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PRECISION INSTRUMENTS DRIVE NAMIBIA'S MINING FUTURE

As the Namibian mining sector is moving forward to meet the demands of a greener, more connected world, the need for smart, resilient, and precise process control has never been greater. From copper to cobalt, lithium to gold, the continent's mineral wealth is fuelling global industries, but extracting these resources sustainably and efficiently requires technology that can thrive where conditions are toughest.

In remote operations across Africa, dust, humidity, corrosion and extreme temperatures often test the limits of both people and equipment. Downtime is incredibly costly, and access to technical support can be limited. In this environment, measurement accuracy and equipment reliability are not luxuries; they are lifelines for productivity, safety, and sustainability.

For decades, **VEGA** has built its reputation on engineering instrumentation that stands up to the realities of mining. Today, its latest generation of level, pressure, and density sensors brings the precision, simplicity, and digital integration that modern mines demand.

Reliability That Endures the Elements

Every mine site depends on accurate level measurement. Whether it's controlling feed rates, managing slurry densities, or preventing overflows in tailings ponds. The **VEGAPULS 6X** radar sensor delivers this precision without compromise.

Designed as a universal radar solution, the VEGAPULS 6X eliminates the complexity of choosing between multiple radar technologies. It measures liquids and solids alike, offering stable, interference-free readings even in the presence of dust, steam, foam, or condensation. Its focused radar beam penetrates the harshest conditions, ensuring uninterrupted data flow and consistent performance from stockpiles to separation tanks.

This "one sensor for all" approach simplifies maintenance, reduces spare-parts inventory, and minimises unplanned downtime, all key considerations for mines operating far from major service centres. In short, the VEGAPULS 6X helps operations run leaner, safer, and more efficiently.

Pressure You Can Trust

In mining, managing pressurised systems (from slurry pipelines to filtration plants) is critical for operational control and safety. The **VEGABAR 80** and **VEGADIF 85** series have become trusted tools in these demanding applications.

Built on over 40 years of pressure measurement expertise, the VEGABAR 80 range combines advanced ceramic and metallic measuring cells for stable, drift-free readings in liquids, gases, and viscous media. Its resilience to abrasion and chemical attack ensures long service life, while diagnostic intelligence supports predictive maintenance, enabling operators to identify and correct potential issues before they escalate.

The **VEGADIF 85**, meanwhile, excels in differential pressure measurement. Compact yet robust, it delivers the control required for flotation and separation processes where maintaining precise pressure differentials determines yield and product quality. Together, these solutions enable safer, more responsive process management.

A Non-Contact Revolution in Slurry Density Control

Few processes are as punishing as slurry transport, yet getting density measurement right is essential for efficiency and recovery. The **SOLITRAC 31** takes a non-intrusive, radiometric approach, using gamma radiation to measure slurry density without ever touching the medium.

This eliminates wear, blockages, and contamination risks, while providing continuous, highly accurate density readings. With SOLITRAC 31, mines can maintain optimal separation efficiency and avoid costly shutdowns for maintenance or calibration. It's precision without interruption, perfectly suited for Africa's high-intensity processing environments.

Empowering the Digital Mine

As the mining industry embraces automation and data-driven decision-making, VEGA's technology evolves in tandem. The VEGA Inventory System brings level and pressure data into a central, cloud-enabled platform that gives operators a real-time view of their entire operation from anywhere.

This visibility enables proactive adjustments, optimised logistics, and improved resource management. By combining robust field instrumentation with intelligent data systems, VEGA supports mining companies on their path to digital transformation, efficiency, and environmental responsibility.

Partnering in Africa's Mining Progress

From the Copperbelt and Namibia's uranium mines to South Africa's coal operations and Botswana's diamond mines, VEGA's instrumentation is already part of Africa's mining success story. Built for durability, precision, and ease of integration, VEGA's solutions help mines reduce downtime, increase throughput, and strengthen safety standards; all while advancing sustainability and digitalisation goals.

In an era where precision equals progress, VEGA stands as a trusted partner helping Africa's mining industry move confidently toward a smarter, more sustainable future.

ROSH PINAH ZINC COMMISSIONS SAG MILL TO DOUBLE PROCESSING CAPACITY

Commissioning of the new SAG mill completes the RP2.0 expansion's core processing infrastructure, positioning Rosh Pinah Zinc for a step-change in production as construction nears completion.

Rosh Pinah Zinc and Appian Capital Advisory Limited have commissioned a new SAG (semi-autogenous grinding) mill, replacing the existing ball mill. It is the final major processing component of the RP2.0 expansion project.

The new SAG mill is the centrepiece of RP2.0 and will double RPZ's processing throughput to 1.4 million tonnes of ore per annum following mine ramp-up, delivering a notable increase in annual zinc and lead concentrate production. The commissioning brings the full RP2.0 circuit into operation as an integrated system, incorporating the paste fill and water treatment plants and expanded flotation, thickening and filtration capacity.

The revised flowsheet enhances comminution efficiency and resilience, delivering improved grind size control and metallurgical recovery while lowering unit operating costs. Ore is crushed to a coarser product size ahead of the SAG mill, reducing dust generation throughout the crushing circuit and improving working conditions, environmental performance and on-site material handling.

The SAG mill increases RPZ's processing capacity and enhances the plant's ability to treat harder ore types, which become more prevalent as mining progresses. It has also been designed with excess capacity, providing scope for future production increases.

The expanded processing capacity extends the operation's economic life and improves resource utilisation across the orebody, strengthening RPZ as a long-life base metals project in Namibia.

RP2.0 comprises further development of the underground mine, including the newly developed WF3 portal and decline, as well as the construction of new surface facilities. The project continues to advance on schedule and on budget, with overall construction progress now surpassing 95%.

The project has been executed with an exemplary safety record, achieving over two million lost-time injury (LTI) free hours to date.

