries including Namibia that have shale oil and gas resources,” he said.

No drilling of oil wells in 2015

HILARY MARE

Despite successive dry wells, Namibia has attracted attention from the world's biggest oil explorers such as BP Plc, Chariot Oil & Gas, Royal Dutch Shell Plc that have snapped up assets on a bet that the nation's coastal shelf may mirror that of Brazil across the Atlantic.

People have long assumed that oil discoveries in Angola, the continent's second largest oil producer after Nigeria, and Gabon, countries, which lie along the West African coastal shelf, could mean that Namibia has similar geological formations, according to geologists.

Namibia is seen as the last frontier in oil exploration, as it has attracted attention from the world's biggest oil companies even after at least 19 wells failed to find commercial deposits of crude.

Last year the Namibian government revealed that it wanted companies licensed to conduct oil and gas exploration to start farming out to raise financing for drilling and warned that government would not renew licences for companies that have not shown intentions to start drilling.

In essence, HRT Participacoes em Petroleo SA, the Brazilian oil explorer that failed to find commercially viable deposits in Namibia after drilling three wells, announced that it might secure partners at some of its 10 Namibian blocks.

HRT's unsuccessful drilling campaign in Namibia, in which at least 19 wells have failed to find commercial deposits of crude, would depend on the company securing multiple partners and going as far as shedding majority stakes in some of its blocks.

Namibia's only known discovery is the Kudu gas fields in the Orange River basin, which the country wants to exploit to feed into a planned 1,050 megawatt gas-to-power plant operated by Namibia Power Corp.

In light of these developments and industry shake-ups, an interview with the Petroleum Commissioner in the Ministry of Mines and Energy, Immanuel Mulunga has revealed among other insights that no oil companies will drill wells in Namibia this year

What are Namibia's prospects in Oil exploration this year?

Well, exploration is continuing in most of the existing licences but most of the activities are limited to acquisition, processing and interpretation of 2D and 3D seismic data. No wells will be drilled in Namibia this year.

What may be the major challenges facing the industry?

The biggest challenge facing the industry this year is undoubtedly the sharp decline in the international crude oil price that has necessitated most exploration companies to cut their exploration budgets due to lower revenues from



their production activities. The fact that we are a frontier exploration country does also not help us because we are not an oil producing country and our prospectivity is therefore unknown.

Are there any new government initiatives to support the industry?

There are no new initiatives from government to support the industry but we expect many companies to approach the Ministry to have discussions on their work programmes moving forward. We will treat each request on its own merit. We also expect some of the smaller companies to exit the exploration scene in Namibia completely.

There have been problems of financing for some of the licensed explorers. In your own view, how can one address this problem?

As mentioned above, some of them will lose their licenses because of non-performance but we might talk to the performers who might be struggling to see what we can do within the boundaries of the law.

Namibia has experienced dry wells but

still managed to attract great attention from major exploration companies. What is the cause of this?

In my opinion, it is because people still perceive Namibia as a great place to do business because the Ministry of Mines and Energy has created an enabling environment for oil exploration. The geology of the country still holds much promise for exploration success, and with continued drilling of wells, many believe it is just a matter of time before a discovery is made. These two factors are the major drivers of optimism in Namibia.

Will the blocks ever produce oil?

I believe that there will be a discovery in one of the blocks, when I cannot tell you. The current oil price environment is not helping our cause, but it will rebound and exploratory drilling may resume in 2016 and perhaps only in 2017. At least nobody can criticise Government for not having done everything in its power to create an enabling environment for exploration and discovery of petroleum in the country.



Namibia - Windhoek

YngTze Village, Ground Floor, Room 1A,
Sam Nujoma Drive, Klein Windhoek,
Namibia
Telephone: +26 4 61 255 414
Fax: +26 4 61 255 412
E-mail: Sanette Jordaan -
sanette@nosanamibia.com
Website: www.nosa.co.za

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The 'silver' in the mining jubilee

... In celebration of 25 years of Mining

HILARY MARE

Despite moderate performance by Namibia's mining sector over the last two years, specifically for output, the development of three new mines is expected to boost the sector significantly as the country moves into the silver jubilee celebrations.

Since 1992, exploration expenditure has increased by more than 800 percent, and today a plethora of companies have embarked on actively exploring the exciting potential of Namibia's mineral sector.

Equally important, mining arguably enjoys the status of the biggest contributor to Namibia's economy in terms of revenue.

It accounts for around 25 percent of the country's income. Its contribution to the gross domestic product has undisputedly positioned the industry as one of the largest economic sectors of the country.

"Even though the benefits don't go into our individual pockets, the revenue generated is invested in various socio-economic development projects in our country such as the building of roads, schools and public health facilities.

"The infrastructure development we see in our country is also due to the contribution mining makes towards the public funds. Therefore, we should all be proud of these achievements and more are yet to come," Mines and Energy Minister Isak Katali said.

Foreign investment has increased dramatically since independence, but Government has continued its efforts to promote a favourable investment climate for international mining and exploration companies.

Since the launch of the First National Development Programme at the end of 1995, Namibia has undertaken a concerted investment promotion and industrialisation programme.

To this end, the country has a favourable tax regime for mining which is designed to relieve the burden on developing mines, and only reaches higher levels when mines have started operating profitably.

Government encourages private sector exploration and development through guidelines set out in its 2003 paper entitled "The Mineral Policy of Namibia".

The Ministry of Mines and Energy and its Diamond Affairs, Energy, and Mining Directorates regulate Namibia's mining and petroleum industries.

The ministry additionally provides national exploration and mining databases together with competitive exploration and mining policies and regulations.

In 2006, Government confirmed a royalty



Minister of Mine and Energy Isak Katali

schedule that it originally introduced in 2004.

The royalty regime consists of a 3 percent royalty levied on the market value of base, precious and rare metals and non-nuclear mineral fuels and 2 percent royalty levied on industrial minerals and nuclear mineral fuels.

In addition to strong Government support for the mining industry, Namibia has an active Chamber of Mines that represents over 95 percent of the mining companies that operate in the country.

