

The Promoter

of Standards & Quality in Botswana

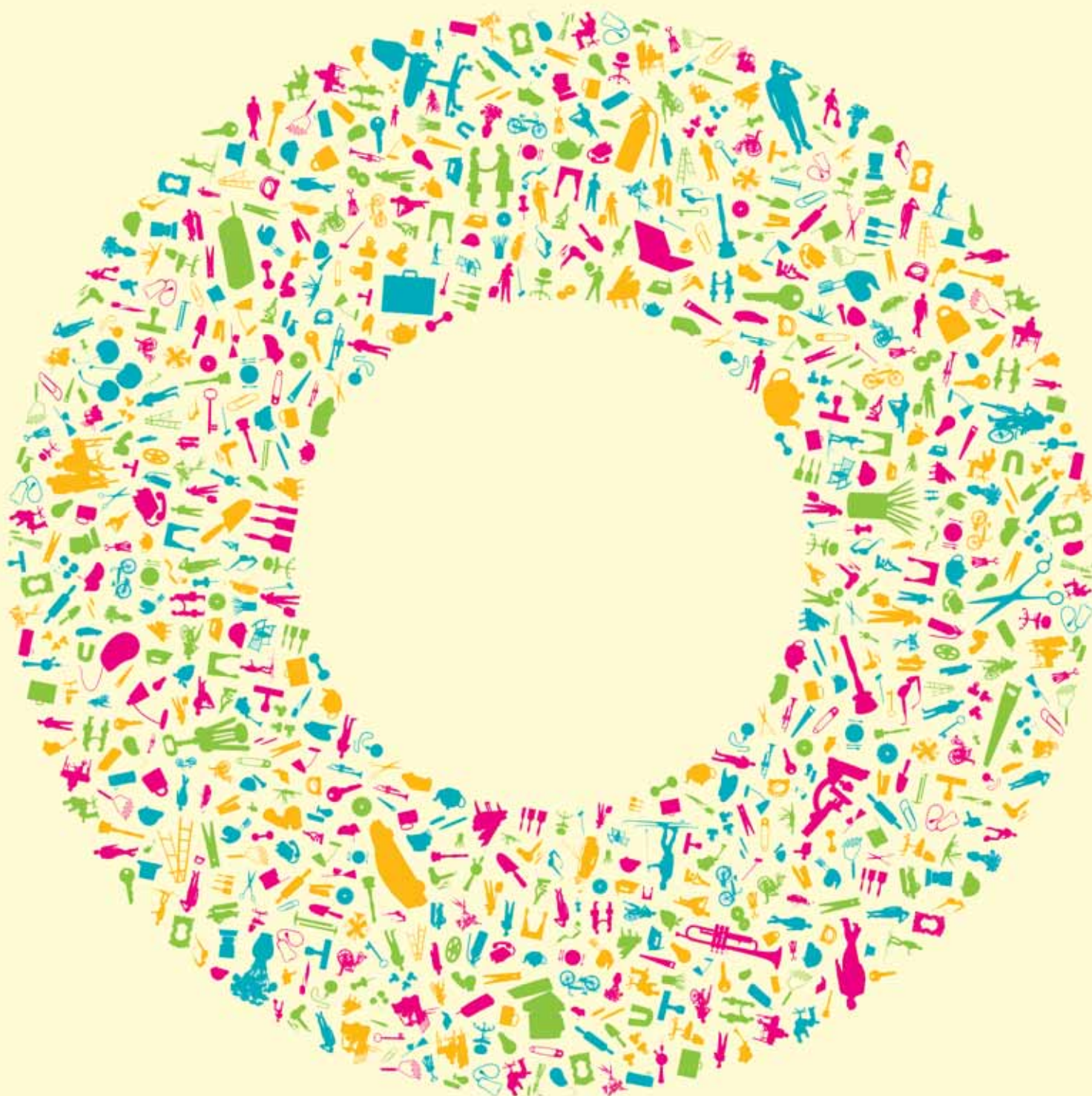


ISO 9001: 2000 Reg. No. 324309 QM



October 2006
Botswana Bureau of Standards
Newsletter - VOL 38

standards: big benefits for small business



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BOBS Hosts the First Meeting of the SADCSTAN

Technical committee on Construction (TC1)

By M.N. Ntau

The first meeting of SADCSTAN TC1 (Construction) - Technical Committee was held on 25th July 2006 at Botswana Bureau of Standards in Gaborone. Present at the meeting were representatives from four SADC countries; Mr David P. Katala from Zimbabwe; Mr Dirk Loubser from South Africa; Mr Manuel da Conceição representing Mozambique; Mr Mothusi N. Ntau (TC1 Secretary); Mrs Sophie E. Mbaiwa and Mr G.K. Motshidisi both from Botswana.



SADCSTAN meeting in progress at BOBS.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the comments on proposed bricks standards for harmonization, received from the SADC members. The Secretariat could not dispose the comments because they were varying technically. It is usually recommended that consensus be reached by correspondence. Due to the nature of comments received, it was proposed to the SADCSTAN Executive Committee (EXCO) that a meeting be held.

The Secretariat briefed the meeting on Standards harmonization status such as the aim of harmonization of standards being to remove technical barriers to trade. The criterion that is being followed is to harmonize standards for products/services that are being traded within the region.

During the meeting, two draft harmonized standards were discussed; these were on Concrete Masonry Units & Burnt Clay Masonry Units. It is very encouraging to note that the comments were discussed and consensus reached.