Commissioning the SAG mill marks the completion of our core processing infrastructure and reflects the quality of execution by the RPZ team throughout the RP2.0 program. With the full circuit now operational, the project is positioned to achieve a step-change in production output. This milestone demonstrates Appian and RPZ's commitment to value-accretive, operationally rigorous project delivery, and we look forward to realizing the full benefits of RP2.0 as throughput ramps up. — *Ignacio Bustamante,* *Head of Base Metals, Appian*

Rosh Pinah Zinc is an operating underground zinc-lead mine located in southwestern Namibia, approximately 800km southwest of Windhoek, acquired by Appian in June 2023.

WHERE TONNES MEET THE TIDE: PORT TECHNOLOGY FOR THE MODERN BULK TERMINAL

There is a moment at every bulk terminal that defines the operation, the brief window between a vessel's arrival and its departure. Everything that happens in between, every tonne shifted, every conveyor turned, every stockpile stacked and reclaimed, either adds up to a competitive advantage or quietly erodes it.

For mining and minerals operations, where margins are tight and vessel demurrage costs mount by the hour, port technology is not a back-of-house consideration. It is the difference between a supply chain that performs and one that simply moves.
In markets like Namibia, where uranium, copper, zinc, and a growing critical minerals sector are all competing for export capacity, that distinction matters more than ever.

FAM Minerals & Mining, a member of BEUMER Group, brings to this challenge a portfolio that few in the industry can match. With decades of deep expertise in conveying, loading, and stockyard engineering, FAM delivers a single, cohesive capability that spans the full journey of bulk material, from the moment it arrives at a facility to the point it disappears into a ship's hold. Backed by BEUMER Group's global presence across 35 countries and a robust service network, FAM is strategically positioned to serve customers wherever their operations take them.

At the waterfront: ship loading
The ship interface is where port efficiency is most visibly won or lost. FAM's ship loaders are engineered to address this head-on, available as fixed or rail-mounted units, with liftable, pivotable, and telescopic boom configurations, as well as shuttle boom designs that allow precise placement into any hold geometry.
Capacities are matched to the terminal's throughput requirements, with loading rates that keep vessels on schedule and port operators in control of their turnaround times.

Moving material: in-port conveying that goes the distance
Between the quayside and the stockyard, or between the stockyard and the processing plant, lies the conveying network, and what happens here shapes the economics of the entire operation. FAM offers belt conveyors for short to medium distances, mobile and shiftable belt conveyors for operations that require flexibility, and feeding and discharging conveyors purpose-built for specific transfer requirements.

Where environmental compliance is non-negotiable, the pipe conveyor makes a compelling case for ports and terminals. The pipe conveyor starts and ends flat for easy loading and discharge, but uses special hexagonal idler roller panels to fold the belt into a pipe along the route.

This eliminates dust emission and spillage along the conveying route, regardless of wind conditions, which is a meaningful advantage in exposed coastal and arid port environments.
Pipe conveyors also navigate tight horizontal curves and steep inclines without transfer points, reducing both infrastructure cost and the number of potential spillage locations within the terminal footprint.
For operations handling fine or environmentally sensitive bulk commodities, they offer a technically sound and commercially attractive alternative to open-belt systems.

Stockyard technology: where order creates value
Raw throughput capacity only counts if the stockyard behind it can absorb, organise, and retrieve material when needed.
FAM's stockyard technology covers the full spectrum of operational requirements, supporting circular, longitudinal, and radial yard layouts depending on available footprint and throughput priorities.

Stackers and reclaimers, available in combined configurations, handle material movement within the yard, while blending bed systems allow operators to homogenise material quality before despatch.

For mining operations where consistent product grade is as important as volume, this blending capability can be the detail that keeps a downstream customer satisfied. Stockyard and stacker conveyors tie these elements together, ensuring that material flows efficiently from intake to despatch without unnecessary handling steps or product degradation.

When the journey is long: overland conveying as a strategic alternative

Not every port feeds a facility next door. In a country like Namibia, where mines can sit scores of kilometres from the nearest export terminal, the question of how material travels between the two deserves serious examination. Truck, rail, and conveyor each bring genuine strengths to this decision, and the right answer depends on factors including, distance, terrain, throughput volume, and the specific operational context of the mine.

Where the combination of distance, volume, and terrain favours a conveying solution, BEUMER's curved trough belt conveyors, pipe conveyors, and U-belt conveyors are engineered to handle terrain that would challenge conventional transport, navigating horizontal curves and steep inclines, with pipe conveyors rated for gradients up to 30 degrees.

While troughed belt conveyors are the most common overland conveying solution, pipe conveyors are fully enclosed on both carrying and return run, protecting material from wind and dust throughout the journey.

U-belt conveyors can transport higher volume and enclose the return side, making them well suited to routes where return-run material containment is the primary requirement.

Route planning is supported by the BEUMER Overland Layouting Tool (BOLT), which optimises alignment to minimise structural steel requirements, reduce transfer points, and lower capital expenditure significantly over the life of the project.

Beyond the stockyard: mobile conveyor bridges and dry tailings handling

In the mine environment itself, the distances between excavation and conveying infrastructure shift constantly as operations progress.

FAM's crawler-mounted conveyor bridges are designed for exactly this dynamic.

Built on double-crawler undercarriages, they move at right angles to the conveying direction and compensate for uneven and inclined surfaces without interrupting material flow.

Adjustable discharge heights and the ability to integrate with bucket wheel reclaimers, tripper cars, and fixed overland conveyors give these machines the operational versatility that fixed infrastructure cannot provide.

For copper, nickel and uranium operations where leach pad management requires continuous repositioning, they are a practical cost effective alternative to truck haulage within the mine footprint.

Dry tailings handling is an increasingly important consideration for mining operations in water-scarce environments, and particularly relevant for Namibian operations facing both regulatory and community expectations around water stewardship.

Rather than storing tailings as slurry in conventional wet dams, dry tailings systems filter and transport the material as solid, reducing freshwater use by up to 85% and eliminating the risk of dam failure.

