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Editor
editor@namibianminingnews.com

Editorial Contributor
Sibhekisipho Fayayo
Ulla Setswalo
Glennora Tjipura
Denise Mudawarima
Kevin Dube
Lionel Peters

Advertisement Sales
Cris Muyunda: crism@namibianminingnews.com
Eugene Dube: eugene.dube@namibianminingnews.com
Similo Ngwenya: similon@namibianminingnews.com
Jayden Kite: jaydenk@namibianminingnews.com
Kevin Mugode: kevinm@namibianminingnews.com
Edward Malwa: edwardm@namibianminingnews.com
Michael Mondoloka: michaelm@namibianminingnews.com
James Mkhize: james@namibianminingnews.com

Information, Database, Archive and Distribution Management
Subscription and Sales Administrator
Grace Kisembo and Loyce Zemeyi

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MTI Media.

Physical Address:
Namibian Mining Review
15 Veronica Street, Ludwigsdorf, Windhoek
Postal Address: P.O Box 136, Windhoek, Namibia
Tel: +264 81 804 2631 I **Fax:** +264 81 587 2191 I
Email: info@mtimedia.co.za
Website: www.namibianminingnews.com

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Enough Dialogue. Let Delivery Begin

Andrew Maramwidze (Editor)

What it hasn't fully answered yet is whether that case can be converted into outcomes. That question sits at the heart of this year's Mining Expo and Conference, hosted by the Chamber of Mines of Namibia and running from 4 to 6 August under the theme "From Dialogue to Delivery: Assessing Progress in Creating Mining-Led Economic Growth and Employment since NamPPF". It is a theme that doesn't just describe a conference agenda, as it describes the moment the industry finds itself in.

The Namibia Public-Private Forum (NamPPF) was established to close the gap between government ambition and private sector capability, giving structure to a relationship that had too often played out as parallel monologues rather than coordinated action. Two years on, the Chamber and its partners have quantified what's at stake, with roughly US$2.675 billion in potential investment and 18,000 jobs, tied to new projects, expansions and exploration activity already in motion. The figures are real. What remains to be tested is execution, regulatory clarity, institutional efficiency and a partnership model where risk and reward are genuinely shared.

This edition's cover story puts that same tension on a national stage. President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah's declaration that nuclear energy "has to come" to Namibia is not simply an energy policy statement; it is a bet that the country can move up its own value chain, from exporting raw uranium to generating power domestically. It is the boldest expression yet of an idea that runs through nearly every story in this issue, that Namibia's resource wealth only compounds in value once it stops being extracted and starts being built upon. That thread runs through the pages that follow.

Bannerman Energy's water security deal at Etango is a case study in what de-risking actually looks like on the ground, not just on a slide. Frontier Nuclear's work turning legacy uranium waste into recoverable inventory in Colorado offers a model with direct relevance to Namibia's own historical mining sites. Operationally, projects like Rosh Pinah's RP2.0 expansion and Andrada's multi-metal progress at Uis are proof that delivery isn't aspirational, but it's already happening, quietly, across the country's producing assets.

The Chamber's own programming reflects this shift in priorities. This year's expo introduces the inaugural Chamber of Mines Safety Conference on 4 August, themed "Safety for a Resilient Tomorrow", underscoring the recognition that sustainable growth cannot be separated from how an industry protects the people driving it. Exhibitor numbers tell a similar story of momentum. The Chamber has confirmed 204 exhibitors across a record 372 exhibition spaces, an increase of 43 over the previous edition, describing the growth as reinforcing the event's status as a hallmark on the regional and international business calendar.

None of this guarantees delivery as pipelines stall and commitments slip. But the direction of travel, from policy frameworks to funded projects and from dialogue platforms to signed agreements, suggests an industry less interested in defending its ambitions than in proving them. That is the standard this edition holds itself to, and the standard against which Namibia's mining sector and the Chamber of Mines that convenes it each year should now be measured.

Chamber regret policy uncertainty

President of the Chamber of Mines of Namibia has bemoaned policy uncertainty, particularly regarding local ownership requirements, in the Chamber's 2025 annual report.

The new President, George Botshiwe, said the policy uncertainty has introduced a level of unpredictability that is affecting investor confidence.

"For a capital-intensive, long-cycle industry such as mining, uncertainty is not merely disruptive; it is also costly. Investment decisions worth billions of dollars depend on policy clarity, regulatory consistency, and institutional predictability," said Botshiwe.

Bolstering his point, Botshiwe said the impact of policy indecisiveness was also indicated in Namibia's performance in the 2025 Fraser Institute Survey of Mining Companies. In the survey, the country experienced a marked decline in its Investment Attractiveness Index, driven largely by investor concerns regarding the local ownership statements. Botshiwe warned that investors have choices.

"In a climate where commodity prices for gold and critical minerals are driving exploration activity worldwide, jurisdictions that fail to provide certainty risk being bypassed."

Meanwhile, Botshiwe said the emergence of a new administration presented an opportunity to reset dialogue and re-anchor policy direction around transparency and partnership.

Mining Indaba 2027 theme announced

Mining Indaba 2027 marks the next step in a three-year journey to transform collaboration across the global mining ecosystem.

Building on 2026's calls to embrace partnership as a strategic imperative, next year's theme: 'Stronger Together: Partnerships in Practice' focuses on turning shared intent into tangible action.

Organisers said the 'Stronger Together: Partnerships in Practice' challenges industry leaders, governments, investors, communities, downstream industrial buyers, innovators, and the next generation of mining leaders to move beyond dialogue and embed collaboration into everyday decisions, investments, and operations.

"By aligning capital, policy, and innovation across the value chain, Mining Indaba 2027 aims to drive long-term value, strengthen social licence, and unlock sustainable growth."

The organisers emphasized that making meaningful progress in the mining industry takes time. This multi-year journey is designed to reflect the industry's complexity, and lasting impact can only be achieved when partnerships are actively implemented together.

Okorusu processing plant relocation to advance Okanjande Mine

Northern Graphite Corporation has completed the relocation of its processing plant equipment to the Okanjande mine site, marking the first step toward the planned restart of production in late 2027, subject to financing.

The relocation involved dismantling the processing equipment at the former Okorusu site and transporting it approximately 85 km to Okanjande, where it will be reassembled during a subsequent phase in the coming months.

Meanwhile, the move was completed on schedule, safely, and without incident, marking a key step toward restarting mining and processing operations while advancing Northern's development of an integrated mine-to-battery graphite business.

"Completing the relocation is a major milestone for Northern and showcases our capability to execute as we progress towards restarting production at Okanjande," said Northern's Chief Executive Officer Hugues Jacquemin.

"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."

Koryx Copper provides further drill results

Koryx Copper has announced the results of assays from 15 drill holes as part of its ongoing infill and expansion drilling program at the Haib Copper Project.

The Haib deposit is a large, disseminated porphyry copper (Cu) deposit that also contains molybdenum (Mo) and gold (Au). The project is expected to produce copper and molybdenum concentrates through large-scale open-pit mining, utilizing conventional methods such as crushing, milling, and sulphide flotation. Additionally, there is potential for copper cathode production through oxide heap leaching.

The ongoing optimisation of the process flow sheet aims to enhance project economics while minimising technical risks.

"This is yet another impressive set of drill results from our active 15-rig drilling program. The wide intersections, with good grades exceeding 0.3 percent CuEq, mostly starting from the surface, suggest the potential for further improvements in our mineral resources."

"In conjunction with the recently announced process flow sheet enhancements, we expect the economics of the Haib project to improve significantly in the upcoming PFS, which is on track to be published before the end of 2026," said Heye Daun, Koryx Copper's President and Chief Executive Officer.

Mining Expo Positions Itself as a Transaction Platform

Beyond its role as a convening forum, the Mining Expo and Conference is increasingly positioning itself as a marketplace where commercial outcomes take precedence over conversation. Over time, the event has evolved into a structured business-to-business platform, enabling suppliers and buyers to move from introductions to negotiated outcomes within a defined timeframe. The emphasis is no longer limited to visibility but extends to conversion, with one-on-one engagements designed to translate participation into signed agreements and longer-term partnerships.

Organisers highlight that the platform creates a direct interface between exhibitors and decision-makers, allowing companies to engage potential clients, negotiate terms and advance transactions that extend well beyond the event itself. This shift reflects a broader recalibration within the sector, where efficiency in deal-making is becoming as important as access and exposure. Scheduled over three days in August, the event is expected to draw more than 6,000 attendees, alongside over 150 exhibitors and a focused group of industry speakers. The gathering is framed under the theme of driving local empowerment through procurement and economic inclusion, reinforcing the growing expectation that participation must translate into measurable economic impact.

A central feature of this commercial orientation is the suppliers' platform, which offers exhibitors a structured opportunity to present their services and capabilities directly to a targeted audience. With tightly managed presentation slots, the platform prioritises clarity and precision, ensuring that engagements remain outcome-driven rather than purely promotional. The programme also reflects the sector's shifting priorities. Discussions will span long-term community impact, financing strategies aligned with national development goals and the resilience of key subsectors such as diamonds and uranium. Company-led presentations are expected to highlight expansion strategies, project development, and the role of mining in job creation and economic transformation. Taken together, the event signals a more deliberate shift in how industry gatherings are being leveraged. The value proposition is defined by the ability to convert access into agreements and intent into execution.

Nuclear is the New Currency

In the emerging global energy order, nuclear power is fast becoming more than a source of electricity; it is a marker of economic strength, industrial depth and geopolitical relevance.

As one of the world's leading uranium producers, Namibia is actively participating in this shift and repositioning itself within it.

President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah's recent declaration that nuclear energy "has to come" to Namibia signals a decisive inflection point. It reflects a transition from a resource-export model to a value-driven energy strategy, one that could fundamentally reshape the country's economy, livelihoods and global standing. "Nuclear energy has to come" to Namibia, the President said, underscoring a firm political commitment to integrating nuclear into the national energy mix. For decades, Namibia's role in the nuclear value chain has been largely extractive. The country mines uranium at scale, yet exports it for processing and utilisation abroad, effectively ceding the most valuable stages of the energy cycle. In a world increasingly defined by energy security and low-carbon transitions, that model is becoming strategically limiting.

The President's remarks suggest a clear intent to reverse this dynamic. "So, definitely, you are right that mixed energy is our policy, and as a producer of uranium, we cannot run away from that. However, we have to be very bold to say that we cannot allow our natural resources not to be used to the maximum, and the maximum is when they create energy," said Nandi-Ndaitwah. At stake is more than electricity generation. Nuclear power offers baseload stability with reliable, large-scale energy that underpins industrialisation. This could unlock downstream industries, from mineral processing and manufacturing to green hydrogen production, all of which require consistent and affordable power.