As a way of improving the harmonization exercise, it was suggested that SADCSTAN should come up with a numbering system for the standards. There is also a need to have a format for writing SADC harmonized standards. Another recommendation made was that; when proposed documents for harmonization are sent to other SADC countries for consideration/comments, they should not bear a standard

number of any of the countries (e.g. BOS 27:2000). It was observed that this practice might be misleading because recipients/readers might think that they are just commenting on a standard for 'that' country, and not for the SADC region.

Some of the projects proposed at the meeting for harmonization include:

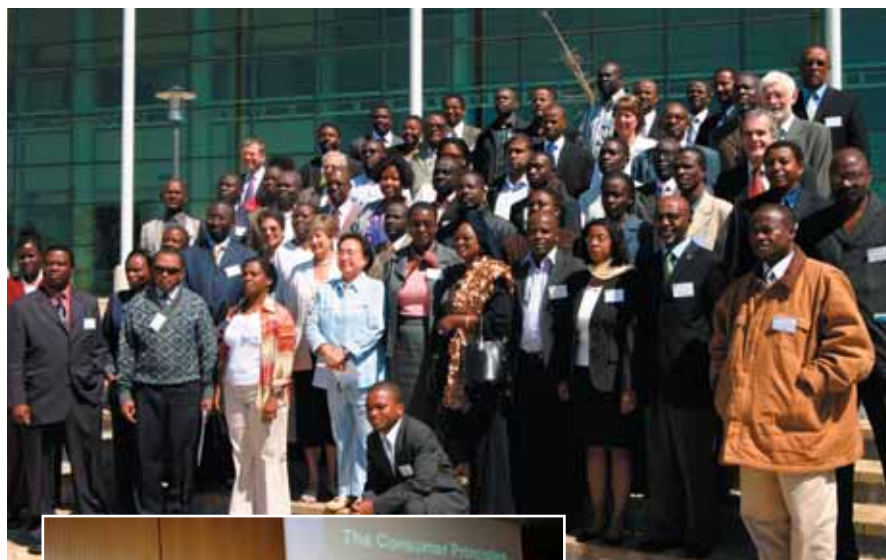
- Aggregates from natural sources – Aggregates for concrete - Specification
- Steel bars for reinforcement of concrete – Specification
- Bending dimensions and scheduling of steel reinforcement – Specification
- Welded steel fabric for reinforcement of concrete – Specification

It was noted that participation of regional members is generally low. This low participation may lead to poor implementation of harmonized standards.

In conclusion, the meeting was successful. The comments were disposed and consensus reached on proposed bricks standards. The secretariat extended gratitude to PTB and SADCSTAN for making it possible for the members to attend the meeting. The Secretariat also commended Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe for their participation. Other SADC members were encouraged to participate more in this activity for the benefit of the region.

ISO DEVCO/COPOLCO training seminar in Africa

By T. Katse



Group photo of the 80 participants from 33 African countries

The Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) played a host to the first ever ISO DEVCO/COPOLCO training seminar in Africa, which was held from the 31st August 2006 to the 1st September 2006. The two-day seminar, which brought together a total of 80 participants from National Standards Bodies (NSB's) and Consumer organizations representing 33 African countries was officially opened by Mr Morris Ramabu, Vice-Chairperson, BOBS Standards Council.

ISO COPOLCO is an ISO Committee on Consumer Policy which was established in 1978 and currently has membership of more than 90 countries, it also has official liaison with Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and Consumer International (CI). Other bodies represented in COPOLCO are IEC, ANSI's Consumer Interest Forum and ANEC (European consumer voice in standardization) as an observer.

The seminar, held under the theme 'Consumer participation in Standardization' was organized to assist in bridging the gap that currently exists within the Standardization framework resulting in consumer issues not being adequately and effectively addressed.

They also forged the way forward and the current set-up was reviewed, to look at ways in which the consumer voice may be incorporated in all standardization issues. Different existent models and realities were presented such as the UK National Model: BSI consumer involvement and the participants were advised to benchmark and customise accordingly to suit their individual country systems.

The realization of the objective of bridging the gap hinges on dealing with the following barriers (The list is not exhaustive but acknowledges only the salient barriers)

- Lack of suitable experts to represent consumer committees
- Limited financial resources for consumers to participate
- Poor communication between NSB, standards developers & national consumer bodies
- Perception that standards are for the Industry
- Lack of national focus for consumer bodies

Consumer participation in standardization remains a challenge as highlighted throughout the seminar. This however is set to change as NSBs together with national consumer bodies go back to the drawing boards in an effort to foster a mutually beneficial relationship that will enhance consumer participation in standardization.



Caroline Warne, consumer representative



Ms. Jai Ok Kim, chair ISO/COPOLCO and president, Consumers Korea



Mr. Folke Hermanson Snickars Business Manager, International Training SIS Forum



Participants doing some group discussions



Participants

The Importance of Textiles

By P.A. Kgabung

Textile products play a vital role in meeting man's basic needs. We often only consider textiles to be the clothes we wear. Obviously, the clothing industry is where the majority of textiles are produced and used. However, textiles are also important in all aspects of our lives from birth to death. The use of textiles has been traced back over 8500 years. The technological advances of textiles in various industries do not always get recognized as they do in the clothing industry. The following paragraphs describe some important roles that textiles play in other industries.

•FOOD INDUSTRY:

Farmers wear protective clothing to spray their crops with pesticides. Textiles are used to cover plants and wrap trees for protection from weather and insects. Coffee filters and tea bags are made of a non-woven textile.

•BUILDING MATERIALS:

Textiles are used in our homes to insulate them from heat and cold. The furniture, on which we sit and sleep, is composed of various types of textile products. Textiles are used in roofing materials, wire coverings, wall coverings, blinds, air ducts and window screens.