FAM's conveyor-based dry tailings handling systems, linking filter plants to tailings storage facilities via overland conveyors, shiftable conveyors, and mobile stacking bridges, provide a continuous, automated alternative to truck haulage and delivers meaningful reductions in operating cost and environmental footprint over the life of the mine.

Technology that works as hard after installation as before

Mining investments are measured in decades, and port technology that performs on day one but degrades quietly over years is a liability dressed as an asset.

FAM's commitment to lifecycle partnership means that engineering support, on-site maintenance, safety inspection, and modernisation services are available throughout the operational life of every system. IoT-enabled condition monitoring and mobile maintenance tools give operations teams the data to act before failures occur, reducing unplanned downtime and improving overall equipment effectiveness.

From feasibility study and 3D plant visualisation through to daily operational support, FAM's engineers remain involved.

Load calculations, structural analysis, material transfer optimisation, and component-level diagnostics are all part of the offering, and the digital tools continue to develop alongside the systems they support.

For bulk terminals and mining export operations seeking more than just equipment, FAM Minerals & Mining is the partner of choice. With the expertise, capacity, and experience to support every stage of the material handling journey, we deliver solutions that keep operations running efficiently from end to end. Our portfolio is extensive, our track record is proven, and our commitment remains unwavering. From the very first planning discussion to the thousandth vessel loaded, we work alongside our clients to ensure reliability, performance, and continuous operational success.

“Visit beumer.com to explore FAM Minerals & Mining port technology solutions, used in industrial and energy applications.”


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CHAMBER OF MINES LAUNCHES 13TH MINING EXPO, ADDS INAUGURAL SAFETY CONFERENCE

New safety-focused programme joins expo as sector reviews progress on US$2.675 billion investment pledge

The Chamber of Mines of Namibia launched the 13th edition of the Mining Expo and Conference, scheduled to take place from 4 to 6 August. This year's event introduces a new addition to the programme: the inaugural Chamber of Mines Safety Conference, taking place on 4 August under the theme ***"Safety for a Resilient Tomorrow."***

The conference aims to bring together industry leaders and health and safety professionals to share best practices, strengthen collaboration and promote a culture of continuous improvement in occupational health and safety across the mining sector.

The main conference will run under the theme ***"From Dialogue to Delivery: Assessing Progress in Creating Mining-Led Economic Growth and Employment since NamPPF."***

The Chamber said the theme reflects the importance of the Namibia Public-Private Forum (NamPPF), a collaborative platform established to strengthen partnerships between government, the private sector and development partners in addressing the country's key economic challenges.

Last year, the mining sector identified the potential to unlock approximately US$2.675 billion in investment and create around 18,000 new jobs through new projects, expansion initiatives and increased exploration activity. This year's conference will take stock of progress made against those commitments, while providing a platform for constructive dialogue on the challenges constraining investment and implementation, and identifying practical interventions to accelerate mining-led economic growth and employment.

The Chamber said it has already secured 204 exhibitors occupying a record 372 exhibition spaces, an increase of 43 on the previous edition.

"These encouraging figures reinforce the Mining Expo and Conference's status as a hallmark event on the local, regional and international business calendar," the Chamber said.

Entry is free for the public, and the Chamber has invited all stakeholders to attend and join the conversations shaping the future of the mining industry.

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DAY	DATE	HOURS
TUESDAY	4 August 2026	12h00 – 19h00
WEDNESDAY	5 August 2026	07h30 – 19h00
THURSDAY (FINAL DAY)	6 August 2026	08h00 – 17h30

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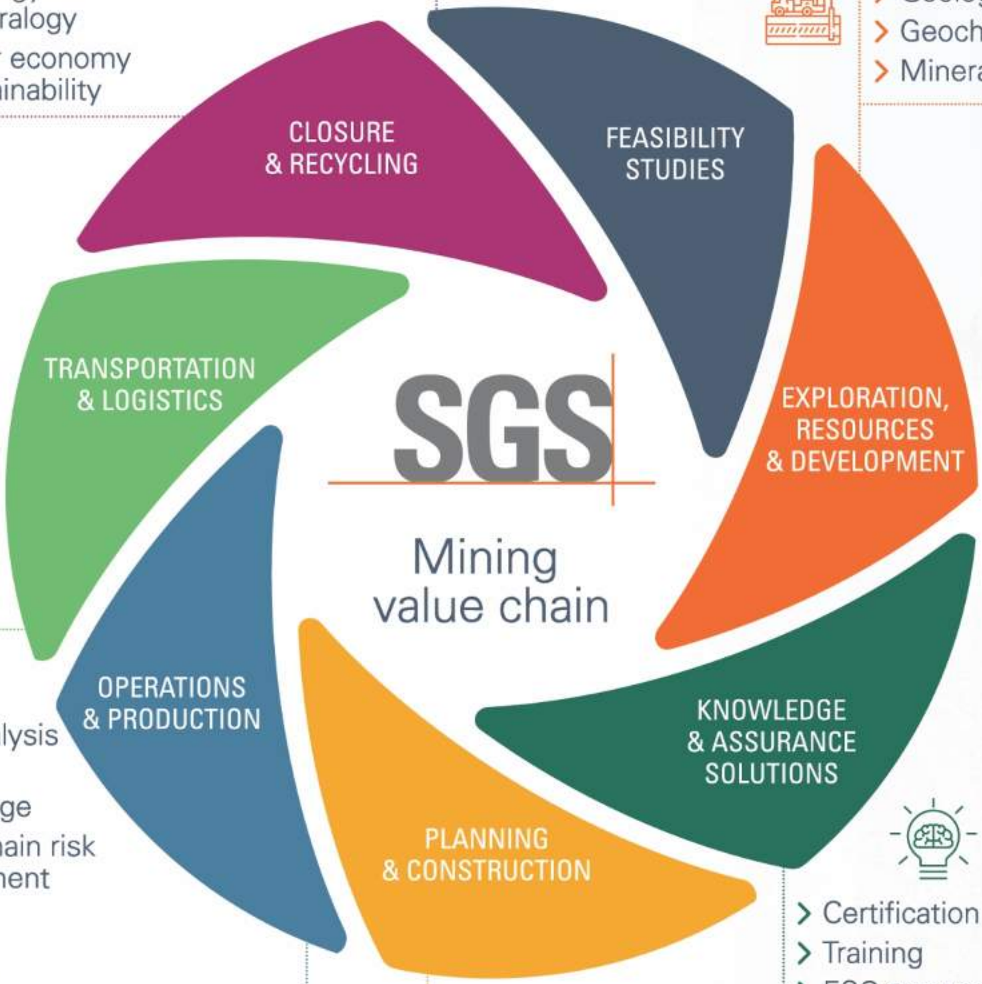