In practical terms, the shift could alter the structure of the economy itself. Moving up the uranium value chain would not only retain more revenue domestically but also catalyse skills development, technology transfer and high-value job creation. The projected US$2.675 billion in mining-related investments and 18,000 potential jobs signal the scale of opportunity already within reach, an opportunity that could be amplified by a domestic nuclear programme. The government is already laying the groundwork for this transition. A national nuclear energy policy is being finalised, with plans for legislative backing to ensure a structured and regulated rollout.

The President noted, "So, currently, we are busy putting together our nuclear energy policy. Once we finalise it, it has to be backed by law before we proceed." Parallel to the policy development process, research is underway to determine how Namibia can safely and effectively implement a nuclear power programme, reflecting the technical, regulatory and societal complexities involved. She added, "We are already doing research as to how we are going to handle this situation, but definitely we need it. It has to come at one point in the lifetime of Namibia. It has to come."

The President's visit to the China General Nuclear Power Corporation's Daya Bay Nuclear Power Plant offered more than technical insight; it provided a tangible illustration of what energy sovereignty looks like in practice. From uranium processing to electricity generation, the facility embodies a fully integrated value chain that Namibia now appears determined to emulate. Reflecting on the visit, Nandi-Ndaitwah said, "I really understand the whole operation, which I appreciate. They even explained to us how the uranium moves through the different stages because they are not using it in its raw form. It passes through several stages before it finally comes to China."

The geopolitical dimension of this pivot is equally significant. As global competition for clean, reliable energy intensifies, countries with nuclear capabilities are gaining strategic leverage. For Namibia, partnerships with established nuclear players such as China could accelerate technology transfer, financing and infrastructure development while positioning the country as a serious player in the global energy landscape. Yet, the transition will not be without challenges. Nuclear power demands rigorous regulatory frameworks, long-term capital commitments and unwavering adherence to safety and non-proliferation standards. It also requires public trust, an often underestimated but critical component of nuclear adoption.

Even so, the direction of travel is clear. Namibia is no longer content with being a supplier of raw uranium to global markets. It is seeking to convert that resource into power, literally and economically. This pivot could redefine the country's development trajectory if successfully executed. It could stabilise energy supply, attract energy-intensive industries, elevate skills and innovation and ultimately reposition Namibia from a resource-dependent economy to an energy-driven one. In a world where power, both electrical and geopolitical, is increasingly intertwined, Namibia's nuclear ambitions may prove to be more than an energy strategy. They may well become the foundation of its next economic era.


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Minister Honoured as Mining Sector Signals Continuity in Leadership

Recognition at the highest level of Namibia's mining industry is set to underscore a broader theme of continuity between legacy leadership and future sector direction. The Chamber of Mines of Namibia will confer Honorary Life Membership on Inge Zaamwani at the 13th edition of the Mining Expo and Conference, one of the country's flagship industry gatherings. The event, hosted at the Windhoek Showgrounds, brings together stakeholders across the extractive value chain, from operators and policymakers to investors and service providers.

Zaamwani's recognition reflects a career that has consistently intersected with Namibia's most strategic sectors. Her leadership roles have spanned mining, finance and public service, positioning her as one of the country's most influential figures in shaping both industry and policy outcomes. Her tenure at Namdeb remains a defining chapter, complemented by her role as Chairperson of First National Bank of Namibia and her advisory capacity to the presidency. Across these positions, she has built a reputation for aligning long-term national priorities with institutional execution.

Her recent appointment by President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah as Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform further extends that influence into a portfolio central to Namibia's resource and food security agenda. The Chamber of Mines has welcomed the appointment, pointing to Zaamwani's depth of experience and her ability to translate strategy into measurable outcomes. Industry stakeholders anticipate that her leadership will play a role in advancing value addition, strengthening job creation, and reinforcing policy alignment across Namibia's natural resource sectors.

The Honorary Life Membership recognition, therefore, is not only retrospective. It signals confidence in continued collaboration between government and industry at a time when execution, rather than policy ambition, is increasingly defining sector progress. In a more complex operating environment for Namibia's mining and resource sectors, Zaamwani's career stands as a reference point for leadership that cuts across institutional lines while maintaining a firm focus on national development outcomes.

PPPs Face a Reality Check

Namibia's Mining Expo and Conference is set to shift the conversation beyond ambition and into accountability, as the Namibia Public-Private Forum (NamPPF) comes under renewed scrutiny not as a policy platform but as a delivery mechanism. The 13th edition of the event centres on the theme, 'From Dialogue to Delivery: Assessing Progress in Creating Mining-Led Economic Growth and Employment since NamPPF'. While the framing suggests continuity, the underlying shift is more significant: a growing recognition that the credibility of Namibia's PPP model now rests firmly on execution.

Since its establishment, NamPPF has served as a collaborative interface between government, the private sector and development partners, helping to unlock investment and address structural constraints. As project pipelines mature and capital commitments become more defined, the focus is increasingly shifting to whether these partnerships can deliver at scale and within realistic timeframes. The urgency is underscored by the mining sector's projection of approximately US$2.675 billion in potential investment and the creation of around 18,000 jobs through new developments, expansion programmes and intensified exploration. Yet, as industry stakeholders acknowledge, the transition from pipeline to production is often where momentum stalls, hindered by regulatory bottlenecks, infrastructure gaps and coordination challenges.

Against this backdrop, the conference serves not only as a platform to take stock of progress but also to interrogate the quality of that progress. Attention is increasingly directed towards implementation metrics: how many projects have advanced to bankable stages, the pace of approvals and whether enabling infrastructure is keeping pace with investment ambitions. According to organisers, the Chamber of Mines of Namibia, the platform facilitates frank discussions on the constraints that continue to delay project execution, while identifying practical interventions to accelerate timelines and de-risk investment. This marks a subtle but important evolution from broad-based dialogue to a more results-driven engagement model.

A notable addition to the programme is the inaugural Chamber of Mines Safety Conference, held under the theme 'Safety for a Resilient Tomorrow'. Its inclusion reflects a parallel industry priority: ensuring that the push for growth does not outpace the systems required to sustain safe and responsible operations. By convening health and safety professionals alongside industry leaders, the forum reinforces operational discipline as a core pillar of long-term sector performance. Industry participation reflects strong and sustained engagement. The Chamber has confirmed 204 exhibitors across a record 372 exhibition spaces, marking a notable increase from 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," noted the Chamber.

With free public access, the Expo continues to position itself as an inclusive platform. However, the real measure of its impact lies beyond attendance figures. The mining sector enters a more capital-intensive and execution-driven phase, with the gathering underscoring a broader test of whether PPPs can evolve from a vehicle of alignment into an engine of delivery, capable of converting commitments into concrete economic outcomes.

Harnessing Strategic Partnerships to Shape Nuclear Future

From 23 to 27 November 2026, Swakopmund will host the Uranium Legacy Sites in the Africa Region Workshop, placing Namibia at the centre of continental efforts to address the long-term environmental footprint of uranium mining. The workshop, organised in partnership with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), will bring together African countries to advance coordinated approaches to the management, rehabilitation and monitoring of legacy uranium sites.

As one of the world's leading uranium producers, Namibia's role extends beyond extraction to shaping best practice in responsible resource stewardship. Announcing the latest Cabinet decisions, Minister of Information and Communication Technology Emma Theofelus noted that the platform will facilitate technical collaboration, knowledge exchange and policy alignment across the continent. The focus is on strengthening capacity to manage historical mining impacts while ensuring environmental protection, public safety and sustainable land use.

The initiative comes at a time when global demand for nuclear energy is resurging, placing uranium-producing nations such as Namibia under increasing scrutiny to balance production growth with environmental accountability. Hosting the workshop signals Namibia's intent to lead not only in supply but also in governance standards across the uranium value chain. Beyond the nuclear sector, Cabinet's latest resolutions reflect a broader strategy to deepen international partnerships across economic, environmental and security priorities.

Cabinet also approved a Development Cooperation Agreement with China, which includes a grant of approximately N$480 million to support Namibia's national development priorities. The agreement is expected to be formalised through high-level bilateral engagements, reflecting the continued strengthening of economic and strategic ties between the two countries. In the environmental space, Namibia approved its accession to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP), reinforcing its commitment to biodiversity protection and sustainable marine resource management. The move aligns with growing global pressure on coastal nations to safeguard vulnerable seabird populations affected by fishing activities, pollution and climate change.

Further advancing its ocean economy strategy, the Cabinet endorsed a Memorandum of Understanding with Spain focused on fisheries and aquaculture cooperation. The agreement will support marine scientific research, fisheries governance, technology transfer and capacity building, all critical to enhancing sector sustainability and productivity. On the security front, Namibia approved a bilateral agreement with China's Ministry of Public Security aimed at strengthening cooperation in combating transnational crime. The partnership will focus on information sharing, training and the exchange of law enforcement expertise.

The cabinet also reviewed outcomes from the 11th Namibia–Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, directing ministries to implement resolutions designed to expand trade, investment and industrial collaboration. Collectively, these decisions reflect a deliberate positioning of Namibia as a globally engaged resource economy, leveraging its mineral wealth while strengthening institutional frameworks, environmental governance and strategic alliances.

With decades of uranium production underpinning its economy, Namibia now faces the parallel imperative of managing legacy sites left by earlier mining operations. These sites require sustained monitoring, rehabilitation and technical oversight, making initiatives such as the upcoming workshop critical to ensuring that the country's nuclear future is matched by responsible environmental stewardship. Stepping further into the global nuclear energy landscape, Namibia's ability to lead on both production and post-mining management will define not only its credibility but also its long-term competitiveness in an increasingly sustainability-driven market.

Water Deal De-Risks Etango Investment Case

A critical constraint has now been removed from Bannerman Energy's Etango uranium project, with the securing of a permanent water supply marking a decisive step toward development readiness. The agreement with NamWater, signed in June 2026, provides the long-term water security required to support the initial Etango-8 development. Designed to produce an average of 3.5 million pounds of uranium oxide annually over a 15-year mine life, the project is increasingly transitioning from planning into execution.

While often treated as a technical requirement, water security in Namibia carries strategic weight. In this context, the agreement signals more than infrastructure readiness. It reflects alignment between developer and national utility, reinforcing confidence that the project can move forward without one of the most common bottlenecks in mining development. Bannerman has framed the agreement as part of a broader emphasis on long-term planning and stakeholder coordination, a theme that runs through its recent project updates.

Over the past year, the company has focused on de-risking Etango ahead of a final investment decision. Early works programmes have delivered core infrastructure, including construction water supply systems, site access roads and bulk earthworks, all completed on schedule and within budget. Progress on critical equipment is also reinforcing project momentum. Manufacturing of the High-Pressure Grinding Rolls crusher is running ahead of schedule, while on-site construction has advanced across multiple fronts, including excavation at the primary crusher location, installation of water distribution systems and development of power infrastructure.