•TRANSPORTATION:

The transportation industry relies on textiles to line the beds of the roads before they are paved. A tire gets seventy five percent of its strength from textiles. Kevlar[®] aramid is often used to strengthen radial tires because it is lightweight and five times stronger than steel. The interiors of all types of transportation vehicles are covered with textiles. Textiles are also used in the brake linings, gaskets, seals, seat belts, air bags and filters of vehicles.

•HEALTH INDUSTRY:

Textiles are used as life saving devices in the healthcare industry. The artificial kidney used in dialysis is made of 7,000 hollow fibres and is only

5 centimetres in diameter. The invention of disposable clothing helps prevent the spread of bacteria. Sutures for wounds are now made of a dissolvable textile fibre. Casts for broken bones, surgical masks, bandages and gloves are other examples of textiles used in the healthcare industry.

•PROTECTIVE MATERIALS:

Bulletproof vests are made of 7 layers of Kevlar 29[®] aramid, which can protect a person from a knife slash and stop a .38-caliber bullet fired at a range of 3 metres. Fire fighters and racecar drivers wear apparel made of Nomex[®] aramid to protect them from the extreme heat they encounter in their professions. Astronauts wear suits made of Nomex[®] aramid that protect them from the elements of space. Sports players wear protective helmets and pads made of textiles.

•RECREATIONAL PRODUCTS:

Sports equipment such as sailboats, hockey sticks, fishing rods, golf clubs, tennis rackets and canoes are composed of textile fibres. Kevlar[®] aramid is used in this type of sports equipment because of its lightweight and strength. Backpacks, balls, life jackets and artificial playing surfaces are also made of textile fibres.

•MISCELLANEOUS TEXTILE PRODUCTS:

Other products composed of textiles that are not usually thought of as textile products are as follows:

- Toothbrushes
- Hair Brushes
- Dental Floss
- Artificial Flowers/Plants
- Book Bindings
- Candle Wicks
- Communication Lines
- Circuit Boards

Just by reviewing the textile products contained in the paragraphs above helps us realise how important textiles are to our lives. The importance of textiles also meets another need, which is employment. As textile technology advances, so will the importance of textiles in our lives.

Laboratory Training by BOBS

Laboratories in Botswana continue to realize and report benefits from training in laboratory courses offered by BOBS. The courses offered are (1) Understanding the BOS ISO/IEC 17025 standard; (2) Documentation of a Laboratory Management System and (3) Laboratory Internal Auditing Course.

Despite scheduled courses strategically placed to accord participants with a smooth transition from gaining theoretical concepts to an established confidence in practical application, there has been a recent increase in the need for in-house training, a development which underscores the relevance and importance of these courses.

Of great interest is a continuing, rising trend in the initiatives by laboratories to put their theoretical knowledge into practice. BOBS has realized an increase in the need by laboratories to be assisted in gap analysis, which is the initial step within the phases of implementing a laboratory management system. Above that, initiatives from laboratories are apparent in the establishment of management systems and BOBS continues to relentlessly assist laboratories in this endeavor.

This pleasing, positive development is attributed to the learned pool that has been produced hitherto, and their active participation

in the ISO/IEC 17025 forum, which we all can vouch for its good purposes. With this spirit upheld, one can unashamedly predict that Botswana would undoubtedly cherish existence of competent laboratory operations within a decade from today; which would put us at an upper bracket of trusted operations in the region. BOBS nonetheless, continues to encourage and urge laboratories to continue training personnel and establishing documented laboratory management systems for reasons best known to us all.

Below are the happy faces after a hectic 4 days



Participants after the "Understanding BOS ISO/IEC 17025 course" held on the 17th - 20th October 2006. Their smiles say it All.

Why Import Inspections

By S.S.M Kabogota

The need for import Inspection Scheme came as a result of a study done by Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) in 2003 to establish the role of standards in monitoring imports. The study identified a number of concerns on dumping of hazardous waste, ozone depleting substances, goods with close to or past their expiry dates, second hand goods, clothing and shoe sizes, food additives and validity of certificates presented with imported goods.

The BOBS therefore intends to introduce import inspection in order to monitor the quality of imported goods through the use of Standards. In addition to control of quality of imports as well as ensure safety and health of consumers & to the environment. In cases where local producers are subjected to requirements of compulsory standards imports will equally be subjected to such standards creating a fair competition between local products and imports. It will also facilitate importers in advertisements and marketing of their products.

This exercise will involve evaluation and acceptability of certificate/s from the exporting country, recognition of certified products, and or sampling and testing of imports.

The Botswana Bureau of Standards on 13th October 2006, organized a workshop to create awareness to on the importance of introducing import inspections and to solicit comments from the stake holders. The participants that attended were from Government departments, manufacturers traders, parastatal organizations, and importers.

Some workshop participants dismissed the whole exercise and majority approved the initiative with some concerns. Majority indicated that everyone should and indeed will benefit of introduction of import inspections. These regulations should facilitate and not make business to be difficult. They said if these regulations are not properly implemented may cause problems. Thus recommended to authorities to consider for alignment with other bilateral and multilateral agreements (SACU, SADC, etc) at relevant fora.

The Bureau intends to start with products that comply with compulsory standards to offer equal opportunity for consumer protection against imports as well as locally produced goods. Products that have a wide spread common use through out the country and may cause nuisance in case there is a malpractice will also be subjected to import inspection. Draft list of products under consideration include Bottled Drinking Water, Cattle feeds, Chicken feeds, Cooking oil, Floor and roofing tiles, Juices, Plastic Chairs, Sorghum for human consumption, Sugar and Used clothing.