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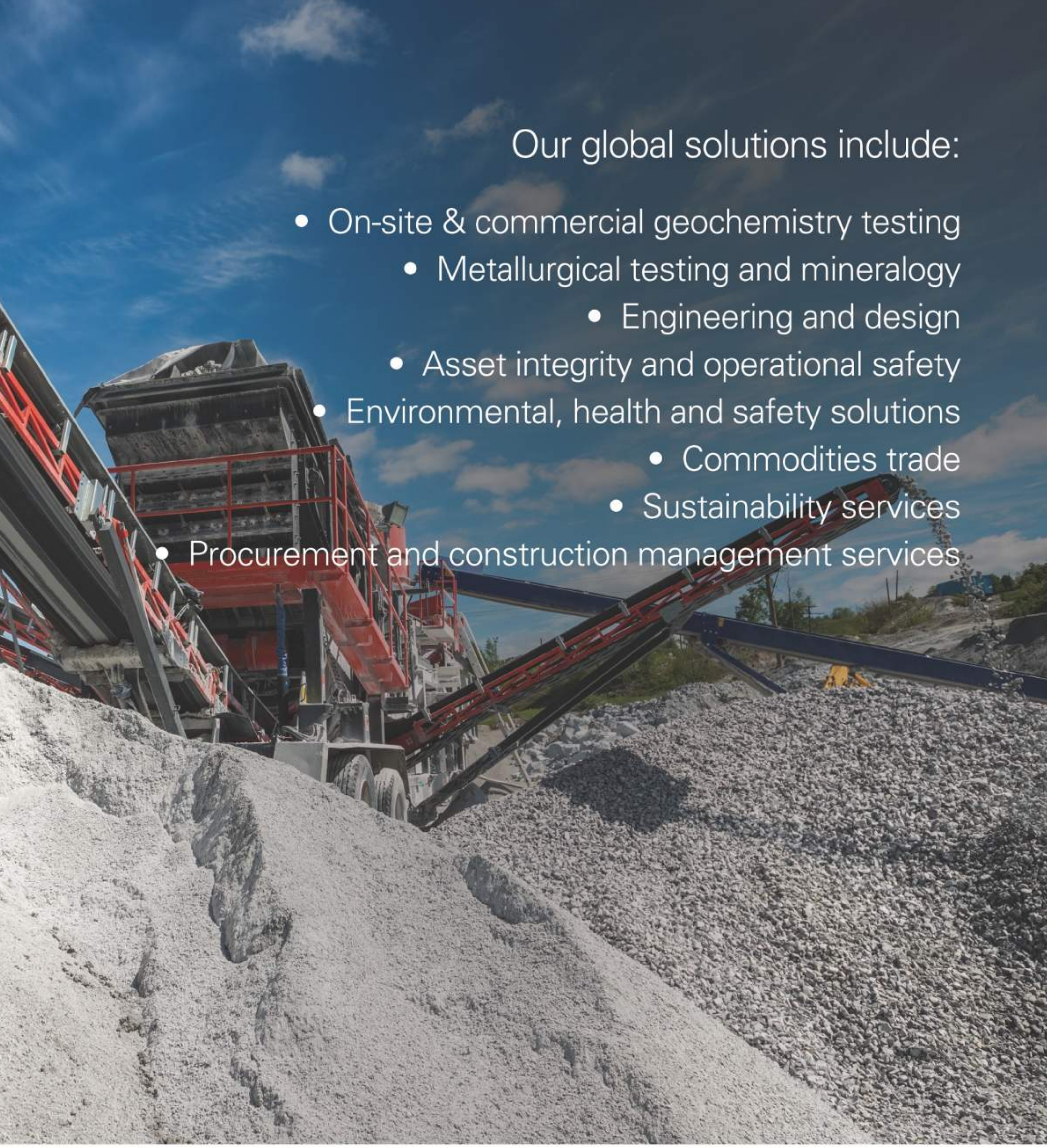

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When you need to be sure

NAMIBIA OIL AND GAS CONFERENCE RETURNS TO WINDHOEK WITH EXPANDED 2026 PROGRAMME

The fourth edition of NOGC unveils the theme 'From Decision to Dividend' and a renewed push to build Namibia's oil and gas workforce at home, from Walvis Bay to Lüderitz.

The fourth edition of the Namibia Oil and Gas Conference and Exhibition (NOGC) will return to Windhoek from 18–20 August 2026 with an expanded programme focused on strengthening collaboration, showcasing local opportunity and supporting Namibia's rapidly evolving energy sector.

The conference is hosted by the Economic Association of Namibia (EAN), in partnership with the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) and the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF).

Strategic partners include the National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia (NAMCOR), SNC Incorporated and Rhino Resources, and the event carries the official endorsement of Namibia's Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy.

The conference continues to position itself as more than an industry gathering, serving instead as a national platform for inclusion, partnership, knowledge-sharing and sustainable economic development as Namibia shapes its energy future.

Speaking at the programme launch, Jason Kasuto, Chairperson of the EAN and Managing Director of Monasa Advisories and Associates, officially revealed the theme for the fourth edition of NOGC.