Several committees within the Chamber oversee matters of health and safety, labour relations, exploration expenditure, production statistics and technological exchange.

The committees also act as a channel for communication between the industry and the Government.

Exploration and mining companies new to Namibia can benefit greatly from the expertise and information available to members of the

Chamber of Mines.

"The bank of Namibia also foresees the domestic economy growing by 5.6 percent this year. The growth is expected from construction activities, mainly in the mining sector," the governor of the central Bank Ipumbi Shiimi said recently.

However, although the sector boasts of mines such as Rössing uranium mine near Arandis, Rosh Pinah mine and Navachab Gold Mine near Karibib just to name a few, diamonds remain the most economically significant mineral commodity produced in the country.

Namibia produces about 2 percent of the world's gem-quality diamonds, which places it amongst the top eighth producers of gem diamond in terms of value.

The Namibian government and De Beers partnership at Namdeb contributes over N\$3 billion to state revenue annually and is responsible for one in every 4 dollars of Namibia's export earnings.

"This unique company has provided tremendous benefits to its shareholders and stakeholders over the last two decades. In total, from land-based operations, we have contributed more than N\$9 billion to the Namibian economy through royalties, taxes and dividends over this period.

"Yet our contribution goes much further than this – we employ over 1,800 permanent employees, a multitude of contractors, and we connect to many more lives through our supply chain.

"By implementing a cutting-edge exploration programme, which still goes on today, Namdeb geologists have added more than 13 million carats to the resource since 1994 – a staggering 670,000 carats per year.

"By seeking out these opportunities, we were able to create new mines, build new processing plants, and develop new technology and mining methods.

"Our mine plan now goes to 2031, and we continue to work on our vision of taking Namdeb's life-of-mine to 2050 and beyond," Namdeb General Manager Riaan Burger pointed out.

In conclusion, when reflecting on the silver jubilee the mining industry posits an industry that has not yet reached its climax and one that will arguably continue to carry the economic hopes of Namibia.

With sheer optimism of growth, lifespan extensions and future mineral discoveries, the country has everything to celebrate at the dawn of this new era.

Tapping Namibia's human and industrial resources



Dundee Precious Metals owns and operates a smelter in Tsumeb. It is the only facility of its kind in Namibia and one of only a handful of smelters in the world that can process polymetallic concentrates. The Dundee smelter is a unique, value-added asset in the Namibian economy.

Our main product is blister copper (98.5% Cu) which is delivered to refineries in Europe for final processing. The smelter is capable of processing 240,000 tons of copper concentrate per annum.

Since acquiring the smelter in 2010, Dundee Precious Metals has invested more than N\$1 billion in projects designed to improve employee health and safety, enhance environmental stewardship and upgrade production infrastructure, as well as to improve the quality of life of inhabitants in surrounding communities.

Currently, Dundee is constructing a N\$2.3 billion sulphuric acid plant on site, one of the largest capital investments in Namibia.

Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb has 450 permanent employees and more than 250 contracted personnel providing engineering maintenance, transport, security and cleaning services. The acid plant construction project employs between 900 – 1,100 private contractor employees.



For further information please contact:

Hans Nolte,
Vice President and General Manager
Email: h.nolte@dundeeprecious.com



Dundee Precious Metals - Tsumeb
P.O. Box 936, Tsumeb, NAMIBIA

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Dundee tackles environmental challenges

HILARY MARE

There is little doubt that mining activities have the potential to cause environmental damage and may have a detrimental effect on people's health if not managed correctly.

Since the Tsumeb smelter plant opened 52 years ago, its Achilles heel has been sulphur dioxide emissions that have plagued Tsumeb residents.

However, Dundee Precious Metal's (DPM) current environmental initiative includes a N\$2.7 billion gas-cleaning and sulphuric acid plant and a comprehensive Biological Monitoring Plan (BMP).

With the various upgrades the company has undertaken since it acquired the smelter, Dundee already looks to have answered the problem that has always been a bone of contention between the smelter operator, residents and the Government.

The gas-cleaning/sulphuric acid plant project is aimed at eliminating the problematic sulphur dioxide gas released by the plant during the copper-smelting process.

The plant is expected to be commissioned in July 2015, and it will have the capacity to produce between 270,000 and 340,000 tonnes of acid annually.

"From an environmental perspective, the plant will finally solve the issue of sulphur dioxide emissions that have plagued Tsumeb residents since the smelter opened in 1963.

"Once completed, the plant will capture and convert sulphur dioxide into a value-added product, namely sulphuric acid.

"We will sell the sulphuric acid to Namibia's uranium mines for use in their production processes. Currently, these companies import sulphuric acid from abroad," Dundee explained.

The bulk of materials used in mining and processing at Dundee, including its smelter operations at Tsumeb are non-renewable and are primarily derived from fossil fuels, and purchased electricity.

Other materials used include lime, cement (primarily at Chelopech), blasting agents (at Chelopech and Kapan) and steel balls and rods.

"Our Environment and Sustainable Development Policy has existed since 2006 and drives our strategy and actions with respect to environmental responsibility.

"It encompasses not only how we care for the physical and biotic environment, but also for the health and safety of our communities at large.

"To monitor the level of sulphur dioxide, we have installed five state-of-the-art air quality monitoring stations, both on site and at strategic points in the community of Tsumeb.

"These new stations are in accordance with US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved technology and ensure data and informa-



tion is verified and calibrated," reads part of the company's current sustainability report,"

Dundee has contracted the internationally renowned Finnish engineering firm, Outotec, to build the high-tech facility. The company has been given the responsibility for the engineering, procurement and construction management aspects of the project.

In response to some concerns raised by civil society during the EIA, including public hearings and the EIA appeals process, Dundee has developed a comprehensive Biological Monitoring Plan (BMP) as part of its internal procedures.

The plan includes habitats and animal species protection, some of which are included in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, and the relevant Natura 2000 Directives.

This includes assessment of their respective level of extinction risk and the company's intentions regarding the monitoring, observation and preservation of identified species.