Mr. K Morgan, welcoming the participants to the workshop



Participants at the workshop



left and above: group discussions



Mr. Kabogota explaining the draft import inspection regulation



Director of Standards Mr. T Fako giving closing remarks

Health, Safety and Environmental Factors Affecting the Operation of a Timber Treatment Plant

By C.H. Nyanda

Introduction

For structural timber to last long in use, it has to be protected from attack by pests and from degradation by environmental effects. This is done primarily by treating timber with chemicals. However most of the chemicals that are used for treatment of timber are hazardous/toxic and if not handled and used properly, pose a danger to human life and the environment.

Occupational health and safety of personnel working in a timber treatment plants and the prevention of environmental contamination in and around such plants are increasingly becoming compulsory requirements for management of timber treatment plants in many countries around the world. Chemicals used in treatment of timber present a challenge to ensure that the associated hazardous effects on humans and the environment are controlled within acceptable limits and that personnel are protected from being adversely affected.

Another challenge is the subsequent disposal of the waste materials emanating from the timber treatment processes.

Attempts have been made both at regional and international level to draw up measures for controlling the potential hazards on personnel arising from the handling and use of such chemicals for treating timber. Procedures for safe handling and disposal of waste materials and chemicals have been developed and managers of timber treatment plants are required to adhere to them at all times. Infact, in many countries, a license to run a timber treatment plant can only be issued after the plant has fulfilled all the occupational health and safety requirements associated with the handling and disposal of the chemicals used for treating timber.

Some of the requirements are as follows:

Occupational health risk assessment

Risk assessment should be carried out in order to identify the hazards and evaluate the risks associated with timber treatment chemicals to the health of employees, and to determine the steps that need to be taken to minimize the identified risks.

Assessment of potential exposure

Assessment should be done to determine if any employee has already been exposed to any hazardous chemical substance.

The recommended interval for such assessments is at least once every two years.

Air monitoring

Where the inhalation of hazardous chemical substances is a risk, a programme for analyzing airborne concentrations of the chemical substances should be established and carried out. The levels of chemicals to which the employees are exposed should be continually monitored to ensure that exposure limits are not exceeded.

Medical surveillance

This is essentially a medical testing programme which should be carried out when

- employees are exposed to hazardous chemical substances
- the risk assessment on the chemical processes and air monitoring indicates that the health of employees is at risk
- a qualified occupational health practitioner recommends that the relevant employees be placed under medical surveillance.

Medical surveillance may include biological monitoring of exposure and medical screening of employees.

Sanitary facilities

A timber treatment plant should have sufficient sanitary facilities (i.e. ablution blocks with showers, toilets, wash basins, soap, change rooms, lockers, emergency showers and eyewash facilities), which are kept in good working order and in hygienic conditions at all times

Water from showers and washbasins which is contaminated with treating chemicals should not be discharged into the ablution drains or storm water drains. It should be collected, neutralized and disposed of in an approved manner.

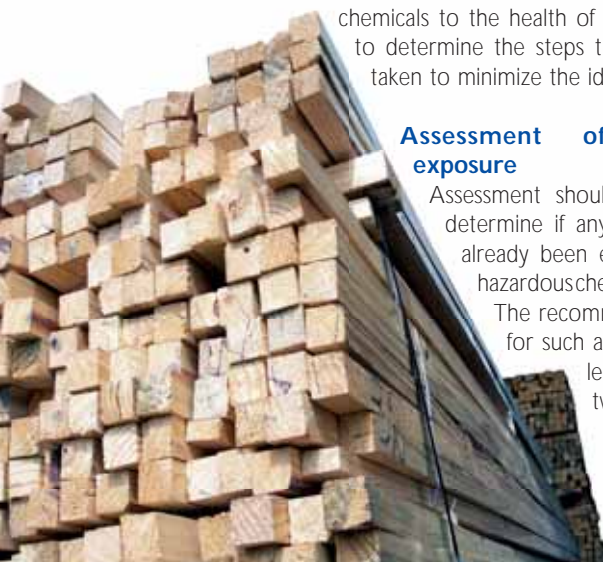
Chemical safety

There should be controls to ensure that correct handling and safety procedures are being followed by all employees. Only approved chemicals for treatment of timber should be used. All relevant information on handling, storage and first aid should be maintained for reference. Records of accidents and incidents associated with the chemicals should also be kept.

Plant safety

The safe and successful operation of a timber treatment plant depends on the following:

- sound design and installation
- regular inspection and maintenance
- compliance with approved operating procedures
- adequate training and supervision of employees
- compliance with the code of hygiene.



Housekeeping

All areas that are prone to build-up of chemical deposits should be kept clean by regular hosing down with water. Dry sweeping is not acceptable.

Environmental monitoring

The impact of the discharges into the receiving environment should be monitored continually. Aspects to be monitored should include air emissions from stacks of treated timber, industrial discharges, domestic and sanitary waste.

Waste management and disposal

Waste treated timber should be disposed of in an approved landfill or should be burnt, except waste timber treated with CCA should not be burnt. Chemical containers should be neutralized and rinsed at least three times and should not be used for any other purpose. Alternatively, the containers may be returned to the chemical supplier.

Chemical spillages should be soaked up with an absorbent material (such as sand), placed in a suitable container and disposed of appropriately as toxic waste.

Protective clothing

Basic protective clothing and accessories should be provided and should adequately protect the head, eyes, nose, mouth, hands, arms, face, body and feet.

All protective clothing and equipment should be inspected regularly to ensure that they are kept in good condition.

Accident prevention and safety aid

A complete first aid kit and emergency medication should be available in the timber treatment area. First aid equipment should not be situated in the same room as timber treatment chemicals.