The conference will once again provide a platform for strategic discussions. Namibia's energy future will be shaped through collaboration. It requires partnerships between local and international stakeholders, between established operators and emerging enterprises, and between policymakers and communities. Above all, it requires a shared commitment to ensuring that growth is both sustainable and inclusive. It is therefore my pleasure to officially unveil the theme of the fourth Namibia Oil and Gas Conference and Exhibition, which is: 'From decision to dividend: making Namibia's oil work for Namibians.' This theme reflects a deliberate shift in focus from our end. — *Jason Kasuto, Chairperson, Economic Association of Namibia*

Kasuto elaborated on what the theme means in practice, particularly for Namibia's youth and coastal towns, framing this year's conference as a turning point for how the industry builds local capacity.

This year's conference will be the catalyst for taking real training capacity to where the work will be and to the towns along our coast, so that our young people are equipped, on their own doorstep, with the technical skills this industry demands, rather than travelling only to the capital or watching the jobs go to others.

History will ask not how much oil we produced but what we did with it. Did we make this oil work for our people.

Together with our operators, our training institutions, and our international partners, we are setting a very bold target.

We will not import a workforce, which is very important for the skills it brings, but we will build one here at home. Whether it's in Lüderitz or Walvis Bay, we are going to build it here. — *Jason Kasuto, Chairperson, Economic Association of Namibia*

The main strategic and technical sessions take place across two days and feature keynote addresses from government, industry and sector leaders.
Day one, themed “Industry in Action: Operators, Independents and Finance,” centres on project development, investment opportunities and upstream collaboration.

Day two turns to “SMEs, Finance, Servicing and Critical Infrastructure to Develop a Sustainable Energy Mix,” exploring local business participation, infrastructure development and long-term energy sustainability, alongside technical presentations on emerging trends and policy developments from industry leaders, policymakers and researchers.

A dedicated pre-conference day on 18 August focuses on local participation, entrepreneurship and workforce development.
Highlights include interactive local content panel discussions exploring how to maximise Namibian participation, NIPDB-hosted Local Content Pitching Sessions showcasing innovative Namibian businesses and entrepreneurs, a speed networking session, and a dedicated Future Generations session aimed at empowering Namibian youth through skills development, mentorship and industry engagement.

This year's edition features a further expanded exhibition compared with 2025, to meet growing demand, alongside an enhanced networking programme that includes a new pre-event golf tournament on 17 August designed to foster collaboration across the sector. Also new for 2026 are supplier workshops hosted by NIPDB and integrated across the programme, creating additional opportunities for engagement between operators, suppliers and entrepreneurs.
Utaara Hoveka, Communications and Public Relations Specialist at NAMCOR, shared reflections on last year's conference and how it set the stage for 2026.

The 2025 Namibia Oil and Gas Conference was held in Windhoek under the theme 'From exploration to action, positioning Namibia as the next frontier.' The conference brought together government officials, regulators, international oil companies, investors, financiers, service providers, local businesses, academia, and civil society stakeholders to discuss the next phase of Namibia's rapidly growing petroleum industry. We had 73 exhibition stands and close to 2000 delegates. The conference also explored opportunities to use petroleum development as a catalyst for broader industrial growth, emphasizing that the benefits of the oil and gas sector must be shared across all 120 constituencies of Namibia. — *Utaara Hoveka, Communications & PR Specialist, NAMCOR*

Hoveka also highlighted the substance behind last year's programme.

There were dedicated sessions on the following topics: procurement opportunities for local companies, supplier development programmes, skills transfer, and workforce development policies that promote local participation without discouraging investment; lessons learned from other oil-producing nations; and technical and industry knowledge sharing. The conference also featured an expanded technical programme, where industry specialists presented updates on exploration activities, offshore development plans, trading technologies, production systems, and environmental management practices. — *Utaara Hoveka, Communications & PR Specialist, NAMCOR*

EAN Chief Executive Officer Cons Karamata reflected on what the 2026 theme demands of the industry and its partners.

[The theme] reminds us that the success of this sector cannot be measured solely by discoveries, investment announcements, or production figures. Rather, its success will ultimately be measured by its impact on people's lives. It will be measured by the opportunities created for young Namibians entering the workforce. It will be measured by the growth of local businesses and entrepreneurs. It will be measured by stronger skills, stronger institutions, and stronger communities. — *Cons Karamata, Chief Executive Officer, Economic Association of Namibia*

NOGC 2026 is expected to bring together close to 2,000 delegates from government, operators, investors, service companies, SMEs, entrepreneurs, academics, students and civil society organisations from across Namibia and the international energy community. Through its continued focus on inclusion, workforce development, local procurement and open dialogue, organisers say NOGC 2026 aims to ensure Namibia's energy growth supports long-term national prosperity and sustainable economic transformation.

Further details on the programme and delegate registration are available at www.namibiaoilandgasconf.com.

OPTIMINE CHARTS FLEET EXPANSION AS NAMIBIA'S EXPLORATION BOOM FUELS DRILLING DEMAND

The Namibian-owned drilling contractor plans to grow its rig fleet over the next three to five years as uranium, gold and critical minerals exploration accelerates nationwide.

Optimine Exploration Namibia is preparing to expand its drill rig fleet over the next three to five years as the country's rapidly growing mining and exploration sector fuels rising demand for drilling services across uranium, gold, copper and critical minerals projects.

The company says the expansion will focus on increasing operational capacity, strengthening equipment reliability and improving its ability to respond quickly to exploration programmes as investment in Namibia's mining sector continues to accelerate.

Established in 2020, Optimine is a Namibian-owned drilling company supplying specialised services to the country's growing exploration and mining industry. The business has expanded steadily as exploration activity has intensified across Namibia's major mineral regions, broadening from an initial focus on exploration drilling into diamond core, reverse-circulation and underground drilling for companies operating across uranium, gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc projects.

Namibia is currently experiencing one of the strongest exploration cycles in its history, driven by global demand for uranium, copper and critical minerals linked to renewable energy systems and electrification.

The uranium sector has attracted renewed investment as utilities and nuclear fuel buyers seek long-term supply security, while rising demand for copper, rare earths and battery minerals continues to draw international exploration companies into the country. Gold exploration has similarly expanded along the Damara Belt and other mineralised regions following a series of recent discoveries and project developments.