The plan complies with the Environmental Protection Act, the Biodiversity Act and EIA Resolution 18-8, 11/2011.

"Consistent with our core values of health and safety, environmental responsibility, transparency, and continuous improvement, Dundee

Precious Metals Tsumeb has worked cooperatively with the Namibian government and the health assessment team since the survey was announced in 2011.

"The company has made a commitment to implementing the report recommendations to minimise health impacts on its workers and the community.

"Dundee is confident that the many changes implemented and the investments made towards acquiring the Tsumeb Smelter in 2010 to bring environmental protection, worker health and safety to world-class standards were appropriate.

"The projects [we have] completed are having a positive impact on our people and their working conditions," noted Dundee vice president / general manager Hans Nolte.

A survey among employees last year uncovered health problems unrelated to occupational exposure, but Dundee already has a leading best-practice wellness programme in its prime stages of implementation.

The company has also recorded significant progress in its sustainability fight with a strong decline in total energy use across the entire company climbing down from 2,118,523 gigajoules in 2012 to 1,747,601 gigajoules in 2013.

Phosphate Mining – Key to Namibia’s industrialisation

Nature has endowed Namibia with many natural resources both renewable and non-renewable. The country has been fortunate that it has world-class natural resources of fish and minerals in the ocean off its coast.

Since Independence, Government has encouraged local beneficiation and value addition to natural resources in an effort to drive industrialisation and create jobs to reduce poverty.

The country has so far achieved some limited success with beneficiation in both fisheries and the mineral resources sectors.

However, if tests conducted in the demonstration plant in Lüderitz by LL Namibia Phosphates (LLNP) are successful, beneficiation of natural resources in the country will be taken to a completely new level.

The aim of LLNP’s demo plant is to prove that Namibia can fully beneficiate its rock phosphate locally.

The testing will also assess the technical and environmental aspects of the project on a very small scale before deciding on the feasibility of the full industrial facility.

Separation plant in Lüderitz

Once testing is successful, it will make Namibia a major player in both the mining of rock phosphate for the manufacturing of downstream fertilizer products and for other industrial uses.

This will make rock phosphate the only Namibian mineral that can be beneficiated locally.

Experts estimate that Namibia has phosphate deposits of 2 billion tons which means that mining can last for more than 200 years.

But what is Phosphate? Phosphate is a component found in every living thing as it forms an essential component of life. The growing population of the world needs phosphate and there is no substitute for mined rock phosphate.

Farmers need phosphate as fertiliser for crop production, animal feed and industrial applications.

Phosphate constitutes an essential component in the manufacture of fertiliser products and is one of the world’s most sought after minerals needed to drive the agricultural sector.

About 90 percent of the rock phosphate mined globally goes into fertiliser; the rest serves many purposes in the chemical industry.

Industries a country can establish based on phosphates include beverages, fire fighting products, medicines, dental products, batteries, paint, porcelain products, cleaning agents, cosmetics, and the list continues.

Once LLNP completes its tests successfully, it plans to establish a huge fertiliser-manufacturing complex in Lüderitz, based on Namibia’s rock

phosphate.

Farmers can apply rock phosphate directly to the soil as direct application phosphate rock (DAPR), but other fertilisers LLNP will manufacture include white phosphoric acid (WPA), monoammonium phosphate (MAP), granulated single super phosphate (GSSP) and granulated monoammonium phosphate (GMAP).

The project will utilise proprietary environmentally friendly technology that will generate its own electricity and the balance of 54 MW will go to the national grid.

The technology will also produce fresh water for internal use and supplied Lüderitz with the excess water. This large project has the potential to revitalise and support Lüderitz and the Karas Region for many generations.

Direct application phosphate, an inexpensive fertiliser source, will become available for local farmers and Green Scheme projects, such as the Neckartal Dam Project, which will contribute to food security in Namibia.

The project is in line with NDP4 and Vision 2030 as it directly addresses three of the four main areas the development plans focuses on, namely manufacturing, agriculture and infrastructure development, and will bring major economic benefits to the country.

It will employ 1,500 people and contribute in excess of N\$500 million annually in direct taxes to the fiscus. This will in turn contribute towards Namibia’s long-term economic stability and future wellbeing.

This large project at a cost of N\$ 8 billion has the potential to revitalise and support Lüderitz and the Karas Region for generations as the company plans to add full value to the raw phosphate mined through beneficiation and manufacturing of fertilizer products.

The project will also address Government’s drive for infrastructure development. Government through NamPort has plans to facilitate the export of bulk manganese and iron ore as well as coal from South Africa through the Lüderitz port.

Since the current port is too shallow for big vessels, NamPort has already completed a feasibility study for the Lüderitz port expansion.

Since LL Namibia Phosphates will also use large vessels, the company has entered into discussions with NamPort to fund the construction of the first phase of the port expansion through a PPP arrangement.

Lüderitz port expansion

Only five countries control around 85 percent of total global phosphate reserves – the US, China, Morocco, Jordan and South Africa.



Most of Morocco’s reserves are actually located in the occupied Western Sahara. In addition, many other countries – including most of Europe – are 100 percent dependent on imports of phosphate, since they don’t have their own mines.

Analysts predict the demand for phosphate will increase by 50-100 percent by 2050 with increased global demand for food and changing diets.

Once mining of phosphate starts in Namibia, the country will join the few other countries on which global food production depends on.

LL Namibia Phosphate is a subsidiary of Sakawe Mining Corporation (Samicor) which is a Namibian-owned company involved in diamond exploration, mining and manufacturing.

Samicor has also become involved in property development through its subsidiary Green Building Construction, which is constructing the Windhoek Waterfront at Goreangab dam comprising of a shopping mall, housing and recreational amenities.

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Health Risk Map 2015: Signs of improving private healthcare in Africa

The world's leading medical and travel security risk services company, International SOS has released Health Risk Map 2015, a tool to help organisations understand the medical risks in the markets in which they operate.

Now in its sixth year, the Health Risk Map series helps organisations such as multinational companies, NGOs, educational institutions and governments identify how to anticipate health threats to their employees.