Safety labels are required on all chemical containers. Posters relating to safety in workplace should be displayed at strategic points within the treatment plant area.



Rainy Season and Diarrhoea Outbreak in Botswana

By M. Bannyaditse

Following good rains across much of Botswana during the beginning of 2006, there was an outbreak of acute diarrhoea in 12 districts throughout northern and eastern parts of the country. According to United Nations regional Inter-Agency Coordination Support Office (UNRIACSO, March 2006), 18000 children were affected and 346 succumbed to the outbreak. The children affected were battling with severe malnutrition as a result of prolonged diarrhoea.

Main causative agent of the diarrhoea outbreak in Botswana

Briefing a full meeting of the Francistown City Council in March 2006 Dr R Lobelonyana reported the sign of the diarrhoea as including diarrhoea and vomiting and indicated that the cause of the outbreak was unknown though was associated with heavy rains that were received during that period (Botswana Guardian, 21-2 March 2006). However, according to UNRIACSO, March 2006; International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID), March 2006 and SABCnews.com, April 2006 the causative organism was a microscopic parasite of the genus *Cryptosporidium* and causes a type of diarrhoea called cryptosporidiosis. The parasite lives in the intestines of human beings and animals and is usually found in the stools or faeces. The symptoms include diarrhoea, vomiting, nausea and fever (WHO, 2006). The same author further states that the severity of cryptosporidiosis varies according to age and immune status, and infections in severely immunocompromised people can be life threatening. Hence it is vital for a country like Botswana afflicted by the HIV/AIDS scourge to guard against the causative organism.

Cryptosporidium spp

Cryptosporidium spp occur worldwide and are a well known cause of diarrhoea in children in tropical Africa and the reservoir for the organisms is usually calves and human beings; infections are seen when drinking water infected with faeces containing *cryptosporidium* cysts/eggs (ISID, 2006).

Cryptosporidiosis in children in a north

Jordanian paediatric hospital was reported (Mahgoub et al, 2004) and a higher incidence was recorded during January- May, the rainy season. The organism isolated from stools during investigations was *Cryptosporidium parvum* among children from birth to 12 years.

Surface water becomes contaminated through the discharge of untreated and treated sewage and run-off of manure and the largest outbreaks of cryptosporidiosis was attributed to contaminated drinking water, both from surface water and groundwater sources (WHO, 2006). Care should be exercised as outbreaks may be aggravated also by consumption of contaminated food, such as raw vegetables or food contaminated by infected food handlers (WHO, 2006).

Conclusion

Since a number of innocent lives were lost during the last rainy season, it is imperative that relevant health authorities start sensitizing the general public about the possible recurrence of the cryptosporidiosis during the next few months. Therefore control measures to reduce potential risk from *Cryptosporidium* should focus on prevention of source water contamination by human and livestock waste, adequate treatment and protection of water during distribution as advocated by WHO, 2006.

References

1. SABCnews.com – Africa/southern Africa_ Africa (April 03, 2006) Botswana's diarrhoea distress call loudens.
2. WHO (2006) Guidelines for drinking water quality – *Cryptosporidium*.
3. International Society for Infectious Diseases (March 2006) *Cryptosporidiosis*, Botswana (Central): Suspected.
4. Mahgoub E. S., Almabashi A. and Abdulatif B (2004) *Cryptosporidiosis* in children in a north Jordanian paediatric hospital. Jordan University of Science and technology, Irbid, Jordan.
5. UNRIACSO for the Special Envoy for Humanitarian Needs in Southern Africa (2006) Southern African humanitarian crisis update.
6. Botswana Guardian (2006) Diarrhoea death toll rises.

Follow-up Workshop on “How to run a SADCSTAN Technical Committee (TC) Secretariat”, Maseru, Lesotho

By: M. N. Ntau

The above workshop was held at Mmelesi Lodge from 15th to 16th August 2006. All the countries in the SADC region were represented except Swaziland. The main aim of the workshop was to review the progress of SADCSTAN technical work programme and also to review the role of the TCs in the harmonization process. Training on the responsibilities of the TC secretariats also formed the focus of the workshop.

Botswana had an opportunity to make a presentation at the workshop on the first physical Technical Committee meeting for TC1 – Construction. It was reported that the comments were disposed successfully. The presentation was received with particular interest and as an example for all, especially that even though PTB met the travel costs, member countries also paid for their accommodation and food expenses.

The other presentation made was on what Botswana is doing in the area of awareness on SADCSTAN. The workshop attendants were informed that an internal workshop was held with the Standards Department Staff in order to sensitize them about SADCSTAN activities, how to handle standards for harmonization, the roles of Operational Officers and the SADCSTAN secretariat, etc. The public is also informed from time to time



Mr. Ntau with the SADCSTAN technical committee in Maseru

at TC meetings, workshops, and seminars as well as during special activities about the activities of SADCSTAN.

The workshop was informed that PTB funding would be coming to an end at the end of this year. This implies that member states should brace themselves to the financial implications of the challenge; members should therefore start funding themselves to attend meetings and workshops.

It was observed that voting results in standards harmonization work are very poor. The general understanding at the workshop

was that all National Standards Bodies should do something to improve the situation.

The workshop was successful and meaningful to all the attendants. The workshop also created an opportunity for attendants to learn from others as to how they manage their harmonization work at their respective countries.

It recommended that Operational Officers and TC Secretaries who did not attend the workshop should also study the workshop material.