The continued growth of Namibia's mining and mineral exploration sector has had a positive impact on demand for our services. — Optimine Exploration Namibia

Management says mining companies are increasingly prioritising operational reliability, safety standards and drilling data quality as exploration programmes grow larger and more technically demanding.

Drilling performance, the company argues, is now measured not only by metres completed but by core recovery quality, operational consistency and the reliability of geological data used to support investment and development decisions — placing greater pressure on contractors to maintain modern equipment, skilled technical teams and strong operational discipline.

Optimine says one of the biggest challenges facing the mining services sector is attracting and retaining experienced technical staff. Diamond drilling, reverse-circulation drilling, equipment maintenance and field operations all require specialised expertise, and Namibia's expanding mining sector is creating increasing competition for qualified workers.

The company says it is responding through structured workplace training and skills-transfer initiatives, recruiting from local communities and combining practical on-site experience with structured technical development programmes. Management believes strengthening Namibia's technical skills base is essential for local service providers to participate more meaningfully in the country's mining value chain.

According to Optimine, improvements in drilling equipment and operational systems are helping lift productivity, improve safety performance and reduce operating costs across the sector. The company says it has continued to upgrade and refurbish its drilling fleet, with a focus on practical innovations that improve efficiency, reduce downtime and deliver more cost-effective results for clients.

Despite the opportunities created by Namibia's mining boom, Optimine says several structural challenges continue to affect the sector. Limited rail capacity and broader transport inefficiencies add to operating costs for mining companies and contractors alike, delaying equipment movement, raising fuel and transport expenses, and affecting project execution schedules — particularly in remote exploration regions.

Growing regulatory and ESG compliance obligations present a further challenge. While management supports responsible environmental and operational practices, it says compliance requirements continue to add to the administrative and operational burden carried by mining companies and service providers alike. Permitting delays remain a related concern, capable of disrupting project time lines and creating uncertainty around revenue forecasting, employment planning and operational scheduling.

Access to finance is a further constraint. Because drilling contracts are often relatively short-term, traditional lenders tend to classify the sector as higher risk, making it difficult for many Namibian contractors to secure funding for fleet expansion, equipment acquisition and operational growth. Optimine believes there is room for stronger support from development finance institutions and procurement structures designed to strengthen the participation of local contractors in Namibia's mining industry.

Alongside compliance with client standards, Optimine maintains its own internal health, safety and environmental systems covering risk management, site monitoring and the implementation of safe operating procedures, which management says help ensure drilling activities are conducted responsibly while protecting workers and the surrounding environment.

Looking ahead, Optimine expects exploration expenditure in Namibia to keep rising as international investors seek exposure to uranium and other critical minerals linked to renewable energy technologies and global electrification. The company believes Namibia's growing role in global uranium and critical minerals markets will continue to create opportunities for local drilling contractors capable of delivering reliable technical services.

Our priority is to expand our operational footprint and strengthen our role as a reliable drilling partner to the Namibian mining industry. — Optimine Exploration Namibia

Optimine says Namibian contractors bring important local knowledge, operational responsiveness and understanding of local operating conditions that can strengthen project execution across the sector.

NORTHERN GRAPHITE RELOCATES NAMIBIA PLANT, EYES 2027 RESTART

Northern Graphite, an Ottawa-based natural battery materials producer, announced it has completed the relocation of its processing plant in Namibia to the Okanjande mine site, the first step towards a planned 2027 production restart.

The news follows a 2023 preliminary economic assessment (PEA), which evaluated the processing plant's relocation and determined the technical and economic viability of the approach. The company said the new location eliminated the need to transport material over long distances, which will reduce operation costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

"With plant equipment now in place at the mine site, we are advancing preparations for production and strengthening the foundation for supplying our planned joint venture BAM facility in Yanbu, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which is targeted for initial production in 2028 as part of Northern's broader mine-to-battery strategy," said Hugues Jacquemin, Northern Graphite's chief executive officer.

Okanjande graphite is expected to serve traditional industrial uses and the expanding national security and battery materials markets.

"Okanjande hosts a large graphite resource in one of Africa's most politically stable jurisdictions, with access to a deep-water port that provides substantial competitive advantages over many competing projects," added Jacquemin. "Completing the plant relocation further de-risks the restart strategy and positions [the company] to move quickly to support secure graphite supply chains independent of China."

BANNERMAN'S ETANGO URANIUM PROJECT REACHES MAJOR MILESTONES AT 95% CONSTRUCTION

Bulk earthworks nearing completion and processing infrastructure taking shape as the Etango uranium project outside Swakopmund tracks on schedule and within budget.

Bannerman Energy says construction of its Etango uranium project outside Swakopmund remains on schedule and within budget, with major early works nearing completion as the company moves closer to full-scale mine construction.

According to the company's latest construction update, the bulk earthworks contract is now about 92% complete, while more than 560 workers are on site, collectively achieving over 1.1 million lost-time injury-free hours since work began.

The project has also reached several major construction milestones. Approximately 10,800 cubic metres of concrete have now been poured, representing around 60% completion of the Phase 1 and Phase 2A concrete packages. Permanent processing infrastructure, including the primary crusher, stockpile tunnel, secondary and tertiary crushing facilities and the fine ore silo, is beginning to emerge across the site.

Our key contract partners continue to deliver across the Etango site. Of particular note is that the 24-month bulk earthworks contract is now more than 90% complete, a substantial achievement and a key investment in derisking the critical path for full-scale construction of the Etango Project. — Gavin Chamberlain, Managing Director, Bannerman Energy

Bannerman said detailed engineering is also advancing steadily. Civil and mechanical design for the dry plant is about 94% complete, while engineering work on the wet plant remains on schedule for construction drawings to be issued later this year.

Supporting infrastructure is progressing alongside construction.

The company has signed a permanent water supply agreement with NamWater, while installation of the first phase of the water pipeline is approximately 87% complete.