Operational execution has also been tested by environmental conditions. Despite periods of heavy rainfall, construction activities continued largely uninterrupted, pointing to effective planning and site management. On the financial side, Bannerman has moved to strengthen its balance sheet in parallel with project development. Two institutional equity placements, each raising A$85 million, have supported early works and engineering programmes. By mid-2025, the company held approximately A$140 million in cash and liquid assets, providing a solid funding base as it approaches its investment decision.

Equally important is the company's early move into market positioning. TThe signing of uranium offtake agreements with Tier-1 North American utilities for delivery between 2029 and 2033 establishes Etango as a future supplier in a tightening global uranium market. The contracts also introduce a degree of revenue visibility, supporting the broader financing strategy. The water agreement, infrastructure progress and early commercial arrangements point to a project that is steadily removing execution risk.


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Revaluing Uranium Waste into the Supply Curve

What was once written off as legacy waste is now being recast as strategic inventory, and the implications extend well beyond the United States.Frontier Nuclear and Minerals' agreement with DISA Technologies at the Maybell uranium project in Colorado does more than address historical environmental liabilities. It introduces a commercially viable model where remediation and resource recovery are integrated into a single value proposition. The relevance is immediate for Namibia, one of the world's most established uranium producers.

Across Namibia's uranium belts, decades of mining have left behind stockpiles, tailings and historical waste material that have largely been treated as environmental obligations rather than economic opportunities. Maybell suggests that assumption may no longer hold. The structure of the Maybell partnership is as significant as the technology itself. DISA will fund and operate the remediation programme, while Frontier retains exposure through a royalty linked to uranium prices. The model removes capital burden while preserving upside, effectively turning cleanup into a revenue-generating activity.

In Namibia, where legacy material exists alongside active operations in regions such as Erongo, this raises a critical question. Similar models could unlock additional uranium supply without the need for new mines, new permits or large-scale capital deployment. About 17 waste dumps have already been identified at Maybell, highlighting scalable potential. Namibia's extensive historical footprint points to a comparable, if not larger, opportunity set. At the centre of the model is DISA's High-Pressure Slurry Ablation system, a chemical-free process that separates uranium and other minerals from waste material through high-velocity slurry interactions.

Independent validation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency demonstrated uranium reductions of up to 94 percent in treated material, while concentrating the majority of the uranium into a significantly smaller mass. This reduces disposal requirements and allows much of the treated material to remain safely on site. The implication is clear: waste should no longer be viewed simply as a disposal challenge. It is processable, recoverable, and potentially profitable. For Namibia, where environmental stewardship and water use are subject to increasing scrutiny, such technologies could provide a pathway to rehabilitate legacy sites while unlocking additional value.

In the United States, policy support for domestic uranium recovery is accelerating, particularly where it intersects with environmental remediation. This alignment is helping move projects like Maybell from concept to execution. Namibia operates within a different regulatory context but the underlying drivers are comparable. Global uranium demand is rising, supply chains are tightening, and there is growing pressure to extract more value from existing assets while maintaining environmental standards. Adopting similar recovery models could position Namibia not only as a primary producer but also as a secondary recovery leader, extending the life and value of its uranium districts.

The significance of Maybell lies in its replicability. It demonstrates that uranium supply does not need to come exclusively from new discoveries or expanded pits. It can also be sourced from what has already been mined and set aside. This represents a strategic layer that has not yet been fully priced into its uranium narrative. Legacy material, often viewed as a liability, could become a supplementary supply stream with relatively lower technical and permitting risk. The broader shift is conceptual. Value in mining is no longer confined to untouched ore bodies. It increasingly includes historical material, reprocessed through modern technology and aligned with current market conditions. From Colorado to Namibia, the next phase of uranium supply growth may not come from digging deeper but from thinking differently about what has already been left behind. In a market searching for secure, responsible uranium sources, that shift could prove decisive.


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RP2.0 Nears Completion as Rosh Pinah Repositions for Scale and Efficiency

Now at an advanced stage of execution, the RP2.0 expansion at Rosh Pinah Zinc is evolving beyond a conventional capacity upgrade into a broader repositioning of the operation's cost base, efficiency profile and long-term viability. Backed by majority shareholder Appian Capital Advisory, the project is designed to double processing throughput from 700,000 tonnes a year to 1.4 million tonnes following ramp-up. The expansion is expected to increase zinc equivalent output to an average of 170 million pounds annually, placing the operation on a more competitive footing in the global zinc market.

The expansion extends across both underground and surface infrastructure. Underground development includes the WF3 portal and decline, supporting access to additional ore zones and improved mining flexibility. On the surface, the project introduces a new processing plant anchored by a semi-autogenous grinding mill, alongside expanded flotation, thickening and filtration capacity. The introduction of the SAG mill marks a significant shift in processing capability. Replacing the existing ball mill, it is engineered to improve comminution efficiency, optimise grind-size control and enhance metallurgical recovery while lowering unit operating costs. Its design also accommodates harder ore types and incorporates headroom for future throughput increases.

Operational efficiency is further reinforced through the integration of a paste-fill plant and a water-treatment facility. The paste-fill system, the first of its kind commissioned in Namibia, is expected to reduce mining dilution and limit surface tailings while improving overall ore recovery. The water-treatment plant supports recycling of processed water, reducing dependence on raw water abstraction from the Orange River and strengthening the project's environmental management profile. Energy strategy forms another pillar of the expansion. Plans are in place to scale the Rosh Pinah Solar Park from 5.4 MWp to 16.3 MWp, enabling the operation to source approximately 30 percent of its energy requirements under a long-term fixed-rate agreement. This positions the mine to better manage energy costs and reduce exposure to grid volatility.

From a funding perspective, a 150 million dollar debt facility underwritten by Standard Bank has secured the remaining construction requirements, leaving the project fully funded through ramp-up. As of late June 2026, the project was more than 95 percent complete, on schedule and within budget. The commissioning of the SAG mill marked the final major milestone in establishing the processing circuit, bringing the full system into integrated operation. Earlier in the year, both the paste-fill and water-treatment plants were successfully commissioned. The focus shifts to resource expansion and life-of-mine extension. Plans for more than 80 kilometres of diamond drilling in 2027 signal a strategic intent to convert the expanded processing capacity into sustained long-term production. RP2.0 reflects a broader trend within Namibia's mining sector, where growth is being defined less by incremental expansion and more by integrated upgrades that align scale, efficiency and sustainability.

Multi-Metal Momentum Builds as Andrada

A stronger production quarter is beginning to reinforce a broader strategic narrative at Andrada Mining, where near-term tin output is increasingly being leveraged to unlock a multi-commodity growth pipeline across Namibia. For the quarter ended May 31, the company reported a 20 percent increase in tin production at its Uis operation, reaching 286 tonnes, while tin concentrate output rose 16 percent to 473 tonnes.

The gains reflect a combination of processing plant upgrades and improved mining performance, pointing to a more stable and optimised operating base. The focus at Uis is now shifting from recovery to optimisation. Continued enhancements to the beneficiation plant, combined with a more refined understanding of the orebody, are expected to drive further efficiency gains. The planned introduction of ore sorting is particularly significant, with the potential to materially lift production while improving feed quality and reducing unit costs.

Andrada CEO Anthony Viljoen underscored this trajectory, noting that "continued optimisation of the beneficiation plant and improved understanding of the orebody" have already driven production gains. He added, "Once we've got the ore sorters in and finished the ore-sorting programme, we should see another jump in production." The operation is increasingly being positioned as a long-life asset capable of underpinning the company's broader ambitions.

Beyond Uis, the strategic weight lies in Andrada's expanding project portfolio. At Lithium Ridge, drilling has been completed across 16,500 metres in 143 holes, with assay results expected in the third quarter. Early indications point to high-grade lithium oxide intersections of up to 3.46 percent from near-surface zones, alongside notable tin and tantalum mineralisation. The project, advanced in partnership with Sociedad Química y Minera de Chile, is progressing toward feasibility, although further technical work is required to define a clear development pathway.

Viljoen noted that the company sees strong resource potential at Lithium Ridge but that additional work is needed to fully determine the optimal route to development. At Brandberg West, early-stage work is beginning to reshape the project's economic profile. Drilling and metallurgical test work suggest that ore sorting could reduce ore mass by more than 90 percent while significantly upgrading grades. Improvements of up to seven times for tin, six times for tungsten and four times for copper point to a potential low-capital development model. However, the sequencing between Brandberg West and Lithium Ridge remains under evaluation.

This combination of producing assets and advancing pipelines is being reinforced by improving access to capital. A R98 million financing package from Bank Windhoek and the Development Bank of Namibia, structured over 10 years with deferred capital repayments, is expected to support further expansion at Uis. This follows an 11 million dollar equity raise, which played a key role in securing the funding. Further to that, Viljoen reflected on the company's positioning, concluding, "We are probably in the best position that any junior mining company could be with three assets, cash flows and fully financed development projects."

Andrada's current trajectory reflects more than a cyclical production uplift. It signals a transition toward a more integrated model, where cash flow from tin production is used to de-risk and advance a diversified portfolio of critical minerals. In a market increasingly defined by supply constraints across multiple commodities, that positioning may prove to be the company's most durable advantage.

Buried Leverage of Lofdal's Quiet Influence

The real story at Lofdal is not the drills turning; it is the leverage accumulating beneath the surface. Namibia Critical Metals' latest drilling campaign signals a shift from resource definition to strategic positioning within one of the world's most contested mineral markets.

At face value, the 2026 programme is methodical. A total of 83 reverse circulation drill holes, approximately 13,000 metres of drilling and a targeted combination of infill, expansion and exploratory work across Areas 2B, 4 and 5 were completed. But beneath this structured approach lies a deliberate effort to reshape the scale, lifespan and optionality of the Lofdal asset. The inclusion of Area 5, a 1.5-kilometre xenotime-mineralised system, introduces the prospect of entirely new resource definitions, potentially extending the project's footprint beyond its current development blueprint. At the same time, deep drilling to test the continuation of Area 4 at roughly 800 metres signals a pivot toward long-term mine design, with underground mining now emerging as a viable future pathway.

This is where Lofdal begins to shift from project to platform. Heavy rare earth elements such as dysprosium and terbium, both present at Lofdal, sit at the core of modern industrial transformation. They are essential to permanent magnets used in electric mobility, renewable energy systems and advanced electronics, yet remain among the most supply-constrained and geopolitically sensitive materials in circulation. What makes Lofdal significant is not only the presence of these minerals but the timing of its advancement.

Global supply chains are actively diversifying away from concentrated sources, and in that realignment, jurisdictions offering both resource quality and political stability are gaining strategic weight. Namibia, long regarded as a reliable mining destination, is now moving into a more influential position, one defined by relevance. The recent presence of senior executives from Toyota Tsusho and the Japan Organization for Metals and Energy Security at the site underscores this shift. Their engagement reflects a broader recalibration underway among industrial economies seeking secure, long-term access to critical inputs. Yet the question for Namibia is how those resources are leveraged.