Doug Quarry, Medical Director, Medical Information and Analysis at International SOS said analysis from the company's medical experts presents a very interesting story about private healthcare services in some African nations.

"We have seen continued investment in a number of countries, often from foreign investors, including those in the private medical insurance market. It means citizens, overseas workers and expatriates, have access to higher standard hospital facilities," Quarry said.

"We have to view these improvements in the context of the continent's overall risks. Obviously, the on-going Ebola outbreak highlights the challenges in existing healthcare systems. Nevertheless, these developments are a positive step for healthcare in Africa. And while we are still talking about relatively low numbers of new quality facilities, we may well see more improve-

ments of this nature in the coming years."

Without a proper assessment, business travellers and international assignees often have misconceptions about the risks they will be exposed to overseas.

The International SOS Health Risk Map is designed to help close the gap between the perception and reality of health risks across the world.

Health Risk Map 2015 indicates health risk by the following categories: 'Low', 'Medium', 'High', 'Extreme' and 'Large Rapidly Developing Countries'.

Medical risk ratings provide an overview of the threats of infectious disease, hygiene and sanitation, accidents and the availability and quality of the local health infrastructure. The ratings are determined by a panel of International SOS Medical Directors.

The new 'Large Rapidly Developing Countries' category includes nations where there is a vast difference between the high quality medical care available in the major cities and the low levels of care generally available throughout the rest of the country.

Changes for Health Risk Map 2015

In the new series, 17 countries have had their

risk ratings changed. Countries with improvements moving to a lower risk category include Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mongolia, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda and South Africa.

Nations moving to a higher risk category include Anguilla, Grenada, Guatemala and Mauritius.

Dr Quarry added that operational experience with some countries in the Americas over the last year has highlighted limitations in specialist medical care available, with a corresponding increase in medical evacuation.

"We have therefore increased the medical risk rating of these countries," he said.

Recent International SOS data shows that over 40% of medical cases occur in countries classed as 'High' or 'Extreme' risk. This is a significant increase from less than 25% in 2010.

Preparation of travellers, including a risk assessment, education and health check programme for staff, will reduce the need for intervention after travel.

The company added that this is important for people travelling to high and extreme risk countries. Health Risk Map 2015 is just one of the many tools that can help organisations plan and prepare for operations around the world.



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Heap Leach Demonstration Plant construction site



Bannerman constructs demo plant

MINING REPORTER

Bannerman has announced the award of major contracts to construct and operate the Etango heap leach demonstration plant on its Exclusive Prospecting License 3345.

The development of Bannerman Resources' heap leach demonstration programme represents an integral step of the larger Etango Uranium Project's detailed engineering and financing phases.

The programme is specifically aimed at demonstrating the design and projected performance reflected in the Definitive Feasibility Study.

It also seeks to maintain and build project knowledge and conducting meaningful in-country activities while pursuing value engineering.

Activities at the site started in early October 2014 and construction is on schedule for completion during the first quarter of 2015.

Bannerman said it blasted waste and ore material within the Onkelo region of the Etango deposit and crushed it in a three stage crushing process including high pressure grinding rolls

to deliver a product specification similar to the ore feed characteristics assumed in the Etango Project Definitive Feasibility Study.

A key feature of the deposit is that over 90% of the uranium mineralisation is hosted in granite known locally as "alaskite".

The company mined a bulk sample of 3,000 tonnes and fully rehabilitated the area.

Crushing of the ore and waste has also been completed and the plant commissioning is expected to start early in March this year.

Metallurgical skills have joined the Bannerman team as the company has progressed on its development path.

The first results from the heap leach demonstration plant are expected in the second quarter of 2015.

In light of this development, Bannerman's Chief Executive Officer Len Jubber said: "Bannerman's commitment to the Etango heap leach demonstration plant programme, with the support of our major shareholder Resource Capital Fund via the investment from its Fund VI, will enhance our early mover advantage and ability to fast-track the development of the Etango Project in a rising uranium price environment."

Otjikoto mine pours first gold



The Otjikoto gold mine kept to its original construction schedule by pouring its first gold on 11 December 2014.

The second gold mine in the country is making history as one of the fastest moving mine construction projects.

The rapid progress comes after B2Gold received the Otjikoto mining license in December 2012.

Bush clearing started in January 2013 and construction of the mine was officially underway when a ground-breaking ceremony was held on 26 April 2013.

Since that time the team has placed over 1.3 million cubic metres of earth fill, over 20,000 cubic metres of concrete, and has worked over 3 million man-hours.

Namibian workers and artisans with skills in concrete, welding, bricklaying, pipefitting, electrical work, carpentry, surveying, plumbing, and many other fields have worked with local and expatriate managers and trainers to develop their skills.

The nations represented in the construction phase include Namibia, South Africa, Canada, United States, Russia, Ghana, Italy, Portugal, Mexico, Peru, Chile, Philippines, Nicaragua, and many others.

Because of the incredible work of the construction team, B2Gold now has a world-class mine and processing facility in Namibia.

B2Gold Namibia entered a transition phase months ago from construction to steady state.

The focus of this plan was the end of construction and preparation for production and operations

This involved a ramp down in construction

activities and manpower until the end of the year, and ramp up for steady state operations. As from January 2015, B2Gold Namibia has employed 540 employees in total.

Otjikoto achieved a substantial and significant overall safety performance during 2013 and 2014. During the construction phase of the project, the company recorded a number of significant safety achievements.

This included not recording any fatal incidents, a year-to-date Lost Time Accident Frequency rate of only 0.08 (project-to-date 0.16), and over 2 million man hours worked without a single Lost Time Injury (reached on the 29th of June 2014).

The Otjikoto Mine is located approximately 300 kilometres north of Windhoek between Otjiwarongo and Otavi. B2Gold owns 90 percent of the mine while Namibian empowerment group EVI Mining (Proprietary) Ltd owns 10 percent.

This year, the mine is expected to produce between 140,000 to 150,000 ounces of gold at a cash operating cost in the US\$500 to US\$525 per ounce range.

