

**AFRISAM ACQUIRES LEVEL 3 BBBEE CONTRIBUTOR STATUS**

*25 November 2009* - AfriSam South Africa has been declared a Level 3 Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE) contributor by the National Empowerment Rating Agency (NERA). This is an improvement on the company's previous Level 4 status.

The company received full points for socio-economic development, enterprise development and equity ownership as well as a bonus point for equity ownership. The bonus point is awarded for 'involvement in the ownership of the enterprise of black participants in employee ownership schemes; black beneficiaries of Public or General Benefit Schemes; or black Participants in Co-operatives'.

"As a responsible corporate citizen, we view our active participation in the country's social and economic development as well as our contribution to the wellbeing of societies within which we operate as critical. This objective is in line with our *People* value, which is the foundation of our conviction that people are what make the business," says Charles Naude, CEO of AfriSam.

"In support of this belief, we have an intensive Corporate Social Responsibility programme which focuses on education and conservation. Through this programme, we are involved in various educational and conservation projects nationwide, with the objective of empowering and equipping communities with the knowledge and skills, as well as providing them with the tools and facilities to become self-reliant and sustainable," says Naude.

The company's overall **Community Involvement mission** is to understand the needs of society and communities in areas where it does business to make meaningful and sustainable contributions to their upliftment.

AfriSam plays a significant role in enterprise development through its partnership with Klipstone Transport (Pty) Ltd, in which the company has a 10% shareholding.

Klipstone is 64% owned by Unitrans and 26% owned by Magnificent Mile, a company wholly-owned by former AfriSam Human Resources Director and businessman, Monwabisi Vika, and is contracted to transport bulk and bagged cement within Gauteng.

The conclusion of AfriSam's historical Black Economic Empowerment deal in 2007 turned the organisation into the leading black-controlled construction materials group in southern Africa. This ownership structure is what earned the company an outstanding 21 points (including bonus point) in the equity ownership element of the scorecard.

"We are proud of this achievement, making us an industry leader, with a 62.5% Black ownership, of which 27.8% is by Black Females," says Naude.

AfriSam has recently introduced an employee share ownership programme, through which 13.5% of the company is owned by employees. The company is 10% owned by charities and broad-based groups.

"We are constantly working hard at improving our performance in all the categories of the scorecard, thereby helping put South Africa on par with its global peers. The effect on our BBBEE rating is the cherry on top," concludes Naude.

**Note to editors:**

**ABOUT AFRISAM (PTY) LTD**

AfriSam is the leading black-controlled building construction materials group in southern Africa. With operations in South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland, the company has total assets in excess of R3.7 billion, over 2000 employees and an annual production capacity of 4.6 million tons of cement.

It has 6 production facilities, 9 cement depots, 16 quarries and aggregate operations, 40 readymix concrete plants as well as a dedicated Slagment plant. The

company has a 62.5 percent interest in Tanzania-based and listed, Tanga Cement Company.

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