As drilling expands and confidence in the deposit deepens, the conversation inevitably moves beyond geology toward economics and policy. The opportunity is not simply to supply rare earths but to anchor a more integrated value proposition, capturing greater downstream benefit through processing, partnerships and industrial participation. Lofdal, in this sense, is becoming a test case. With a fully permitted status and a 25-year mining licence already secured, the project has cleared many of the traditional barriers to development.

What remains is strategic alignment, ensuring that as the asset grows in global importance, Namibia's stake in its value chain grows in parallel. The drills may define the resource, but they are also defining something less visible: Namibia's negotiating position in a rapidly evolving critical minerals economy. At Lofdal, that position is strengthening with every metre.

Graceland Tests the Depth of Namibia's Polymetallic Potential

What lies beneath Graceland may matter far more than what has already been found at the surface. Golden Deeps is moving into a decisive phase of exploration in Namibia's Otavi Mountain Land, where its upcoming diamond drilling campaign is designed not merely to confirm mineralisation but to test the scale of a potentially concealed polymetallic system.

At the centre of this effort is the Graceland Prospect, where a 10-hole diamond drilling programme will target sulphide bodies identified through induced polarisation anomalies.These anomalies, extending over 800 metres and remaining open both along strike and at depth, present the first meaningful opportunity to assess whether high-grade surface mineralisation is underpinned by a more extensive subsurface system. The significance of this campaign lies in its geological analogy.

Golden Deeps is effectively testing a "Tsumeb-type" model, one of the most prolific polymetallic deposit styles in southern Africa. Located approximately 30 kilometres to the north, the historic Tsumeb mine established a benchmark for high-grade copper, lead, zinc and silver mineralisation, with additional value derived from critical trace elements such as germanium. At Graceland, early indicators support this comparison. Surface channel sampling has returned exceptionally high grades, including copper values exceeding 30%, alongside significant silver and zinc concentrations. Shallow drilling has reinforced this profile, intersecting high-grade zones within brecciated fault systems, geological settings consistent with those that hosted Tsumeb's orebody.

However, the current programme marks a shift in focus. Rather than extending shallow mineralisation, Stage One drilling will target deeper sulphide zones beneath and along strike of the Gossan 1 and Gossan 1 East corridors. TThese targets are defined by chargeability anomalies and geophysical signatures commonly associated with sulphide accumulations and represent the first systematic attempt to test the depth potential of the prospect. The outcome will be pivotal. If drilling confirms continuity between surface mineralisation and these deeper anomalies, it would significantly elevate Graceland from a high-grade prospect to a scalable resource system. This, in turn, would strengthen its position within Golden Deeps' broader 440 square kilometre landholding across the Otavi Belt, a region already recognised for its polymetallic endowment.

Beyond copper, silver and zinc, the company's exploration strategy is aligned with a wider basket of critical and strategic metals, including germanium, gallium and antimony. This multi-commodity focus reflects a broader shift in exploration priorities, where projects are increasingly evaluated not only on base metal exposure but also on their relevance to emerging technology and energy systems. A second phase of drilling is already being considered, targeting deeper extensions below 100 metres as well as the Gossan 1 Far East anomaly, the strongest geophysical target identified to date, despite lacking any surface expression. Its potential underscores a key exploration principle: the most valuable mineralisation is often the least visible.

For investors, the Graceland campaign offers more than incremental news flow. It provides a near-term test of Namibia's exploration upside within a proven metallogenic corridor. Success would not only enhance the scale and value of the project but also reinforce the Otavi Mountain Land's standing as a district capable of hosting long-life, high-grade polymetallic systems. In that context, the significance of Graceland is not confined to Golden Deeps. It is part of a broader narrative in which Namibia is steadily repositioning itself within the global mining landscape as a source of high-grade, multi-metal systems aligned with future-facing demand. The next signals will come from the drill core, but how deep does this system go and how far can it elevate Namibia's critical minerals story?

Omatjete's Expanding Gold Footprint Draws a Wider Map

Before the first drill turns, the signal is already stretching across kilometres. Ongwe Minerals has identified a five-kilometre gold-in-soil anomaly at its Omatjete Gold Project, marking the most extensive surface gold signature the company has recorded since it began exploration activities in 2008.The newly defined Nguni prospect, located just 17 kilometres from the Manga discovery, is beginning to reshape the scale and continuity of the broader gold system under evaluation.

What distinguishes this development is not simply its length but its geological coherence. Positioned along a regional structural trend that also hosts Wia Gold's Kokoseb deposit, the Nguni anomaly sits within a proven mineralising corridor where structural complexity enhances fluid movement and gold deposition. The setting where a regional fault interacts with brittle granitic intrusions is widely recognised as conducive to hydrothermal mineralisation, effectively creating pathways and traps for gold-bearing fluids.

Early geochemical results reinforce this prospectivity. Sampling has returned multiple elevated gold values, including 28 samples exceeding 300 parts per billion and several surpassing 500 ppb, with peak values reaching 730 ppb. While soil geochemistry does not directly define ore grade, the consistency and tenor of these results provide a credible vector toward underlying mineralisation. Importantly, the anomaly remains open in multiple directions.

Its current five-kilometre strike length is therefore unlikely to represent its full extent, raising the possibility of a significantly larger mineralised system. This open-ended geometry is often a defining feature of emerging gold districts, where initial surface expressions expand through continued exploration. Ongwe is now advancing infill sampling on progressively tighter grids to refine the anomaly ahead of a planned drilling programme in the second half of 2026. This phased approach reflects a disciplined transition from surface geochemistry to subsurface validation, ensuring that future drilling is targeted and efficient.

The proximity to the Manga discovery further strengthens the strategic case. Together, Nguni and Manga begin to form a cluster of targets within the same structural corridor, increasing the likelihood of district-scale mineralisation rather than isolated occurrences. The implications for Namibia extend beyond a single prospect. The Omatjete area is steadily emerging as part of a broader gold exploration frontier, where multiple discoveries along shared geological trends are beginning to define a new district narrative.

With the global exploration capital continuing to seek scalable, underexplored terrains, such clustering effects tend to accelerate both investment interest and development timelines. At this stage, Nguni remains a surface-defined opportunity. Yet its scale, setting and geochemical signature suggest something more than an isolated anomaly. It is an early signal, one that may ultimately redefine the boundaries of gold potential in Omatjete.

Haib Is Repricing Low-Grade Copper in a Supply-Constrained Market

The transformation underway at the Haib Copper Project is becoming a market signal. What was once viewed as a large but low-grade porphyry system on the margins of economic viability is now being reframed by two converging forces: engineering innovation and growing institutional endorsement. Together, they are repositioning Haib as a credible contender in the next generation of large-scale copper assets.

Recent drilling has reinforced that, in a tightening supply cycle, markets place the highest value on scale combined with continuity. Intercepts stretching hundreds of metres from the surface, consistently carrying copper, molybdenum and minor gold, are validation of a deposit capable of supporting long-life and bulk mining. Analysts have taken notice as coverage from BMO Capital Markets and Red Cloud Securities points to a narrowing pipeline of African copper projects capable of delivering at scale, particularly those exceeding 100,000 tonnes per year in copper-equivalent production. In that context, Haib begins to command something more powerful than attention, a scarcity premium. Scale alone is no longer sufficient; the real shift lies in how that scale is being engineered.

Koryx Copper's advancing metallurgical strategy is redefining the economics of Haib at a foundational level. The integration of ore sorting and coarse particle flotation is not being positioned as incremental optimisation; it is a structural redesign of the project's cost base. By rejecting waste early and preserving copper recovery, the operation reduces the volume of material entering energy-intensive processing stages. The downstream effect is decisive, with lower operating intensity, reduced capital strain and, critically, a lower cut-off grade that expands the economically recoverable resource. This is how marginal tonnes become strategic inventory.

In a sector grappling with declining grades globally, the ability to convert low-grade material into viable feedstock is not just advantageous; it is transformative. Equally telling is the project's move toward a more coherent flowsheet. The decision to prioritise conventional sulphide flotation, supported by oxide heap leaching, reflects a deliberate step away from technically complex alternatives. The result is a clearer, more executable development pathway, one that aligns with proven processing routes while maintaining optionality for further optimisation, including potential on-site reagent generation. For investors, this matters as simplicity at scale often translates into bankability.

Beyond the asset itself, credibility is being reinforced by leadership with a demonstrated track record. The team behind Koryx Copper previously built and monetised a major Namibian gold discovery, establishing a precedent for disciplined project advancement and value realisation. That history, combined with a strong cash position and accelerating progress toward a prefeasibility study, is reshaping how the market prices execution risk. The project's trajectory, resource conversion, engineering refinement and environmental permitting now read less like exploration upside down and more like staged development.

Haib's evolution underscores a broader shift in how copper projects are being evaluated. In a capital-constrained environment, the winners are not simply those with the largest resources but those that can demonstrably convert scale into economically resilient production. By aligning geology, processing innovation and market validation, Haib is crossing that threshold. It is becoming a deliberately engineered asset, one designed to compete in a future where copper supply is scarce, capital is selective and only the most coherent projects move forward.

Chilean BHP Plant Infrastructure on the Block

BHP is putting a price tag on everything that isn't copper. The world's biggest miner is now exploring the sale of a Chilean desalination plant and its electricity transmission network, according to people familiar with the matter, the latest sign that BHP is willing to shed the infrastructure holding up its business in order to fund its next act.

That next act is copper, and BHP is betting big on it. The company has been steadily narrowing its identity, exiting petroleum, shrinking its coal footprint and pouring capital into large-scale copper growth projects, including the Escondida expansion and Argentina's Vicuña district. The potential Chile sale fits squarely into that pattern: assets that once seemed core to keeping the lights on and the water flowing are now being treated as monetizable, so long as copper keeps growing.

The numbers illustrate the scale of the shift. The assets under consideration, the Puerto Coloso desalination plant and BHP's power transmission lines, could together fetch between \$1.5 billion and \$2 billion. The transmission lines alone are expected to draw \$1 billion to \$1.3 billion, with the desalination plant valued at roughly \$500 million to \$700 million. BHP declined to comment, and the people cautioned that valuation, timing and structure remain under discussion, with the process still at an early stage.

What makes the potential sale notable isn't just the price but what's being sold. Puerto Coloso is no minor utility asset. It's one of the largest reverse osmosis desalination plants in the world, pumping 3,800 litres of water per second to an altitude of over 3,200 metres to sustain Escondida, the largest copper mine on Earth. That BHP would consider parting with infrastructure this critical says as much about its confidence in structuring reliable buyer relationships as it does about its appetite for capital discipline. Any buyer, according to one person familiar with the matter, would likely be locked into long-term service agreements with BHP, meaning the miner would keep access to the water and power it needs, just without owning the assets that provide them.

