

## Nesch Mintec Tanzania Ltd Accredited

Nesch Mintec Tanzania Ltd has been accredited by SADCAS and through this accreditation NMTL has been granted the unique accreditation number TEST - 5 0029 indicating that NMTL is now a SADCAS accredited testing laboratory for Chemical Analysis of metallurgical ores. Nesch Mintec Tanzania Ltd is the 29<sup>th</sup> testing laboratory and the 17<sup>th</sup> facility in Tanzania to be accredited by SADCAS. The certificate which was issued on 1 December 2017 is valid for 5 years and expires on 30 November 2022.

The certificate was handed over during a ceremony held on 23 February 2018 at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The ceremony was attended by the Company's directors, staff, clients, government officials and had a strong press presence. In his opening remarks the Chief Operations Officer Mr Happiness Nesvinga gave a background on when the Company was established and its importance in the mining sector not only in Tanzania but in the EAC region as a whole. He then outlined the journey towards accreditation which started in 2016 and culminating with accreditation in December 2017. The Chief Operations Officer noted that some mining companies were sending samples for analysis to South Africa etc. due to unavailability of internationally recognized laboratory services. "All this will come to pass now that Nesch Mintec Tanzania Ltd has been accredited", he remarked. The District Commissioner of Nyamagana in Mwanza where Nesch Mintec is based, Ms Mary Tesha Onesimo, then introduced the guest of honour Professor Shukran Manyo who is the Commissioner of Minerals. In his remarks the guest of honour highlighted the importance of accurate, reliable and reproducible test results in the mining sector and congratulated Nesch Mintec on the achievement of internationally recognized accreditation. He then called upon SADCAS to ensure continued accreditation of Nesch Mintec Tanzania Ltd.



From left to right on the high table: Honourable Mbunge Joseph Kasheku Msukuma, MP, Mr Israel Chasosa , Mrs Mutasa, Ms Onesimo, Mr Kigye and Mr Nesvinga.



Mrs Mutasa giving her speech



Mr Nesvinga and Julius Mwita Kigoye Directors of Nesch Mintec proudly displaying the accreditation certificate

In her speech before the certificate handover Mrs Maureen P Mutasa, the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer noted that a number of SADC countries' economies rely heavily on mining and mineral exploitation with Tanzania being one of them. Tanzania is endowed with a number minerals key of which are copper, gold, silver, diamonds and tanzanite etc. Tanzanite as you all know is an exclusive product of this country. Tanzania is the fourth-largest gold miner in Africa behind South Africa, Mali, and Ghana, and in 2010 accounted for 2% of the world's gold output. The fuel mineral under extraction is natural gas. The mining industry of Tanzania provides jobs for over one million people in Tanzania, the majority being employed in artisanal mining operations. The mining sector is a major source of foreign currency for Tanzania.

She noted that most of the minerals are exported in their raw form. Given these high production rates and growing global demand for finished mineral products value addition is imperative. Mrs Mutasa said that the mining sector has the relative advantage of gaining in competitiveness at fewer costs through adapting the final production to international standards. She further said that the mineral processing sector is identified in the SADC Industrial Policy as one of the priority sectors for development. Testing Laboratories play a critical role in the mining and mineral processing sector in that they conduct mineral assays in support of exploration, research, grade control in the processing plant. Laboratories are also involved in environmental monitoring of mining activities. "Mining companies make decisions about exploration and grading based on the data generated by these analytical laboratories' she said. Accreditation which is the process by which an authoritative body i.e. SADCAS gives formal recognition that an organization/person is competent to carry out specific tasks involves the creation of confidence in the work carried by laboratories, certification and inspection bodies collectively known as conformity assessment bodies. Accreditation is the basis of trust amongst trading partners. "During the validity of the certificate SADCAS will undertake surveillance assessments to check continued accreditation and will not hesitate to suspend or withdraw accreditation" Mrs Mutasa remarked. She then urged Nesch Mintec Tanzania Ltd to extend the scope of accreditation to the other tests such as water, environmental and soil testing. She also advised that ISO/IEC 17025 the standard that Nesch Mintec Tanzania Ltd have been accredited to has been revised with the new standard having been published on 30 November 2017. The International laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) has already agreed on a three year transition from date of publication of the revised version of ISO/IEC 17025 and SADCAS has already issued a transition policy TR 14 which is available on the SADCAS website. She also advised of the newly launched training courses on the new standard and encouraged Nesch Mintec Tanzania Ltd to ensure that they meet the transition timelines so as to maintain your warranted internationally recognized accreditation which you worked so hard for.



Group photo after the ceremony with Guest of Honour - Professor Many and Ms Mary Tesha Onesimo - Nesch Mintec

A vote of thanks was given by Honourable Mbunge Joseph Kasheku Msukuma, Member of Parliament.

Nesch Mintech Tanzania Limited is a private Limited Company which offers laboratory testing services for the mining sector. The Laboratory is involved in minerals testing and testing of metallurgical ores not only for Tanzania but in East Africa as a whole. The laboratory is also involved in environmental testing. SADCAS received an application for accreditation from NMTL in February 2016. The initial assessment was undertaken in April 2017 by an assessment team of 2 members Mrs. Janata Martins as Lead Assessor and Ms Helena Heystek and the Technical Assessors. Accreditation was granted on 1 December 2017 i.e. within 10 months of submission of application.

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