BOTSWANA BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Botswana Bureau of Standards intends to declare the following draft standards as Botswana Standards:

1. BCD5 (439) D20: Shower units – Part 1: Prefabricated shower trays made from acrylic material - Specification

This draft standard specifies requirements for prefabricated shower trays made from acrylic materials.

2. BCD5 (440) D20: Shower units – Part 2: Prefabricated shower trays made from porcelain enameled cast iron - Specification

This draft standard specifies for prefabricated shower trays made from porcelain enameled cast iron.

3. BCD5 (441) D20: Shower units – Part 3: Prefabricated shower trays made from vitreous enameled cast iron - Specification

This draft standard specifies requirements for prefabricated shower trays made from vitreous enameled sheet steel.

4. BCD5 (442) D20: Shower enclosures – Functional requirements and test methods

This draft standard specifies requirements for shower enclosures for

domestic purposes, which ensure that the product, when installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, gives satisfactory performance when installed as intended.

5. BCD5 (443) D20: Impact modified extruded acrylic sheets for shower trays for domestic purposes - Specification

This draft standard specifies the properties of impact modified extruded acrylic sheets from which shower trays for domestic purposes are manufactured.

6. CD4 (466) D20, Coats and jackets (protective unlined) – Specification

This draft specification covers the requirements for the materials and make of jackets and three-quarter length and full length coats suitable for use by personnel employed in light industry and in the medical profession.

NOTE 1 Requirements that must be specified by the purchaser are listed in Annex A.

NOTE 2 Guidelines on styles are given in Annex B.

Draft Botswana Standard

for Public Comments

Botswana Bureau of Standards intends to declare the following draft standards as Botswana Standards:

BCD4(454)-D20 [BOS 132-1]: Concrete floors Part 1: Bases to concrete floors

This part of BOS 132 covers the design, materials and construction of types of concrete floors that are cast on the ground and are subjected to industrial and commercial loads.

This part of BOS 132 does not cover floors that are subjected to vibrating loads.

NOTE 1 Bases to suspended concrete floors are covered by BOS 214-1.

NOTE 2 Finishes to concrete floors are covered by BOS 132-2.

2 Solvent-emulsion degreasers

This draft standard specifies the requirements for three types of solvent-emulsion degreasers containing detergents and organic solvents. The degreasers are intended for the cleaning of painted and unpainted surfaces of components, machinery and engines that are soiled with oil, grease and similar soils, and on which water may be used during the cleaning process.

The degreasers are not intended for use on electrical equipment, delicate machine parts, rolling element bearings, winding steel cables, or aircraft and aircraft components.

Copies of the draft standards may be collected at the Information Centre of the Botswana Bureau of Standards at Plot No. 55745, Main Airport Road, Gaborone West.

All interested parties are invited to provide their views regarding the standards preferably before 30th December 2006.

Suggestions which entail revision of the text should indicate the preferred wording and the relevant clauses should be quoted against each comment.

The comments should be sent to:

The Managing Director,
Botswana Bureau of Standards
Private Bag BO 48,
Gaborone
Botswana

Attention: Mr M Ntau

Tel: (+267) 3903200, Fax: (+267) 3903120,
E-mail infoc@hq.bobstandards.bw

Alternatively, the draft standards may be obtained from the BOBS Francistown office at this address:

The Branch Manager
Botswana Bureau of Standards
Plot No. 13393/4/5, Insurance House, Second Floor
P/Bag F465
Francistown
Tel: 2416233
Fax: 2416251

Public comments on Draft Botswana Standards

NOTE 3 Information regarding the verification of the quality of garments produced to this specification, and a sampling plan that could be used to assess compliance with the specification of a lot of the garments are given in Annex C.

NOTE 4 Except under the standardization mark scheme, provision of material samples for testing (see 6.4) requires special agreement between the supplier and the purchaser.

To make comments on these standards, please contact the Information center of the Botswana Bureau of Standards at Plot No. 55745, Main Airport road, Block 8, Gaborone. All interested parties are invited to provide their views regarding the standards preferably before 6 January 2007.

Suggestions which entail revision of the text should indicate the preferred wording and the relevant clauses should be quoted against each comment.

The comments should be sent to:

The Managing Director,
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Private Bag BO 48,
Gaborone
Botswana

Attention: Mr H.Nyanda

Tel: (+267) 3903200
Fax: (+267) 3903120
E-mail: nyanda@bobstandards.bw

Alternatively, the draft standards may be obtained from the BOBS Francistown office at this address:

The Branch Manager
Botswana Bureau of Standards
Plot No. 13393/4/5, Insurance House, Second Floor
P/Bag F465
Francistown
Tel: 2416233
Fax: 2416251

Issued Certification Licenses

The Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) is a parastatal organization established in 1995 to formulate standards for Botswana and to actively promote their use in industrial development, manufacturing and to protect consumers against use of goods which have potential to endanger their lives. We are therefore glad to once again inform the public about those companies which have achieved a third-party certification by BOBS in recognition of their quality products and/or fully implemented quality management system to demonstrate their full commitment to provide products/services of consistent quality that conform to specified standards.