Once the planned mill expansion in the third quarter of 2015 is completed, annual gold production from the main Otjikoto pit will increase significantly to approximately 200,000 ounces in 2016 and 170,000 ounces in 2017.

The development of the Wolfshag zone, adjacent to the main Otjikoto pit, will also enhance Otjikoto's gold production.

An updated indicated resource study is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2015 along with an updated mine plan by the end of 2015, which will evaluate open pit and underground mining at Wolfshag.



Otjikoto achieved a substantial and significant overall safety performance during 2013 and 2014. During the construction phase of the project the company recorded a number of significant safety achievements.

Husab gears for full production

MINING REPORTER

Swakop Uranium has announced that its majority owned Husab mine will come on stream by the beginning of next year, with the first batch of uranium oxide destined for the Chinese market expected by the first quarter of 2016.

Swakop Uranium CEO Zheng Keping says the company is well on track to achieve its target of removing 74 million tonnes of rock to expose part of its vast uranium ore body so that it can start uranium mining by year-end.

"We hope to be ready for production by next year," Keping told Journalists during a visit to the mine recently.

The major components of the mine's production chain are still under construction.

These include a crusher plant, a 2,5km enclosed conveyor belt system, a sulphuric acid plant with an output of 1,500 tonnes of acid per day, a 10-megawatt power plant to assist with the mine's power needs of 60 megawatts, a leaching plant, as well as a final product recovery unit.

The company expects to have one million



tonnes of ore in stockpile before it starts production of uranium oxide by early 2016.

At full production, Husab will produce 15 million pounds of uranium oxide annually.

To achieve this target, the mine will have to separate 15 million tonnes of ore from the 150 million tonnes of rock it has to remove from two open mining pits.

This massive mining effort will ensure Husab's status as one of the largest uranium mines in the world.

At this stage, it is difficult to quantify the exact financial benefit Namibia will derive from the mammoth project, but it has already made a significant contribution to job creation.

Local contractors at the mine have employed approximately 4,000 workers at the site.

In 2015 alone, Swakop Uranium will spend in

excess of N\$1.5 million on social responsibility projects that will benefit previously disadvantaged communities.

The mine currently has several hundred Namibian artisans and operators in training. At full production, Husab will employ 1,200 permanent staff of which 600 have already been appointed.

The mine has also introduced a High Performance Culture programme for all its employees to uplift their work performance and standards to enable them to compete with the best in the world.

Husab's life of mine is estimated at 20 years, but Swakop Uranium's senior vice-president of operations Deon Garbers believes this can be extended as the mine has six more potential 'pits' it has to assess for output value.

AREVA seals 2015 wage agreement

MINING REPORTER

AREVA Resources Namibia management and representatives of the Mine Workers Union of Namibia (MUN) recently concluded their annual wage and substantive negotiations for bargaining unit employees.

Workers in the bargaining unit received a 7% increase on basic salaries. The increase became effective from 1 January 2015.

"Employees are our most valuable asset. I would like to thank the local leadership of MUN for the negotiations which were conducted in the usual spirit of trust and desire for an acceptable outcome," Managing Director of AREVA Namibia Hilifa Mbako said at the signing ceremony.



Back row from left: Andreas Uguanga (vice secretary, branch committee MUN), Angelique Botha (HR manager), Jacques de Jager (management accountant) and Francois van Dyk (mine manager: acting). Front row: Hilifa Mbako (managing director) with Erich Descande (vice chairman, branch committee MUN.)



Dawe takes helm at B2Gold



Mark Dawe

B2Gold Namibia has appointed Mark Dawe as the company's new managing director following the promotion of Bill Lytle to the position of B2Gold Corp. vice president for Africa – a portfolio that includes the Fekola Project in Mali and the Kiaka Project in Burkina Faso.

Lytle will hand over the reins to Dawe over a six-month period beginning 1 February 2015.

Dawe previously held the position of vice president – key raw materials and head of global mining operations for Solvay's global business unit: special chemicals.

In this role, he oversaw all of the mining operations and projects of the unit – including Okorusu Fluorspar Mine.

Dawe has worked in Namibia for more than 26 years and has extensive experience working with the Government both as a managing director and as a former president of the Chamber of Mines of Namibia.

He comes to the company with an extensive technical background, including an extractive metallurgy degree and a keen interest in environmental protection and corporate social responsibility.

He also has a keen interest in sustainable development, which adds to his compatibility with the B2Gold management philosophy.

"B2Gold Namibia has developed a world-class

mine in record time that will add shareholder value. Additionally, we have focused on sustainability since project inception.

"We have put in key policies and procedures to ensure that stakeholders at all levels of the project benefit from this national asset. The goal is to maximise sustainable opportunities for communities, the government and our workers.

"Only through focusing on these efforts can we leave a legacy of sustainability and fully unlock the value of the resource for the company and stakeholders," Lytle said in a statement.

The statement further said that Dawe shares a similar passion for team building and maximizing employee potential.

"I am confident that Mark [Dawe] will lead B2Gold Namibia to unparalleled success and will make our company the shining star for the mining industry in Namibia.

"I am looking forward to introducing Mark to our staff and I am excited about the future growth of B2Gold in Namibia," Lytle added.

One of Dawe's outstanding achievements was when he was chosen by De Beers Global as a prime example of "managing a mining company with full workplace accountability".

The Otjikoto Mine, which celebrated its first gold pour on 11 December 2014, is B2Gold Namibia's flagship project and only the second gold mine commissioned in Namibia.



A group of geologists from all over the world visited Rössing Uranium as part of their programme while attending a geology conference in South Africa.

Rössing Uranium visitors programme

Not many of Rio Tinto's global operations can lay claim to the honour of being mentioned as a 'must see' travel destination in a Lonely Planet guidebook.

Located 12 kilometres from the town of Arandis in the spectacular Namib Desert, Rössing Uranium Mine is one of the largest and longest running open pit uranium mines in the world.

As well as producing thousands of tonnes of uranium each year, the mine is also a major tourist attraction with an active visitors programme.