A definitive power supply agreement has also been concluded with NamPower, and detailed design work continues on the acid storage and handling facility at the Port of Walvis Bay.

Bannerman said local content remains a key focus, noting that all contractors currently working on the project are Namibian companies.

Several construction packages, including the gatehouse, have been subcontracted to locally owned small and medium enterprises to broaden participation in the mine's development.

The Etango-8 development is designed to produce an average of 3.5 million pounds of uranium oxide annually over an initial 15-year mine life.

ANDRADA DELIVERS RECORD TIN OUTPUT WHILE LITHIUM RIDGE AND BRANDBERG ADVANCE

Uis operation delivers record tin output, N$98 million funding secured for ore-sorting expansion, and encouraging results at Lithium Ridge and Brandberg West.

Andrada Mining has reported record quarterly tin production at its Uis operation in Namibia, in a business update covering the quarter ended 31 May 2026. Tin production reached 286 tonnes, up 20% from 238 tonnes in the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year.

Tin concentrate production also hit a record 473 tonnes, a 16% year-on-year increase from 405 tonnes. The company processed 270,069 tonnes of ore during the quarter, a 6% increase from 254,745 tonnes a year earlier, while plant processing rates rose from 142 to 154 tonnes per hour. Plant recovery held steady at 73%, with plant availability improving to 90%.

Andrada said the stronger production reflected continued improvements in plant stability and throughput. The company added that elevated tin prices, combined with higher production and plant optimisation, are expected to support positive cash flow generation. Tin prices during the quarter ranged between US$41,600 and US$57,000 per tonne.

The company secured conditional approval for N$98 million (about Ł4.4 million) in strategic funding for its wholly owned subsidiary, Uis Tin Mining Company, from Bank Windhoek and the Development Bank of Namibia. The 10-year loan facilities are intended to fund the construction and commissioning of the ore-sorting circuit at Uis, completing the funding requirements for the expansion project.

At Lithium Ridge, Andrada completed an expanded 16,500-metre drilling programme comprising 143 drill holes under its earn-in agreement with SQM Australia. Assay results released from 34 holes have returned lithium intersections grading up to 3.46% lithium oxide (Li_2O) from near surface, together with associated tin and tantalum mineralisation. The company said assay analysis for the remaining drill holes is expected to be completed during the third quarter of the 2027 financial year.

At the Brandberg West project, initial ore-sorting test work on historical samples indicated that more than 90% of waste material could be rejected before processing, with grade improvements of up to seven times for tin, six times for tungsten and four times for copper.

According to the company, the results point to a potential lower-capital-cost route to production while reducing future transport and milling costs. Test work also recorded tin and tungsten recoveries exceeding 80% in multiple cases. Drilling and metallurgical programmes are continuing at the project, where historical mining areas have confirmed tin, tungsten and copper mineralisation.

The quarter marked one of the company's strongest operational performances, supported by record tin production, progress at Lithium Ridge and encouraging ore-sorting results at Brandberg West.
— Anthony Viljoen, Chief Executive Officer, Andrada Mining

KENDRICK'S TEUFELSKUPPE DRILLING CONFIRMS UPPER-QUARTILE RARE EARTH GRADES AS RESOURCE GROWS

High-grade intersections and depth continuity suggest the 14-million-tonne provisional resource may represent only a fraction of a much larger carbonatite rare earth deposit.

Rare earth grades of up to 15.10% total rare earth oxides (TREO), together with evidence that mineralisation extends well below surface, are strengthening Kendrick Resources' confidence that the 14-million-tonne provisional resource at its Teufelskuppe Project in Namibia could represent only a fraction of a much larger rare earth deposit.

The latest drilling programme returned multiple high-grade intersections from the first three diamond drill holes, with compelling evidence of mineralisation continuity from surface to depth.

Hole TKDD002 produced individual pXRF readings of 15.10%, 10.02%, 9.99%, 5.33% and 4.00% TREO, while also intersecting 2.75 metres grading 4.91% TREO from a depth of 109.25 metres. Hole TKDD003 intersected 10.91% TREO over 1.25 metres, 4.67% TREO over 3.75 metres, 3.15% TREO over 0.5 metres and 2.60% TREO over 1.75 metres, with additional spot readings reaching 10.48% TREO between zones of core loss.

Previously unanalysed sections of hole TKDD001 also returned grades of 6.42%, 3.95%, 3.87% and 2.50% TREO, complementing the previously announced intercept of 21.16 metres grading 8.14% TREO, one of the highest-grade continuous rare earth intersections reported from the project.

The results come as Kendrick advances verification of its provisional 14-million-tonne surface mineral resource estimate, announced in May, and simultaneously upgrades it to comply with the internationally recognised JORC (2012) reporting standard.

Development of Teufelskuppe is progressing in line with the company's development plan announced on 5 May, with drilling continuing while engineers verify the in-house resource model and prepare a maiden JORC-compliant resource estimate.

The continuity of mineralisation is very encouraging, particularly our ability to match extensive surface exposures of mineralisation with depth extensions intersected during drilling. Ultimately, we would expect this continuity to be reflected in the Mineral Resource Estimate. — Colin Bird, Chairman, Kendrick Resources

According to the company, the current drilling programme is demonstrating that the known surface resource represents only a modest portion of the overall carbonatite system, with mineralisation continuing to mineable depths beneath the natural desert surface.

Kendrick said more than 95% of the rare earth mineralisation comprises light rare earth elements, dominated by cerium, lanthanum, neodymium and praseodymium. Neodymium and praseodymium alone account for approximately 25% of the project's total rare earth content and are regarded as the principal economic drivers because of their use in permanent magnets for electric vehicles, offshore wind turbines, defence systems and advanced electronics.

The company said Teufelskuppe's grades continue to rank the carbonatite complex in the upper quartile of global rare earth projects, while the nearby Kieshohe carbonatite, existing infrastructure and established access routes strengthen its prospects as a near-term development opportunity.