Company	Title of Standard	Scope of Certification
Bergstan (Pty) Ltd.	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems - Requirements	Design and documentation, project management, contract administration and site supervision of development projects
Electroflex (Pty) Ltd.	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems - Requirements	Processes involved in the supply and maintenance of Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS)
IDM Regional Office	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems - Requirements	Management Development through training, consultancy and research – Regional Office
Chemdol (Pty) Ltd.	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems - Requirements	Manufacture of domestic and industrial detergents, and distribution of detergents and other cleaning materials
Polymex Industries (Pty) Ltd.	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems - Requirements	Production of polyethylene containers of different sizes
Foamex Industries (Pty) Ltd.	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems - Requirements	Production of expanded polyethylene foam for construction and packaging
Modern Refrigeration & Air-Conditioning (Pty) Ltd.	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems - Requirements	Manufacturing and supply of refrigeration and air-conditioning systems, solar systems, ventilation systems, catering and butchery equipment
Optimum McCann-Erickson (Pty) Ltd.	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems - Requirements	Marketing, Advertising and Product Promotions
Kalahari Floor Tiles (Pty) Ltd.	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems - Requirements	Manufacture of vinyl floor tiles
Unitrans Botswana (Pty) Ltd. (Regional Office – Gaborone)	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems - Requirements	General administration of the road transport and logistics services - Regional Office (Gaborone)
Unitrans Botswana (Pty) Ltd. – Gaborone Depot	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems general cargo	General administration and road transportation of fuel and
Unitrans Botswana (Pty) Ltd. – Francistown Depot	BOS ISO 9001: 2000 Quality Management Systems	General administration and road transport and logistics services of fuel, cement, ceilings, bricks and warehousing of cement
Kwena Infraset (Pty) Ltd.	BOS 27: 2000 Concrete Masonry Units BOS 29: 2000 Concrete Paving Blocks	7, 10, 14 MPa concrete stock bricks 50mm/25 MPa bevel edged paving blocks 60mm/25 MPa interlocking paving blocks
Harvey Roofing Products (Pty) Ltd.	BOS 16:2000 Metal Roofing Tiles	Metal roofing tiles
T & T Industries (Pty) Ltd.	BOS 81:2004 Polyethylene plastic pipes for water supply	Polyethylene plastic pipes for water supply manufactured from (PE80)
Kwena Rocla (Pty) Ltd.	BOS 73:2004 Concrete Non Pressure pipes BOS 74:2004 Concrete reinforced culverts BOS 76:2004 Concrete manhole sections	Concrete non-pressure pipes Pre-cast reinforced concrete culverts Pre-cast manhole sections Pre-cast manhole slabs
Pioneer Products (Pty) Ltd.	BOS 24:2000 Concrete roofing tiles BOS 29: 2000 Concrete Paving Blocks	420mmX330mm interlocking concrete roofing tiles 50mm/25MPa bevel edged concrete paving blocks 60mm/25 MPa interlocking concrete paving blocks 80mm/25 MPa interlocking concrete paving blocks
Kalahari Floor Tiles (Pty) Ltd.	BOS 15:2000 Semi flexible vinyl floor tiles BOS 34:2000 Flexible vinyl floor tiles	1.6mm semi-flexible vinyl tiles 2.0mm semi-flexible vinyl tiles 2.5 mm semi-flexible vinyl tiles 2.5mm flexible vinyl flooring
Brick Build (Pty) Ltd.	BOS 27: 2000 Concrete Masonry Units BOS 29: 2000 Concrete Paving Blocks	7 Mpa concrete stock bricks 10 Mpa concrete stock bricks 14 MPa concrete stock bricks 55mm/25 MPa, concrete paving blocks 60mm/25 MPa, concrete paving blocks 80mm/35 MPa concrete paving blocks
Rickford Investments (Pty) Ltd.	BOS 16:2000 Metal Roofing Tiles	Metal roofing tiles (coated with acrylic) of the trademark Duratile
Lobatse Clay Works (Pty) Ltd.	BOS 28: 2000 Burnt clay masonry units	Burnt clay masonry units of classes: Face bricks extra (FBX) Face bricks aesthetic (FBA) Face bricks standard (FBS)
J B Facebricks & Pavers (Pty) Ltd.	BOS 24: 2000 Concrete roofing tiles	Concrete roofing tiles
GSP Ceilings Botswana (Pty) Ltd.	BOS 170-2:2006 Suspended ceilings – Part 2: Performance of components and assemblies – Specifications	600mmX600mm Glass-fibre Reinforced Gypsum (GRG) suspended ceiling tiles

The validity of each of the certification licence above is subject to the continuous monitoring by BOBS through surveillance audits and inspections against the relevant standard at regular intervals.

World Standards Day Message

14 October 2006

We, The Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) in collaboration with members of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), invite Botswana to join us in commemorating the 37th World Standards Day. Although the day is celebrated every year on the 14 October, the month of October is generally reserved for activities that promote the use of standards, their benefits and the contribution they make in the economic development of countries. The 2006 theme, **Standards: big benefits for small business** is particularly appropriate when recognizing the critical role being played by small and medium companies in our economy.

Small businesses as a collective could claim to be the world's biggest business, especially in that it is estimated that more than 95 per cent of the world's businesses are small to medium sized. It is therefore apparent that international standards need to provide as many benefits for small businesses as they do for global enterprises, governments and society at large.

In realizing that small business owners and managers are sharply focused on the survival of their enterprises, with little or no appreciation of international standardization, which in general might seem far removed from their practical concerns, it is important for small business to recognise the fact that international standards developed by ISO, the IEC and ITU have facilitated economic developments and the dissemination of technologies that empower small business, in the same manner that it has benefited their larger counterparts.

Small business must be aware that there are standards for products that add value to a growing number of services provided by small businesses. Amongst these are management systems and conformity assessment standards which can help to establish them as reliable suppliers and business partners, to satisfy regulations, or to qualify for procurement tendering. For pro-active small business owners and managers who wish to identify potential opportunities that international standards may hold for their businesses, keeping abreast of developments in ITU, the IEC and ISO is key to recognising market trends and seizing opportunities.