In fact, locals and tourists alike believe a trip to Namibia would not be complete without a visit to Rössing Uranium Mine.

In 2014 alone, the mine welcomed more than 1,200 visitors including tourists from around the world, students, academics and groups from organisations including the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) through its gates.

Tours take place on the first Friday of every month and are so popular that they are often booked out weeks in advance.

On the tour, visitors are treated to an insider's view of life at Rössing. As well as information about the daily activities of the mine and its history, visitors are also able to see for themselves the astonishing scale of the mine's open pit and its intricate haul road system.

Tour highlights include a stop at the viewing platform that allows you to look into the deepest parts of the open pit and getting up close and personal with some very large trucks and dozers.

Students who visit the mine receive an outreach presentation that aims to educate them about the mining industry and Rössing's high safety standards, as well as its economic contribution.



Alcina Kahirimana of Rössing Uranium's Corporate Communication section explains the mining activities in the open pit to a local school group.

Discovering uranium in the Namib

Rössing has been an operating uranium mine since 1976. However uranium was discovered long before then in 1928 when a group of friends from the nearby village of Swakopmund went prospecting in the Namib Desert.

It would take several more decades and intensive exploration in the late 1950s before much interest was shown in Namibia's uranium.

Rössing Uranium has been an integral part of Namibia since 1966 when Rio Tinto secured the rights to the Rössing Uranium deposit. Ten years later it became Namibia's first commercial uranium mine.

Since then Rössing has supplied an impressive 127,900 tonnes of uranium oxide to the world's nuclear power utilities to make the low greenhouse emission electricity that powers modern life.

In the process Rössing Uranium has assisted Namibia to become a modern nation that is acknowledged as a leader in providing safe and reliable uranium supplies to the world.

Why open the mine to visitors?

For Rössing Uranium managing director Werner Duvenhage, the opportunity to open the mine to visitors is about education and transparency.

"We welcome visitors to our site all year round. Some come just to see what life is like at an operating mine, others like the IAEA and students visit for educational reasons as Rössing is recognised as one of the safest uranium mines in the world.

"We are proud of the success of our visitors programme and see it as a valuable contributor to the local tourism industry."

Debmarine and Namdeb committed to Education



Minister of Education, Hon Dr David Namwandi, Namdeb CEO, Ms Inge Zaamwani-Kamwi, Chairman of the Foundation, Mr Daniel Kali, Diamond Commissioner, Mr Kennedy Hamutenya, Foundation Executive Manager, Ms Janita von Wielligh, Mr Andre Liebenberg, DBMN Senior HR Manager and the recipients.

BY MINING REPORTER

Debmarine and Namdeb are committed to partner with government and other stakeholders in improving the quality of education especially in rural areas where the greatest need for equipment is overwhelming, Namdeb CEO Inge Zaamwani-Kamwi has said.

Speaking at a handover ceremony in which Debmarine Namibia and Namdeb Diamond Corporation, through their joint Foundation, donated various equipment and books to 29 schools from nine regions, Zaamwani-Kamwi added that it was imperative to work together to ensure that our educational system is responsive and highly effective to the day to day complexities.

“Investing in the education of a Namibian child is the best collateral for the future of our country. Accordingly, we must work together to ensure that our educational system is responsive and highly effective to the day to day complexities. To achieve this we require both bold and decisive leadership from all partners to implement all the agreed strategies and initiatives as outlined in the NDP4 action plan and other policy reform documents.

“If we do so with discipline we stand a better chance to increase access, improve quality and availability of educational materials in most schools. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that the children passing through our educational system are well equipped and knowledgeable. After all, they are the future scientists and experts who will help solve our socio-economic challenges and provide relevant solutions in our journey to vision 2030,” she said.

The donated equipment, valued at N\$616 000, is part of their Schools Equipment Project (SEP).

The project was established in 2011 in response to numerous requests from schools countrywide to address their operational challenges.

The donation includes computers, photocopy machines, wall screens, science equipment, fax machines, multimedia projectors and educational books and is expected to improve the lives of an estimated 15 100 children.

Being committed to the development and future of Namibia, Debmarine Namibia and Namdeb believe that the donation will go a long way in contributing to the country’s socio-economic upliftment.

“Debmarine Namibia and Namdeb acknowledge the importance of education as a catalyst for the country’s development plans. As such we have selected the education fraternity as one of

the key focus areas of our contribution to sustainable socio-economic development.

“Education cannot be left to government alone. We can only be successful if we all join hands - parents, learners, private and public sector,” further remarked Zaamwani-Kamwi.

Namdeb is a wholly owned subsidiary of Namdeb Holdings (Proprietary) Limited Holdings which is owned in equal shares (50:50) by the Government of the Republic of Namibia and De Beers. Namdeb performs land-based exploration, mining, rehabilitation activities and other services for Namdeb Holdings. On the other hand Debmarine Namibia is also a 50:50 joint venture marine diamond prospecting and mining company, owned in equal shares by the Namibian government and De Beers.



“Namdeb CEO, Ms Inge Zaamwani-Kamwi, Chairman of the Foundation, Mr Daniel Kali, Diamond Commissioner, Mr Kennedy Hamutenya, Foundation Executive Manager, Ms Janita von Wielligh, Mr Andre Liebenberg, DBMN Senior HR Manager and the recipients.”



Oranjemund Police Officers testing out the new equipment

NAMDEB DONATES BICYCLES TO NAMPOL

On 4 February 2015, Namdeb donated 15 bicycles and 15 helmets valued at approximately N\$40 000, to NAMPOL in Oranjemund. With the town having been proclaimed in 2012, the donation is a small gesture by Namdeb to support NAMPOL Oranjemund in ensuring a crime free environment as it will enhance the maintenance of law and order through increased visible policing in the town.

Namdeb's General Manager, Riaan Burger proudly handed over the bicycles and helmets and shared a few words at the special occasion.

"As a key role player in the town of Oranjemund, Namdeb recognises that it has to partner with other key stakeholders in the town to secure its long term sustainability beyond mining," Burger said.