This is not a one-off; it's a formula BHP has now run twice in recent months, as the company has already agreed to sell a 49% stake in transmission assets linked to its Western Australian iron ore business and inked a \$4.3 billion silver streaming deal tied to the Antamina mine in Peru. This is a deal first reported by Diario Financiero last month. Together, these moves are part of a stated ambition to unlock as much as \$10 billion by treating infrastructure and by-products as currency, not fixed assets. The message to the market is that, at BHP, if it isn't copper, it's for sale.

GENERAL NEWS

Sovereign Metals Takes the Reins on Kasiya

Bringing a three-year collaboration to a pivotal turning point, Sovereign Metals is now firmly in the driver's seat on its flagship Kasiya rutile/graphite project in Malawi after Rio Tinto notified the Aim- and ASX-listed company that it will not exercise its option to become the operator.

The decision stems from Rio Tinto's own strategic realignment rather than any concern over Kasiya itself. The diversified miner is narrowing its focus to iron-ore, copper, aluminium and lithium while currently reviewing its iron and titanium business. In its notice to Sovereign, Rio Tinto was explicit: the move reflects corporate strategy, not any change in the project's fundamentals, economics or strategic importance.

With operatorship off the table, several rights Rio Tinto held under the companies' investment agreement, including product marketing rights, consent rights and pre-emption rights, fall away. Rio Tinto remains a shareholder, holding roughly 18.2% of Sovereign, and retains the right to appoint a nominee director to Sovereign's board for as long as its stake remains at 15% or above. It also retains notification rights on future equity issues while its holding remains at least 10%.

The change opens a path to move faster and more independently for Sovereign. The company is now free to drive its commercial workstreams directly and plans to sharpen its focus on the US market, positioning Kasiya's natural rutile and graphite as a secure, non-Chinese alternative for critical minerals feedstock serving American and allied supply chains.

That strategy includes deepening ties with the US government and industry stakeholders as well as converting existing non-binding offtake agreements with Mitsui & Co and Traxys North America into binding deals. Sovereign is also leaning on its existing collaboration with the International Finance Corporation, a World Bank Group member in which the US government holds the largest stake, to help shape a development financing plan for the project. Freed from the constraints of the former investment agreement, Sovereign now controls its financing path directly, with plans to pursue partnerships through the IFC and other development finance and export credit institutions across the US and allied economies.

Sovereign chairperson Ben Stoikovich struck a note of gratitude alongside the shift in direction. Since 2023, Rio Tinto has invested over A$60 million in the project and has provided valuable technical input through its participation on the Sovereign-Rio Tinto Technical Committee, contributing to the delivery of a pilot mining and rehabilitation programme that fed real-world data into the project's definitive feasibility study completed earlier this year.

Stoikovich said Sovereign looks forward to Rio Tinto continuing as a supportive shareholder, with the company now well positioned to prioritise a US-focused critical minerals strategy that positions Kasiya as a secure, non-Chinese source of titanium feedstock and natural graphite for the US and allied supply chains.

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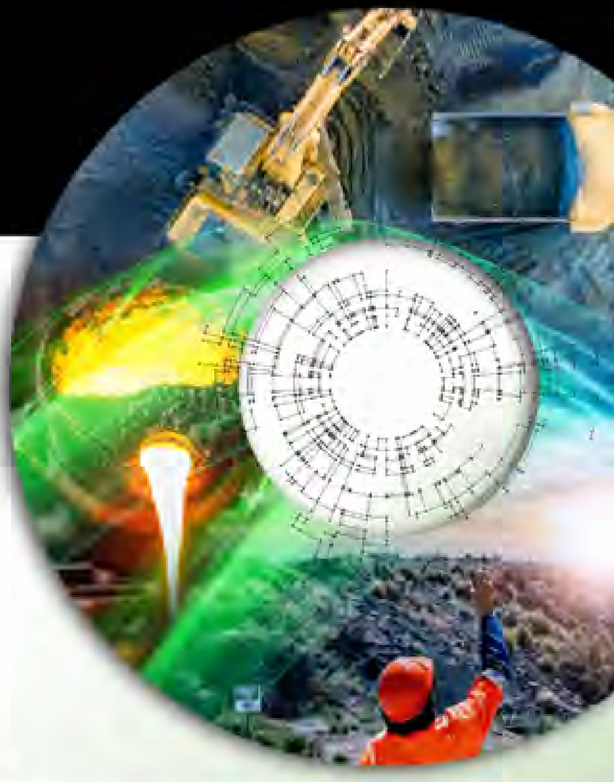

Mining's Digital Shift:

Why People Remain the Deciding Factor

Digital transformation is not a technology journey supported by people, but a people journey enabled by technology.

The mining sector has always been shaped by people. It is a sector built on human judgement where physical, labour-intensive work defines both its challenges and its opportunities.

Across Namibia's mining landscape, technology is advancing faster than organisations can adopt and extract value from it. The result is a growing gap between what mines could achieve and what they are realising.

The challenge in mining's digital transformation is rarely the technology itself, but how well it is adopted. Digital transformation fails not because mines lack technology, but because the human change required to realise value is often underestimated.

In many cases, digital tools are layered onto existing operating models without changing how work is executed. Over time, technology adds complexity instead of enabling an improvement in performance.

This is not a technical failure. It shows that transformation must be designed around adoption, with the same focus on behaviour, leadership and workforce capability as on systems and infrastructure.

Namibia's mining environment makes this adoption more complex. The sector plays a crucial role in employment and economic participation, and this creates an understandable sensitivity around automation and its potential impact on jobs. In many cases, this tension slows adoption or leads to partial implementation rather than full transformation.

However, this also presents an opportunity where Namibia can shape its mining workforce for the future. Digital transformation is thus better framed not as a threat to employment but as a catalyst for job evolution.

Mining roles are shifting from task execution to interpreting data, managing systems and making faster, better-informed decisions. This does not eliminate the need for people but rather redefines their contribution.

While workforce capability is essential, transformation depends on leadership. Leading a digital mine means reshaping how the organisation operates, measures success and develops its people. Where leadership actively drives the integration of digital into core operations, technology becomes embedded in how the business operates, rather than sitting alongside it.

For global investors, digitally enabled, efficient operations are becoming a key differentiator, requiring not only infrastructure and regulation but a workforce able to operate in this environment.

Namibia's next phase of mining competitiveness will depend on how deliberately the sector invests in people as well as technology. Mines that succeed will be those that recognise that digital transformation is not a technology journey supported by people, but a people journey enabled by technology.

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Deloitte Building | Maerua Mall Complex
Jan Jonker Road | Windhoek | Namibia
+264 (0) 61 285 5000
mailnamibia@deloitte.co.za

Algorithms Over Assets: Data Is Becoming More Valuable Than Ore

Depth is no longer the defining constraint in South African mining. Interpretation is. For more than a century, the country's mining sector has been anchored in physical scale, measured in tonnes extracted and grades recovered. Yet as gold, platinum and diamond deposits extend deeper into more complex and hazardous geology, that model is steadily losing its edge. A different form of leverage is beginning to assert itself, one built not on ownership of resources but on the ability to interpret data faster and more precisely than competitors.

Across the Witwatersrand and Bushveld complexes, a structural shift is taking shape. Artificial intelligence, machine learning and distributed data systems are redefining what constitutes a competitive mining asset. Increasingly, value is migrating toward companies that can convert fragmented operational data into predictive, real-time decision-making tools. "The convergence of data, AI and blockchain represents a structural break in how the mining sector generates value. It is no longer sufficient to optimise extraction alone. The industry must evolve toward intelligent, connected ecosystems where data flows seamlessly across exploration, operations and supply chains," said Ntsako Baloyi, Data and AI Lead for Accenture South Africa.

Nowhere is this shift more immediate than in exploration. Historically, discovery has relied on capital-intensive drilling programmes with long timelines and high uncertainty. Today, decades of underutilised geological data are being reprocessed through advanced analytics to identify patterns that were previously undetectable. The result is a more targeted approach to drilling, reducing speculative spend while extending the productive life of existing assets. The same logic is moving underground. Digital twin technologies are creating dynamic, real-time replicas of mining operations by integrating data from sensors across the production environment. These systems allow operators to simulate risk scenarios, monitor seismic activity, track equipment performance and anticipate safety threats before they materialise. In a high-risk operating environment, predictive capability is becoming as critical as physical infrastructure.

At the same time, market access is beginning to hinge on data integrity. Global buyers and institutional investors are placing increasing emphasis on verifiable environmental, social and governance performance. In response, mining companies are embedding traceability into their supply chains through blockchain-based systems that record production data at source and carry it through to end markets. This creates what is effectively a digital passport for commodities, allowing end users to verify, in real time, the origin and compliance profile of the material. In doing so, transparency shifts from a regulatory requirement to a commercial differentiator, with the potential to secure premium market positioning.

The transition is not without friction, as the most significant constraint lies in legacy infrastructure. Decades of siloed systems have left geological, operational and commercial data fragmented, particularly within operational technology environments that remain disconnected from enterprise platforms. Without integration, the full value of advanced analytics and digital systems cannot be realised. Baloyi noted, "Achieving the full potential of these innovations requires more than isolated technology investments. It demands a modern data foundation that integrates geological, operational and commercial data into a unified, accessible platform. Without this, AI models cannot deliver accurate insights and blockchain solutions cannot scale effectively."

If successfully addressed, the implications extend beyond efficiency gains. A fully integrated data environment opens the door to new forms of value creation, where commodities are no longer traded as anonymous raw materials but as traceable, narrative-driven assets. The ability to link a mineral to its geographic, environmental and social context has the potential to reshape how value is perceived and priced. The stakes are structural for South Africa as the country's long-term competitiveness may depend less on the depth of its mineral reserves and more on the sophistication of the systems used to interpret and manage them. In that shift, data does not replace the resource, it determines how much of its value can ultimately be realised.

Pirtek Africa: Growing With the Continent

Africa is rich in opportunities, but it often lacks reliability. In various sectors such as mining, agriculture, construction, manufacturing, and forestry, one of the biggest challenges to productivity, alongside market conditions and commodity prices, is unplanned equipment failure. This leads to significant downtime, as workers often spend hours waiting for repairs to be made.

Pirtek Africa has been building its business around this reality. As the continent's leading hydraulic hose and fitting service provider, Pirtek Africa exists to keep Africa's industries moving, not by simply selling a product, but by delivering a solution: fast, expert, mobile, or on-site support that gets equipment back into operation and keeps it there.

The company's ongoing growth is driven by its leadership team, which includes Managing Director Matt Pennefather, General Manager Rob Townsend, and Head of Finance Arnold Pienaar. Together, they bring a wealth of commercial and operational expertise, supported by a highly skilled team of technical, sales, and support staff. Their collective experience encompasses the diverse industries and environments in which Pirtek Africa operates.

Together, they are focused on a clear mandate: extend Pirtek Africa's proven service model footprint across Southern Africa and meet the growing demand for reliable, professional hydraulic services across the broader African continent.