As indicated international standards can provide big benefits for small

business. These standards provide practical solutions to many of the challenges faced by small business in today's globalized markets. In so doing, they allow small business owners and managers to enhance further their traditional virtues of hard work, enterprising spirit and close attention to the requirements and satisfaction of their customers.

standards: big benefits for small business



world standards day
14 october 2006



In 2004, the BOBS in conjunction with the Centre for the Development of Enterprise (CDE) and the Botswana Export Development and Investment Promotion (BEDIA), launched a development programme that aimed to assist local Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), manufacturing and service providers in implementing and maintaining the ISO 9001:2000 based Business Quality Management Systems (BQMS). This programme has already benefited six (6) SMEs in implementing the Quality Management System in accordance with the requirements of ISO 9001:2000. These companies are now certified against the same standard. The BQMS programme is co-financed by CDE, the Swedish International Development Agency (sida) through the provision of consultancy services and the enterprises themselves.

Currently, there are fourteen (14) organizations participating in the programme and are expected to be certified in November 2006.

In order to promote the QMS system and encourage its adoption and use by small business, the programme's focus next year will be on the health and water sectors, which contribute to vision 2016 especially the pillar, a healthy and productive society. It is our belief that this programme and other initiatives will have a positive impact on business growth through the increase in product and service demanded by the customer. As Botswana once more celebrates the World Standards Day, we challenge all businesses, small medium and large to take advantage of BOBS standardization and quality assurance services to ensure that the service that small businesses offer is inline with quality standards required in countries where their goods and services are required.

It is important in conclusion to recognise that the use of standards in the delivery of products and services enhances their productivity and competitiveness.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: *Acting Managing Director or Public Relations Officer on 3903200 or 3645457.*

Staff News

By M C Mokgachane

Appointments



BOBS Appoints Ms Verily K Molatedi

Ms. Verily K Molatedi was appointed Director – Corporate Services with effect from 19th September 2006. She has a Bachelor of Commerce acquired from the University of Botswana and she is an associate and a fellow member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA). Ms. Molatedi has worked for Standards Chartered Bank as a Head, Large Local Corporates, Relationship Manager, Project Manager and Finance Manager, she also worked as Chief Accountant for the Botswana Housing Corporation as well as Water Utilities Corporation as Chief Internal Auditor. She brings with her over 18 years of experience.



Mr. Mabote Atiholang

Mr. Mabote Atiholang was appointed Accountant with effect from 1st September 2006 in the Corporate Services Department. He is in possession of a Bachelor of Commerce degree in Accounting acquired from the University of Botswana and an Associate Diploma in Banking. He brings with him the experience he gained working for the Department of Vocational

Education & Training as a Principal Auditor II and National Development Bank as Accountant.



Mr. Pilot Masunga

Mr. Pilot was appointed Principal Standards Officer – Chemist with effect from 1st September 2006 in the Commercial Enterprise Department. He is in possession of a Masters of Chemistry acquired from the University of South Wales and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Botswana. He brings with him the experience he gained working for the Department of Animal Health and Production under the Ministry of Agriculture as a Scientific Officer (Analytic Chemist) as well as working for the National Veterinary Laboratory as a Principal Scientific Officer (Analytic Chemist).

BOBS Staff takes this opportunity to wish all new employees a pleasant stay at BOBS.

Resignations

Ms. Maureen Udah Otukile

Ms. Maureen Otukile joined BOBS on the 12 of November 2002 as a Human Resources Officer. Her last date of employment is on the 31st of October 2006. We wish her well in her future endeavors.



Ms. Mable Tsie

Ms. Mable Tsie is back from school and has joined BOBS again. She left in September 2003 to study for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Trading Standards, which she successfully completed in July 2006. She holds the position of Technician in the Commercial Enterprise Department. Ms Tsie's colleagues would like to take this opportunity to welcome her back and wish her a

pleasant stay.

Staff development

The following employees are on long term training:

Mr. K K Motlathledi

Mr. Motlathledi is employed as a Senior Standards Officer and he will be

pursuing his Master of Science in Food Microbiology at the University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom.

Mr. K Tsamaase

Mr. Tsamaase is employed as a Senior Standards Officer and he will be pursuing his Master of Science in Electrical & Electronics at the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, United Kingdom.

Mr. J Ernest

Mr. Ernest is employed as a Senior Standards Officer and he will be pursuing his Master of Science in Materials Engineering at the University of Bradford, United Kingdom.

Mr. O C Muke

Mr. Muke is employed as a Technician and he will be pursuing his Bachelor of Science Degree in Trading Standards at the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff, United Kingdom.

BOBS Staff would like to take this opportunity and wish them well in their studies.

World Standards Day Essay Competition

By R.M. Sarumi

Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) used the World Standards Day theme in its campaign to raise awareness of standards among secondary and tertiary students. BOBS invited Secondary School students and tertiary institutions students to participate in an essay competition to commemorate World Standards Day. The title of the essay was **"Standards: Handy tools to empower young entrepreneurs to prosper business."** The competition was advertised in the local newspapers, though the response was not very good, the essays, which were received, were marked and the winners of the two categories are as follows:

TERTIARY/INSTITUTION

Lebogang Rugara - University of Botswana - 1st prize

NO SECOND & THIRD PRIZE (there were only two entries)

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Onkabetse Monamati - Shashe River School - 1st prize

Gae Sebalatlheng - Swaneng Hill School - 2nd prize

Boitumelo Kapo - Maunatlala Community Junior Secondary School - 3rd prize



Winner of the World Standards Day Essay competition - Onkabetse Monametsi of Sheshe River School on Friday 10th November 2006 at Shashe.

The winners of the essays will be published on the BOBS website. www.bobstandards.bw.

Editorial Board

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