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AFRISAM BECOMES LEVEL 2 BBBEE CONTRIBUTOR

AfriSam has been accredited by the National Empowerment Rating Agency (NERA) as a level 2 BBBEE contributor.

Commenting on this significant achievement, AfriSam Chief Executive Officer, Stephan Olivier, expressed his satisfaction, pointing out that it was a demonstration of AfriSam's commitment to being a responsible corporate citizen, intent on contributing positively to the country's socio-economic development.

"Two of our main corporate values revolve around 'people' and 'planet'," Olivier continues. "In obtaining BBBEE accreditation, we focused substantial resources on the 'people' element since the company, its performance and success are ultimately driven by people."

"It is this conviction which led us to develop an intense Corporate Social Responsibility Programme with a primary focus on education and conservation. Projects within this portfolio aim to empower and equip communities with the knowledge, skills, tools and facilities to become self-reliant and sustainable. This enables them to develop small and medium businesses, improve the quality of

their own lives and contribute towards uplifting the standard of living of their communities. Becoming a Level 2 BBEE contributor falls naturally within the ambit of that philosophy and becomes neatly aligned with our corporate policies.”

Olivier stresses that it is not at all about attaining the accreditation “at all costs”. “We are not in some kind of race or competition,” he points out. “We believe it is the right thing to do and consider it a matter of principle. A new momentum was given to the process in 2007 when we entered into a landmark Black Economic Empowerment transaction which changed our ownership structure and extended ownership to BBEE groups and our employees.

“Since then we have been focusing quite intensely on developing the various codes listed in the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework and have drafted action plans to improve our performance on all aspects of those codes. We are intent on making significant progress as we move forward.”

“We are paying specific attention to developing skills in engineering disciplines where there are acute skills shortages and place a high value on the development of small, black-owned enterprises, viewing partnership with them as critical on our way ahead. We plan to play a growing role in enterprise development in partnership with numerous companies and are constantly on the

lookout for opportunities where we can build up these promising small and medium enterprises.”

He adds that while customers will benefit from AfriSam’s new Level 2 status by obtaining preferential procurement points towards their BBBEE score cards when purchasing supplies from AfriSam. The company itself does not envisage any direct financial benefit. “Our status will provide our customers with better opportunities to compete in government tenders. From our side, we wish business, industry, government and our customers to see us as a responsible corporate citizen, sincerely committed to playing a positive role in the future growth and development of our country and our people.”

PIC 01 : AfriSam places high value on its people, based on the conviction that the company, its performance and success are ultimately driven by people.

PIC 02 : Education and conservation are the two primary focus areas of AfriSam's Corporate Social Responsibility programme.

PIC 03 : AfriSam plays an active role in skills development within engineering disciplines experiencing high skills shortage.

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