Managing Director Matt Pennefather sees the opportunity plainly: "Africa's industrial sectors are growing, and they need partners who can grow with them. Partners who show up, who understand the operating environment, and who take responsibility for keeping equipment running. That is what Pirtek Africa has always done, and it is what we will continue to do as we expand our footprint."

Pirtek Africa's ability to fulfil its promise relies on its experienced and well-established franchise network. The company operates over 23 service centres across all major provinces in South Africa, along with two additional centres in Namibia. This network has created a strong physical presence in the regions and industries with the highest demand. Furthermore, the network is actively expanding in West Africa, including countries such as Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mali, Nigeria, and Burkina Faso. In East Africa, they have a presence in Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda, while in Southern and Central Africa, they are extending their reach into Zambia, the DRC, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Angola, and Mozambique.

What sets Pirtek Africa apart is not only its operational reach but also the support provided to each Centre through Mobile Service and Sales Units. These teams are equipped to travel to job sites, assess situations, and resolve issues. When a machine breaks down in a remote location or outside of business hours, Pirtek Africa offers a 24/7 response: they arrive, fix the problem, and restore operations quickly. The company distinguishes itself by being a business solutions partner rather than merely a supplier. This distinction is significant, as it positions Pirtek Africa not just as a parts distributor or repair contractor, but as a long-term operational ally. They assist businesses in auditing their equipment, managing hose and fitting inventories, training staff, and developing preventive maintenance programs that help reduce the likelihood of equipment failures in the first place.

Matt Pennefather states, "Our relationship with customers doesn't start when something breaks. It starts well before that, with a deep understanding of their operations, equipment, and potential risk points. Our goal is always to minimize their exposure to unplanned downtime, not just to respond to it."

As Pirtek Africa expands its team, centres, and reach across the continent, this approach continues to be the foundation of its operations. Africa's industries encounter real and complex operational challenges. Pirtek Africa addresses these challenges through a network of skilled personnel, robust infrastructure, and specialized expertise that is prepared to respond wherever needed.

The website, Pirtek.co.za, offers 24/7 emergency response services, an operational overview, a product catalogue, and easy access to local centres.

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Gen Z Emerges as a Powerful Diamond Growth Engine

A generational shift is reshaping what diamonds mean. Once reserved for traditional symbols of love and commitment, natural diamonds are now being claimed by Gen Z as personal milestones, worn not to mark a relationship but to mark a self.

De Beers Group's latest US Diamond Acquisition Study reveals just how far this shift has gone. Gen Z has emerged as the second-largest generation driving demand for natural diamonds, and despite making up only 18% of the population, it now accounts for 23% of demand value in the category. The numbers challenge the long-held assumption that diamonds exist primarily to mark romance and marriage. Bridal jewellery still plays a significant role, representing 45% of Gen Z diamond purchases. Increasingly, younger buyers are choosing diamonds to commemorate moments that have nothing to do with a proposal, such as a promotion, a birthday, a career milestone, or a private moment of self-recognition.

It's part of a broader change in how younger consumers approach luxury altogether. Meaning matters more than tradition. Authenticity matters more than convention. And for Gen Z, a diamond isn't just something passed down or given; it's something claimed, on their own terms, as a statement of who they are and what they've built. The data backs up the sentiment. Gen Z buys or receives diamonds more often than any other generation, with an average of 1.83 diamond occasions a year, compared to 1.7 across all consumers. They're also spending with real intent: nearly double what Baby Boomers spend on natural diamonds, with an average purchase value of $4,080 per piece against $2,250.

Prices are climbing to match the appetite. Average natural diamond jewellery prices rose 25% between 2023 and 2025, reaching $4,063 per piece, as buyers lean toward larger stones and greater total carat weight. For an industry facing growing competition from lab-grown alternatives, the findings offer something valuable: a reason to reposition natural diamonds not as relics of tradition but as rare, enduring assets shaped by both geology and meaning. Natural stones remain the most sought-after category in luxury jewellery among US consumers, ahead of lab-grown diamonds, other gemstones and gold. Among independent jewellers, natural diamonds made up 85% of diamond sales value in 2025 against just 15% for lab-grown ones.

Lab-grown diamonds, meanwhile, are contending with a different story. Falling retail prices are beginning to reshape how consumers perceive them, raising questions around profitability and the ability of retailers to upsell larger synthetic stones, especially as bigger lab-grown diamonds start to read differently to consumers than rare natural ones. The shift is also opening new ground in how diamonds are designed, marketed and sold. Gen Z discovers and researches jewellery primarily through digital platforms, which means storytelling, transparency and genuine brand engagement are becoming as important as the stones themselves.

"The opportunity for the diamond industry is to ensure that natural diamonds continue to capture the value of this strong underlying desire in an increasingly competitive landscape by offering compelling designs across all sizes, colours and price points and for occasions that go well beyond traditional engagement or wedding jewellery," noted Diana Mitkov, Lead Researcher within Diamond Demand Insights and Analytics at De Beers Group.

The findings, published in De Beers' latest The Diamond Report, point to an industry in the middle of a strategic reset, one where relevance matters as much as tradition.

Connecting with Gen Z means recognising luxury not as inheritance but as a reflection of personal journeys, milestones and values earned. As Gen Z moves further into its prime spending years, diamonds appear to be evolving again from symbols tied to a single life event into lasting markers of ambition, celebration and self-expression. This global shift points to a new frontier of growth, one where emotional resonance may prove to be the sharpest competitive edge of all.

BHP, Rio Tinto and Caterpillar launch battery-electric haul truck trial

BHP, Rio Tinto, and Caterpillar have launched a trial of two Cat® 793 XE Early Learner battery-electric haul trucks at a mine-site demonstration in Western Australia's Pilbara as part of an industry-first collaboration.

Following three months of on-site testing at BHP's Jimblebar iron ore mine, the trial is showing meaningful progress and reflects an industry effort to tackle the complex challenge of lowering greenhouse gas emissions across large-scale mining operations.

After extensive safety validation and controlled testing at Caterpillar's Tucson Proving Ground in the United States, the trucks arrived at Jimblebar late last year and are now being put through their paces in one of the world's most demanding mining environments.

The scale and operational intensity of the Pilbara make it an ideal testing ground for the haul trucks, with Jimblebar currently home to two of seven Caterpillar Early Learner battery-electric haul trucks being tested globally.

The trial is producing important data to evaluate technical readiness, infrastructure needs, and commercial viability. This includes testing both high-powered static and dynamic charging solutions.

So far, over 100 hours of operation and more than 200 test laps have been completed in the early phase of testing. The insights gained from this phase are helping to confirm crucial assumptions related to the safety, technology, and maintenance of the trucks.

The next phase of the trial will evaluate dynamic charging via an innovative energy transfer system that will charge the trucks while in motion. This could be one of the keys to unlocking operational efficiency.

Western Australia Premier Roger Cook and Mines and Petroleum Minister David Michael joined representatives from BHP, Rio Tinto, Caterpillar, and WesTrac to see the trucks in operation.

"I want Western Australia's economy to remain the strongest in the nation, which is why my government is fully behind BHP and Rio Tinto's efforts to decarbonise and help make WA a renewable energy powerhouse."

"Thanks to Caterpillar, these electric trucks will help deliver my government's vision of reducing emissions in the Pilbara so this region can continue keeping both the WA and national economy strong," said Roger Cook, Premier Western Australia.

"Heavy industry needs to take on the challenge of reducing emissions as we work towards decarbonising the Pilbara."

"Our government's energy transition is good for jobs, good for the WA economy, and good for the future of this vital region."

"It's great to see mining companies trialling battery-electric haul trucks in the Pilbara—this is a significant step towards achieving net-zero emissions," said Amber-Jade Sanderson, Minister for Energy and Decarbonisation.

David Michael, Minister of Mines and Petroleum, said: "Congratulations to BHP, Rio Tinto, and Caterpillar on the commitment and leadership shown in building these machines."

These trucks exemplify what can be achieved when leaders in our industry collaborate to find a solution to a complex problem."

"We can't underestimate what a feat it is to have such innovative, cutting-edge technologies rolled out in the Pilbara."

"It is machinery like this that will have a meaningful impact on reducing carbon emissions from mining operations."

BME drives the development of connected AI-powered mining operations

In the rapidly changing mining industry, BME, a member of the Omnia Group, is transforming traditional blasting from a rock-breaking activity into a sophisticated, data-driven approach that enables safer, more efficient, and sustainable operations.

"With over 40 years of specialised expertise, we are proving that when advanced explosives are integrated with cutting-edge digital technologies, the value created extends far beyond the blast bench," said Nishen Hariparsad, General Manager of Technology & Marketing at BME.

"This aligns perfectly with BME's commitment to delivering innovative, value-adding solutions that drive real operational and environmental progress," he said.

In this way, BME has positioned itself not just as an explosives provider, but as a strategic partner in building the smarter, greener mines of tomorrow.

Hariparsad said that through premium electronic initiation systems, AI-powered platforms, and a deliberate focus on integrity-first autonomy, BME was helping mines close the loop from pit to plant while prioritising the single most important outcome: safety.

"Explosives remain the most cost-effective method of breaking rock, but their true power lies in application. BME's philosophy of positive disruption places responsible, sustainable solutions at the centre," he said.

The company's flagship AXXIS electronic initiation system exemplifies this shift. "By delivering unmatched precision and accuracy, AXXIS produces predictable fragmentation outcomes that cascade through the entire value chain," he said.

"The benefits include faster excavation, higher shovel and loader productivity, improved mill throughput, reduced crusher downtime, and lower reliance on diesel generators."

He noted that these were not incremental gains, but measurable reductions in environmental footprint and operational cost. "This proves that sustainability and profitability are not opposing forces but mutually reinforcing outcomes," he said.

Hariparsad mentioned that a major turning point for BME was its use of data intelligence, rather than merely accumulating more information.

"BME has transformed from a basic explosives supplier into a technology partner ready for the future by viewing blasting as the initial step in a completely connected, autonomous, and auditable mining system," he stated.

The company's digital technologies collect essential data at every stage, from hole loading to the final mill product. This capability supports real-time decision-making.

"For instance, electronic initiation systems enable engineers to utilize best-practice blasting parameters, which helps minimize downtime, vibration, and over-break," he said. As a result, there is not only improved fragmentation at the blast face but also benefits that extend downstream.

These are overlooked when evaluating only the unit cost of the product instead of the total value across the chain.

"For example, accurate blasting enables predictive maintenance scheduling, tighter crusher feed control, optimised energy consumption, and consistent mill throughput," he said.

"These are advantages that appear far downstream of the procurement decision yet deliver the greatest financial and environmental return."

Hariparsad stated that BME acknowledges that AI, autonomy, and automation will shape the mine of the future and is intentionally guiding the integration of these technologies.

"XPLOSMART, our AI-powered blasting optimisation system, is built on a foundation of 'integrity-first'," he explained. "XPLOSMART is not merely another algorithm; it embodies a mindset shift that prioritizes traceability, explainability, and safety at its core."