Chief Inspector Maryna Coetzee, a staff officer in the office of the Regional Commander of // Karas region received the donation on behalf of the Oranjemund Police Station. She expressed appreciation to Namdeb for the company's ongoing support to NAMPOL in its efforts to combat crime in the town of Oranjemund.

Coetzee had this to say: "It is inspiring to see that Namdeb continues undertaking numerous projects to support the Namibian Police in carrying out its national duties of which one of the



Namdeb GM, Riaan Burger franked by Oranjemund Leadership handing over the bicycles to Namibia Police representatives

main functions is to protect lives and properties. The relationship between the Namibian Police and Namdeb in Oranjemund is commendable. Keep it up."

Henry Coetzee the Mayor of the town of Oranjemund welcomed the gesture on behalf of the community. He called on the community and all key stakeholders to assist the Oranjemund police force.

"With the transformation of the town we are faced with various challenges and now is the time for us "Oranjemunders" to stand up and face

these challenges together," said Mayor Coetzee.

Namdeb continues to mine diamonds, profitably, sustainably and responsibly for the benefit of all stakeholders. Apart from curbing crime in Oranjemund, the bicycle donation to NAMPOL, contributes to being more environmentally friendly and is also expected to encourage a healthy lifestyle amongst the police force members.

The donation by Namdeb to NAMPOL has no financial implication nor any conditions attached.



Doing a patrol on the bicycles in the town of Oranjemund

Craton Foundation aids learners with low vision capabilities

Here may be a correlation between poor performance at school and poor eye sight.

The Craton Foundation has to date reached out to more than 3000 primary school children in Windhoek under the EYE SEE THE WORLD initiative. The Foundation aims to screen and provide glasses to primary school children.

The Foundation is Craton Mining Company's corporate social responsibility arm and has since 2011 created long lasting relations within communities. Company representative Ziggy Hartmann says if a child cannot see what is written on the classroom board, then performance may be compromised.

For the Foundation, the eyes are the most important sensory organ of the human body.

"Children who have low visual abilities could underperform in school, but what is more worrisome is the fact that, the connection between sight and performance at grade level is often overlooked," Hartmann says.

The EYE SEE THE WORLD initiative was launched in 2013 in partnership with Tobich Optics and Simons Storm Securities. Olof Palme Primary in Windhoek's Katutura suburb was amongst the first to benefit from this initiative. The school has approximately 1400 students, 40 of whom were identified as urgently needing reading glasses. In 2014 Bethold Himumuine Primary School approximately 1300 students were tested of whom also 40 were identified as urgently needing reading glasses.



This year, Tobias Hainyeko Primary School another Katutura school was identified as the beneficiary of the EYE SEE THE WORLD initiative support. With over 1700 learners, Tobias Hainyeko School underwent the initial eye screening tests where 40 pupils were identified as having need to undergo a second screen check to determine the level of their sight and the kind of glasses they will need. 25 pupils were identified to urgently needing glasses.

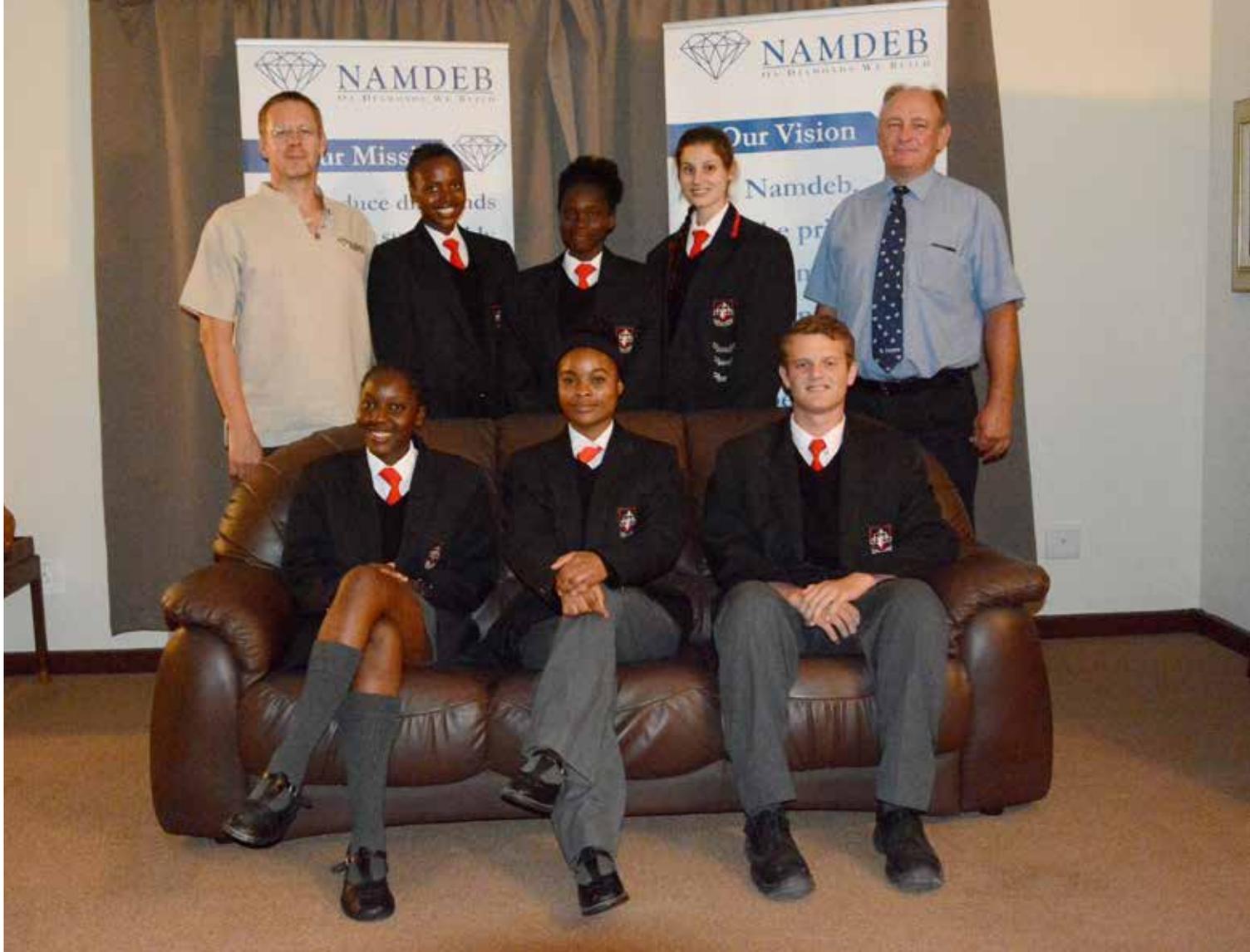
The Foundation is also involved in various other projects amongst them the erection of classrooms. The classrooms are meant to benefit pupils at the schools. More than N\$600,000