The Company projects a much larger resource for the overall project than is known at this time. — Kendrick Resources

If ongoing drilling continues to confirm the scale and continuity of the mineralised system, Kendrick believes Teufelskuppe could become one of the world's largest newly recognised rare-earth deposits, adding another strategic critical-minerals project to Namibia's expanding mining sector.

CELSIUS RESOURCES COMPLETES SALE OF OPUWO COBALT-COPPER PROJECT TO CHINALCO

Chinese mining subsidiary acquires 95% stake in Kunene Region deposit for $15 million as Celsius refocuses on Philippine copper-gold project.

Celsius Resources Limited has announced the sale of its 95% stake in the Opuwo Cobalt-Copper Project in Namibia to Chinalco (Xiong'an) Mining Corporation Limited for $15 million (approximately N$247 million).

The transaction involves the sale of Celsius' interest in Opuwo Cobalt Holdings (Proprietary) Limited and an intercompany loan through its wholly owned subsidiary Opuwo Cobalt Pty Ltd. The total consideration equals approximately A$21.7 million.

The Opuwo Project, located in the Kunene Region of North-Western Namibia, has a mineral resource estimate of 225.5 million tonnes at a grade of 0.12% cobalt, 0.43% copper and 0.54% zinc. This comprises 45.3 million tonnes in the indicated category and 180.2 million tonnes in the inferred category.

For the year ended June 30, 2025, the Opuwo Project recorded an operational loss of approximately N$421,738 and was held at a carrying value of approximately A$3 million in Celsius' consolidated accounts.

Chinalco (Xiong'an) Mining, a subsidiary of Aluminum Corporation of China, has committed to spend a minimum of $750,000 on exploration and $250,000 on metallurgical test work while transaction conditions are being satisfied. This commitment underscores Chinalco's intention to advance the project toward potential development.

The transaction requires several approvals before completion, including Celsius shareholder approval under AIM Rules, renewal of the Exclusive Prospecting Licence and Environmental Clearance Certificate, approval by the Namibian Competition Commission and Bank of Namibia, and clearance by Chinese authorities including the National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Commerce and Bureau of Foreign Exchange Administration.

The cut-off date for completing conditions precedent is December 29, 2026, which may be extended by two months if needed.

Celsius stated it intends to use the proceeds to develop its MCB Copper-Gold Project in the Philippines, subject to resolving an arbitration dispute with Makilala Mining Company, Inc. The divestment of Opuwo allows the company to concentrate capital and management resources on its Philippine copper-gold portfolio.

NEW AUTOMATION INNOVATIONS ON SHOW AT ELECTRA MINING AFRICA 2026

New emerging innovations are transforming the South African mining, manufacturing, industrial and automation sectors and driving the deployment of advanced technological solutions across operations. Innovations such as mechanisation, automation and digitisation are improving safety and productivity on mines, production facilities, industrial plants and warehouses. However, to deliver real value, these technologies must be cost-effective and designed to address practical, people-centred industry challenges.

The current growth in automation is positively impacting local industries by facilitating investment in innovation, data analytics and skills development, and helping to develop local competitiveness and export potential as local African solutions are adapted to be exported regionally. South African engineers are leaders in innovation and technology development. Many of these innovations and newly automated systems will be on display at the largest trade-show of its kind in Southern Africa, Electra Mining Africa 2026 taking place in Johannesburg later this year.

Some of these innovations include new CNC simulation server automation software for CNC specific user interfaces that simulate part machining using real-time data. Also on show will be automated purpose-built digital systems that track and trace projects that provide real-time visibility, improve collaboration, and ensure that critical information is accessible to the right people at the right time. Mining and petrochemical industries demand uninterrupted power, precision control, and uncompromising safety as even brief interruptions can cause operational downtime, safety risks, and financial losses. In response to changing industry requirements new developments in intelligent, digitally-enabled power solutions for modern, mission-critical facilities will be on show.

As mining operations continue to adopt higher levels of automation, the reliability of the data feeding these systems has become increasingly critical. Companies specialising in industrial sensing and monitoring technologies are contributing to the development of more reliable automated systems focusing on digital speed, position and condition monitoring solutions designed for use in demanding industrial and mining environments. Local companies will display the latest developments in precision motion within automated mining and heavy industry systems.

Other new technologies on display at Electra Mining Africa include collision avoidance systems for mining operations integrated with AI cameras capable of reliably detecting people vehicles and obstacles in real mining conditions, as well as new network terminal slice computing technology that moves computing from centralised servers to localised, device-level processing for improved speed, efficiency and resilience. Even emergency prevention systems are automating, with automated fire suppression systems for modern mines and industries also on display.

The biennial show will introduce several notable additions in 2026, including a new outdoor exhibition area in the Arena at the Expo Centre. According to Montgomery Group Africa portfolio director Charlene Hefer, the new Orange Zone has been created in response to strong exhibitor interest and the need for additional space following the previous show.

“The new Orange Zone allows us to accommodate more companies looking to showcase large-scale equipment and innovations outdoors,” says Hefer. “It also enables greater participation from original equipment manufacturers, giving visitors a valuable opportunity to view, compare and evaluate a broader range of solutions across the show's expanded outdoor exhibition areas.”

Electra Mining Africa 2024 surpassed previous records in terms of number of exhibitors, exhibition space, and number of visitors. Hefer says that the 2026 show will be even bigger with over 1000 exhibitors and expanded floor space, which includes the new orange zone. “A growing exhibition reflects increased industry participation and innovation, offering visitors a broader and more diverse range of solutions to explore and evaluate,” notes Hefer. “Visitors will have access to a wide range of technologies, suppliers, and expertise in one location, reducing the time and cost associated with sourcing products and supplier engagement”.

International exhibitors and country pavilions will bring global innovations and new technologies to the show. Beyond the exhibition floor, the event offers valuable networking, collaboration and knowledge-sharing opportunities through seminars, technical workshops and informal engagement across the broader industry landscape.

Electra Mining Africa will take place at Nasrec, Johannesburg between 7-11 September 2026. Visitors can register at www.electramining.co.za

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