Hariparsad said that engineers remained firmly in control.

«Every AI-generated recommendation can be traced back to its source data, making it fully auditable. It is designed to support —never replace—human oversight,» he explained.

He also noted that the outcomes directly align with customer priorities: safer pit walls, more consistent plant feed, and reduced energy consumption per tonne.

"Given that the data feeding these AI systems is verified and trustworthy, the insights are actionable across the entire operation, from blast design to final product," he explained.

He said this approach aligns perfectly with the industry's move toward fully autonomous mines—a reality already unfolding at select operations worldwide.

"As people move off the bench, they must be upskilled for higher-value roles in data analysis, system optimisation, and strategic decision-making – the essence of a genuine just transition," he said.

Hariparsad said that the outdated image of mining – dusty, dangerous, and labour-intensive – bore little resemblance to today's reality.

"The industry has embraced world-class innovations to overcome intricate technical hurdles while placing actionable data directly in the hands of mining personnel," he said.

He noted that by demonstrating that technology aligned with meaningful purpose, the mining industry would be able to better attract younger talent to replenish the skills pipeline.

"The mining sector is far removed from outdated perceptions; it has evolved into a sophisticated digital domain, moving beyond simply extracting rock," he said.

Hariparsad said that in the future, mining would no longer be defined by explosives, open pits, or haul trucks. "Instead, it will be characterised by seamless interactions between humans and intelligent systems operating around the clock," he said.

"These relationships will extend to algorithms, mines and markets, companies and regulators, primary and secondary resources, as well as extraction and regeneration processes."

He said that the business models emerging from these interactions would shape the economics, politics, and sustainability of critical materials.

"Mines will evolve into integrated materials intelligence systems," he said, adding that these ecosystems would be achieved through the consolidation of resources, technologies, and strategic partnerships.

While pockets of innovation exist today, he noted that they often operated in isolation.

"By fostering effective collaborations and developing a cohesive ecosystem of interdependent technologies and solutions, we can realise a true materials intelligence system that enables us to achieve far more with significantly less," he said.

He said BME viewed technologies as a robust pathway to navigate turbulent markets –characterised by rising utility costs, commodity price fluctuations, and other pressures that our customers face daily.

"These challenges become our own, driving our commitment to innovation," he said.

He said that BME's research and development (R&D) efforts were deliberately focused on delivering tangible benefits in efficiency, safety, productivity, and sustainability. "By actively listening to our clients and aligning our priorities with their needs, we develop targeted solutions that address real-world pain points," he concluded.

Atlas Copco, ATCO Pneumatics innovate pipeline cleaning solutions

Atlas Copco Power Technique and its authorised distributor, ATCO Pneumatics, have introduced the new Atlas Copco XATS 1200 PACE air compressor into marine pipeline cleaning through their dynamic partnership, marking a strategic entry into a new sector and application. Over the past six years, ATCO Pneumatics' customer Wilmar Processing SA, a leading food processing specialist based in Richards Bay, has successfully operated an Atlas Copco XAHS 400 PACE compressor for cleaning single marine and edible oil pipelines.

A surge in production volumes intensified the need to clean two pipelines simultaneously. To meet this growing demand, Wilmar Processing SA required a higher-capacity machine and turned to Atlas Copco's rental division, securing an XATS 1200 PACE compressor. With operating pressures of 5–10 bar (72–150 psi) and flow rates between 34.6 and 31.5 m³/min, the XATS delivers the capacity needed to clean multiple oil pipelines simultaneously, boosting productivity, increasing output, and sharply reducing turnaround times. The effectiveness of the compressor soon became evident, prompting Wilmar Processing SA to make a strategic decision to purchase an XATS 1200 PACE from ATCO Pneumatics.

The pipelines transfer oil directly from ships to the processing plant, and cleaning them with a specialised Pigging System is vital for sustaining efficiency, safeguarding product integrity, and reducing downtime in a high-demand production environment.

ATCO Pneumatics Director Sarah Sclanders describes the system: "It consists of a Pig Launcher, where the Pig is placed into a sealed, pressurised chamber before being propelled down the pipeline. Designed to fit snugly against the pipe walls, the pig scrapes away build-up and pushes debris forward as it travels through the pipeline. Compressed air is at the heart of the process, generating the pressure required to propel the Pig along the pipeline."

"The XATS compressor range was specifically developed by Atlas Copco to cover a multitude of applications," emphasises Johnathan Cassell, APE Sales Engineer at Atlas Copco Power Technique.

"We scientifically designed these air compressors around the principles of pressure and flow, with the focus on how these two variables interact. The compressor is engineered to identify the optimal combination for each application, improving efficiency by reducing both time spent and fuel consumed. This intelligent capability is made possible through Atlas Copco's pioneering PACE™ (Pressure Adjusted through Cognitive Electronics) Technology, which delivers the widest operating pressure range within a single compressor."

Johnathan goes on to explain: "An electronic regulation system, programmed via a digital controller, allows multiple pressure and flow settings so users can match air output precisely to their application needs. By incorporating an electronically controlled pressure-regulating valve, the intuitive PACE™ system extends both the pressure and FAD (Free Air Delivery) ranges. This innovation gives users the versatility of three machines in one package, offering greater flexibility from a single compressor. In addition, fuel efficiency of up to 15% is delivered by the Cummins G3/Stage IIIA engine, while the compressor adds further financial value by eliminating the need for additional machines."

The XATS 1200PACE compressor was supplied, installed, and commissioned by ATCO Pneumatics at the end-user site in mid-January 2026, and Sarah confirms that the machine is ready to be put through its paces once the next marine oil shipment arrives. Project management is led by ATCO Manager/Pressure Vessel Inspector Gawie Stoltz, who will oversee execution when the compressor goes into operation. Sarah adds that under Gawie's experienced leadership the transition from commissioning to full performance will be seamless.

Compressor operators who were on site when the unit was delivered dedicated between one and two hours to demonstrating the start-up and shut-down procedures, as well as the required pre-start inspection, to Wilmar Processing SA technicians. ATCO Pneumatics is responsible for the after-sales service and repair of all Atlas Copco units sold in its region, a role supported by its technicians, who complete online training on every unit. "Through this training, they familiarise themselves with our PACE technology and build the technical expertise required to deliver reliable after-sales support and repairs," notes Johnathan.

The partnership between Atlas Copco and ATCO Pneumatics in supplying the XATS 1200PACE to support Pigging Systems has been truly groundbreaking.

"Beyond opening new markets and opportunities in the oil and gas sector, the introduction of this air compressor into the marine and edible oil pipeline segment, which is a relatively new application area for us, underscores the versatility of Atlas Copco's machines," states Johnathan.

"It showcases how our compressed air solutions, long proven in construction and mining, are now being successfully extended into a wide range of processing applications across diverse sectors."

"Most importantly, this successful implementation illustrates the synergy between Atlas Copco and our valued distributor, ATCO Pneumatics, demonstrating that together we have the technology and expertise to help customers tackle demanding new challenges, drive greater productivity, and unlock opportunities for growth and innovation well into the future," said Johnathan.

ATCO Pneumatics, appointed in 2012 as an authorised Atlas Copco Power Technique distributor, is headquartered in Empangeni, KwaZulu-Natal, and proudly upholds a Level 2 B-BBEE status.

Sandvik Ships First Next-Gen Crushers to South African Platinum Project

Sandvik Rock Processing has dispatched its first advanced Sandvik CH662 cone crushers to a platinum mining development in South Africa's Limpopo province, targeting an African mining sector increasingly eager to adopt automated, high-efficiency equipment.

The deployment marks the first time these upgraded units—the latest evolution of Sandvik's foundational CH660 engineering platform—will operate on the continent. The two machines are destined for an underground mine expansion project where they will serve critical secondary crushing roles. After completing factory acceptance testing in Sweden during the second quarter of 2026, the units were shipped directly to the project site.

The transaction, processed through a major engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contractor, highlights a shift in capital deployment strategies for regional producers. In a move to insulate the processing plant against costly downtime, the mining operator designated one unit for continuous duty while the second sits on standby.

"This milestone order challenges longstanding perceptions that African mining operations are slow to adopt new technologies," said PC Kruger, Business Line Manager for Crushing at Sandvik Rock Processing. "Mining companies across the continent are increasingly embracing electrification, remote monitoring, and automation technologies. This is creating an environment where advanced crushing systems such as the CH662 are becoming more attractive."

For capital sales engineers, the deal signals that African miners are shifting procurement priorities away from simple, low-cost capital inputs toward long-term operational resilience and digital asset integration.

Mechanically, the CH662 features a redesigned top shell designed to optimize material distribution and bolster structural strength, alongside a reinforced main shaft intended to withstand high-capacity stresses. Sandvik also re-engineered the spider bushing to deliver greater wear resistance and extend overall component service life.

However, the most notable mechanical change centers on maintenance logistics. Traditional cone crusher configurations require a chemical backing compound to secure the protective liners—a process that demands extended curing periods before a machine can safely resume operation. The CH662 utilizes a steel-to-steel interface that eliminates the compound entirely.

"By removing the backing compound from the design, we can save customers up to 24 hours of waiting time during liner replacement procedures," said Yashik Anand, Capital Sales Engineer for Sandvik Rock Processing's static crushing business.

On the digital front, the machinery integrates Sandvik's proprietary ACS-c 5 ASRi control system. The hardware consolidates legacy automation tools into a single operating environment that governs automated setting regulations and performance monitoring. Crucially, it links to an external digital services platform capable of delivering real-time telemetry and remote diagnostics to off-site support networks. "Especially for mining operations that are located far from major service centers, these capabilities can deliver substantial operational advantages," Anand said. "Proactive monitoring of the crusher allows operators to identify issues earlier and prevent unplanned stoppages."

That data link is designed to streamline logistics before a field service team ever sets foot on the property. "We can remotely support the machine and start fault-finding immediately when there is an issue," Kruger added. "By the time a technician reaches site, we already have a good understanding of what needs to be repaired or replaced."

To secure the order, Sandvik collaborated closely with the project's EPC contractor using its PlantDesigner software, executing a series of flow sheet iterations to calibrate the crushing circuit precisely to the deposit's metallurgical profile.

Sandvik is explicitly positioning the CH662 to capture the mid-tier African minerals and aggregates market. The machinery operates within a 400 to 1,000 metric tons per hour production sweet spot, intentionally bypassing the ultra-large infrastructure designs frequently deployed in South American copper and iron ore fields.

To lower adoption risk, the original equipment manufacturer is bundling the launch with a suite of retrofit, rebuild, and smart upgrade pathways, all backed by a standard three-year warranty framework.

India's Laxyo Bags $23 Million Zambia Mine Deal Ahead of IPO

Indian mining contractor Laxyo Ltd. has secured a 2 billion rupee ($23 million) contract at Zambia's Mopani Copper Mines, entering Africa's competitive underground mining market just as the company prepares for an initial public offering at home.