was invested in the erection of classrooms at various schools.

Classrooms with space for more than 30 students each were erected at the Olof Palme and Bethold Himumuine Primary Schools.

Craton Foundation Chairperson, Kobus van Graan, said that the Foundation is cementing its position in education, beneficence and corporate social responsibility activities.





Grade ten achievers flanked by Namdeb General Manager, Riaan Burger, on the left and the Principal, Reyno Nieuwoudt, on the right.

NAMDEB CELEBRATES EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Namdeb hosted a dinner, in Oranjemund on the 9th of February 2015 to celebrate the successes of the Oranjemund Private School (OPS) learners and teachers who excelled in the 2014 Grade 10 and 12 external examinations at regional level. The dinner was attended by learners, teachers and parents.

In 2014, OPS achieved 93.1% pass rate in the Grade 10 results, and 6 learners were in the top 10 of the

//Karas Region. According to their positions in the region, the learners are: Shanice Angula (position 1); Vanessa lileka (position 2); Tinus van der Merwe (position 5); Shannon Alexander (position 7); Martha Kangulu (position 8) and Inge Akawa (position 9).

OPS retained the 1st place in the //Karas Region, and was ranked 26th out of 653 schools

in Namibia, compared to 98th position in 2013.

For the Grade 12 Higher Level Results, OPS was ranked 16th position nationally in 2014, compared to 62nd position in 2013.

For the Grade 12 Ordinary Level Results, OPS had 3 candidates in the //Karas Region Top 10 namely; Melanie Feris (position 4); Twapewa Ndahangoudja (position 7) and Kabuba Milomo (position 9). The school was ranked 35th in Namibia compared to 66th position last year.

Guest speaker, Alethea Borman, Namdeb's Mine Secretary, captured the attendees emotionally, as she encouraged learners to continue working hard and to live their dreams. Further to this she highlighted the role that teachers play in the education of children. Quoting Carl Jung, Borman had this to say: "One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers, but

with gratitude to those who touched our human feelings. The curriculum is so much necessary raw material, but warmth is the vital element for the growing plant and for the soul of the child."

Namdeb's General Manager, Mr. Riaan Burger, congratulated the learners and teachers on their achievements. He further re-iterated Namdeb's commitment to education in relation in accordance to its mission that of mining profitably, sustainably and responsibly.

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The '3M 8810 Particulate Respirators' are FFP2 compliant and meet the latest European and South African health and safety standards.

The '3M Rugged Comfort Half Face-Piece Reusable Respirator 6500QL' is designed with tough and dirty worksites in mind, delivering comfort, durability and stability with a firm, lightly textured silicone face seal and strong body construction.

The new 'Quick Latch' feature allows a 'drop-down' mechanism for an easy on-and-off function, with no need of removing hardhat or face shield when lowering or raising the respirator.

3M brings knowledge and experience from a wide variety of industries to every project, helping to inspire creative solutions in the mining industry to improve the way people live and work.

From enhancing site safety and productivity, to helping protect workers and their environment, 3M is committed to advancing the industry well into the future.

To find out how 3M can help make mining safer contact 3M Namibia Personal Safety Representative Tony Nel on +264 811227752 or anel2@3M.com and CYMOT +264 61 2956000 or info@cymot.com



3M 8810 Disposable Particulate Respirator



3M Rugged Comfort Half Face-Piece Reusable Respirator 6500QL



Seeing Beyond The Surface



Adjustable Nose Clip

- + Adjustable nose clip reduces eyewear fogging and helps ensure a better seal and fit

Headbands

- + Two strap design
- + Staple Free head straps

Robust shell and cup design

- + Traditional collapse resistant cup shaped design for reliable, effective protection against fine particulates.

3M Advanced Electret Filter Media

- + Effective filtration combined with low breathing resistance.
- + Consistent high level performance

Tested and CE approved to EN149:2001 + A1 2001

3M™ 8810 Particulate Respirator:
 Innovative technologies that enable easier and safer breathing in the workplace:

**Adjustable Head
 Harness Assembly**

Silicone Face Seal

**Overmoulded, Low-Profile
 Design**



Valve Cover Design



3M™ Bayonet Connection

**3M™ Cool Flow™
 Exhalation Valve**

**Quick Latch (QL) -
 Drop Down Mechanism***

- Easy on and off as you move in and out of contaminated areas
- No need to remove your safety helmet or face shield when lowering or raising your respirator

*QL version only



**3M™ 6500 Series: Rugged Comfort
 in the Harshest Environments**



CYMOT

Tel: +264 61 295 6000
 Fax: +264 61 295 6100
 info@cymot.com
 15 Newcastle Str. Northern Industrial Area

**3M Namibia Personal Safety
 Representative**

Tony Nel
 Tel: +264 811 22 7752
 anel2@3m.com





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17 Rikumbi Kandanga Rd
Walvisbay
Tel: 064 – 200265

Contact Persons

Milly Awaras

Business Development Officer
Fuels and Lubricants
Cell: 081-1615542

Diana Tsamases

Business Development Officer
Fuels and Lubricants
Cell: 081-1225535



Exploring & fuelling Namibia