The contract, which focuses on mechanized "raise-boring" underground drilling, represents 12.6% of Laxyo's current order book, according to company filing documents. The project will be executed through its regional subsidiary, Laxyo Evapeta Zambia Ltd., marking the firm's first major foray into specialized international shaft-sinking operations.

The move pitches the Indore-based infrastructure firm against dominant southern African mining services giants, including Johannesburg-listed Master Drilling Group Ltd. and Murray & Roberts Holdings Ltd., alongside Canada's privately held Redpath Mining Inc.

The African expansion aligns with Laxyo's submission of draft public listing papers to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The company is seeking to raise up to 1.5 billion rupees ($17 million) through an IPO to fund debt reduction, capital expenditure for machinery, and everyday working capital.

Laxyo is capitalizing on blistering projected growth at home; its draft prospectus indicates that through 2031 the Indian domestic raise-boring sector is slated to expand at a compound annual growth rate of 27.3%, targeting a total market size of 5.75 billion rupees.

Historically known as Laxyo Energy, the firm has diversified into four key silos since its 2007 inception: railway infrastructure, dredging, industrial power plant maintenance, and mining services.

While the Mopani award is its first specialized drilling contract overseas, Laxyo has held an asset footprint in the region since 2010, when it purchased a 50% stake in South African maintenance provider AICM.

Unlike traditional shaft sinking, raise boring is a highly mechanized process that drills large-diameter ventilation shafts, ore passes, and escape routes from the bottom up. Because it eliminates the use of explosives, it minimizes rock-wall damage and significantly enhances worker safety in ultra-deep operations.

Laxyo's escalation comes amidst a massive push by Zambia to nearly triple its annual copper production to 3 million metric tonnes by 2031. The country, Africa's second-largest copper supplier behind the Democratic Republic of Congo, produced between 800,000 and 850,000 tonnes in 2025.

Mopani Copper Mines, the site of Laxyo's new contract, is jointly held by the state-backed ZCCM Investments Holdings and UAE-based International Resources Holding (IRH), which has committed significant capital to deep-level expansions.

The development mirrors a broader geopolitical push by Indian corporations seeking critical minerals across Africa. Diversified majors like Vedanta Ltd.—which controls neighboring Konkola Copper Mines—alongside Coal India Ltd., Tata Steel Ltd., and Jindal Steel & Power Ltd., have all poured capital into sub-Saharan coal, steel, and base metal projects over the past two decades.

To keep production fluid amid structural headwinds, Lusaka has extended its suspension of a 10% export duty on copper concentrates until September 30.

The emergency measure, first enacted in August 2025, covers 271,742 tonnes of raw concentrate. It is intended to shield mining houses from bottlenecks as regional smelters undergo prolonged, emergency maintenance programs. The tax reprieve highlights the delicate balance the government must strike between enforcing local mineral processing (beneficiation) and preventing an industry-wide supply choke.

Africa's Critical Mineral Ambitions Require More Than Just Refineries, Industry Experts Warn

For African governments holding the world's vast reserves of critical minerals, the path to industrialization has long seemed straightforward: stop exporting raw rocks and start building domestic refineries. But at Invest Africa's annual Africa Debate in London, a growing chorus of industry leaders warned that this "beneficiation-or-bust" strategy may miss the real economic prize.

As the global race for electric vehicle batteries, modern power grids, and renewable energy infrastructure intensifies, the rush to capture resource value is hitting a wall of macroeconomic reality. Processing commodities like copper, cobalt, lithium, and graphite locally remains an understandable political ambition, but experts argue that focusing too narrow-mindedly on smelting and refining could expose fragile economies to highly volatile, low-margin global markets.

"The question is not whether Africa should move up the value chain," said Rohitesh Dhawan, president and CEO of the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM). "The question is where countries can create the greatest and most sustainable value along that chain."

For decades, the instinctive policy response across resource-rich African nations has been to restrict raw exports to encourage more domestic processing. However, the underlying economics are rarely cooperative. Using copper as an example, Dhawan pointed out that refining and smelting margins are currently under severe pressure globally due to surging capacity and hyper-competitive market dynamics.

"There is sometimes an assumption that refining and smelting are automatically where the value lies," Dhawan observed. "But when you look across the full ecosystem, there may be other opportunities that create more jobs, stronger industries, and better long-term returns."

Rather than pouring billions into energy-hungry processing facilities that may struggle to remain profitable, industry leaders urged policymakers to target adjacent sectors. Manufacturing mining equipment, engineering services, localized logistics, and downstream infrastructure can often generate far higher employment numbers and more resilient long-term economic returns.

A central takeaway from the London gathering was the indispensable need for scale. While niche, high-grade critical mineral deposits frequently dominate headlines, speakers argued that African states must prioritize massive, generational anchor assets capable of shifting macroeconomic needles.

"The projects that move economies are the large-scale assets," Dhawan said. "Those are the projects that create ecosystems around them."

These mega-developments act as catalysts, requiring heavy capital investment in roads, deep-water ports, water infrastructure, and vast domestic supply networks. The spillover effects of building out these corridors often provide a much larger boost to local engineering, financial, and digital tech sectors than the mineral revenues themselves. Moving up any portion of the industrial value chain remains a pipe dream without tackling Africa's persistent infrastructure deficit. Refining and smelting are notoriously energy-intensive operations.

"We need to be investing in these foundations now," said Veronica Bolton-Smith, chief executive officer of the Critical Minerals Africa Group, emphasizing that without reliable, affordable power, water, and transport networks, local processing projects cannot compete globally.

The infrastructure bottleneck is becoming more complex as operations modernize. Beyond physical railways and ports, mining assets now require advanced digital infrastructure to support automated, data-driven supply chains, alongside sophisticated water management systems to meet tightening sustainability mandates.

Securing long-term capital for these multi-billion-dollar, decades-long ventures requires ironclad regulatory consistency—a challenge highlighted by Lawrence Dechambenoit, head of group government relations and civil society at Rio Tinto. Dechambenoit pointed to Rio Tinto's multi-billion-dollar development of the massive Simandou iron ore project in Guinea as an example of the sheer complexity and transformative potential of modern African mining. Simandou is not merely a mine; the project involves constructing hundreds of kilometers of new trans-Guinean railway and a brand-new deep-water port.

"These are the types of projects that change countries," Dechambenoit suggested. "When you get the foundations right, mining becomes a platform for much broader economic transformation."

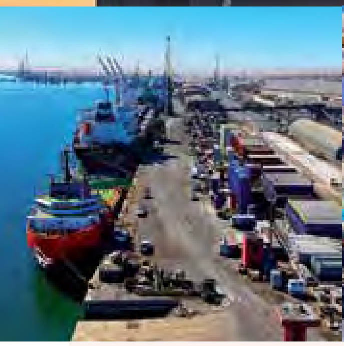
The infrastructure corridors built for projects like Simandou have a profound multiplier effect, unlocking economic viability for local agriculture, cross-border manufacturing, and regional trade routes that survive long after the mine's lifespan.

As Western buyers and regulators in Europe and North America enforce stricter environmental, social, and governance (ESG) mandates, Africa has a fresh opportunity to differentiate itself on factors other than baseline cost: supply chain transparency.

Instead of engaging in a race to the bottom on pricing, African producers can position themselves as premier partners by implementing bulletproof asset-tracking and responsible sourcing standards. While this requires initial institutional and technological investment, it offers a distinct competitive advantage for international buyers eager to verify carbon footprints and labor standards.

Ultimately, the metric of success for the continent's critical mineral boom will not be measured in raw investment figures, but in human capital. According to Ipeleng Selele, chairperson of Brand South Africa, true value capture means ensuring local communities, women, and youth are fundamentally integrated into these new supply networks. If managed effectively, the continent's mineral wealth will serve as a launchpad for inclusive growth, rather than just an extractive dead-end.

NAMPORT'S Strategic Support For Namibia's Offshore Oil And Gas Industry



The Namibian Ports Authority (Namport) continues to play a pivotal role in supporting offshore oil and gas exploration along Namibia's coastline. Following significant oil discoveries in the Orange Basin and renewed interest in the country's energy sector, Namport's logistical infrastructure and port services are critical enablers of Namibia's upstream ambitions.

Facilitating Offshore Operations through Onshore Excellence

Namport provides essential onshore support by availing land and infrastructure at both the Port of Walvis Bay and the Port of Lüderitz. These ports serve as vital offshore supply bases, enabling the storage, staging, and transport of drilling materials to operational sites. This support ensures the seamless movement of goods and services to offshore rigs, thus maintaining the continuity of exploration and drilling campaigns.

Primary Drilling Zones and Operational Activity

The most active drilling area is located approximately 200 km offshore near Oranjemund in the Orange Basin. Additional exploration prospects are under consideration within the Lüderitz and Walvis Bay basins. The surge in offshore activity has resulted in increased port traffic, vessel calls, and throughput volumes at both ports, demonstrating Namport's growing importance in regional energy logistics.

Future-Oriented Infrastructure Developments

Namport is aligning its infrastructure development roadmap with Namibia's emerging energy priorities.

Water is Life

Why Water Quality Matters:

Water sustains every form of life on our planet - from the smallest microorganism to entire ecosystems and human communities. Yet the quality of this vital resource is constantly threatened by pollution, industrial discharge, and agricultural run-off. Accurate and reliable water testing is essential to ensure safety, sustainability, and compliance with environmental standards.

The HI98294 Multiparameter Portable Meter from Hanna Instruments is designed for professionals who demand precision and durability in the field. This rugged, GPS-enabled instrument monitors up to 14 water quality parameters - including pH, ORP, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, chloride, nitrate, ammonium, and temperature - providing a complete picture of water health in real time.

The Multiparameter pH/EC/ISE/Turbidity/DO Portable Meter Key Features:

- Built to withstand harsh environmental conditions
- Meter rated IP67 for protection against dust and water ingress
- Probe rated IP68, ensuring reliable performance even during continuous immersion
- Graphic backlit LCD display showing up to 12 parameters simultaneously
- On-screen graphing for easy data visualization
- Intuitive menu system for simple and efficient operation

The integrated 12-channel GPS receiver allows users to log data with precise location tracking (within 10 m accuracy), ensuring that repeated measurements can be taken at the exact same site. Each data point is stored with GPS coordinates, time, and calibration information, making it ideal for environmental monitoring, research, and compliance reporting.

Fieldwork efficiency is enhanced through Quick Calibration, which allows single-point calibration for pH, conductivity, and dissolved oxygen using one solution. The Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) feature automatically stores the last five calibrations, while the USB Type-C interface enables fast data transfer to a PC or memory stick in .csv format.

The HI98294's multi-sensor probe features field-replaceable, color-coded sensors with automatic recognition, simplifying maintenance and reducing downtime. Its stainless-steel weighted guard ensures stability during submersion, and the included protective rubber boot shields the meter from impact in rugged environments.

With its combination of advanced technology, robust design, and user-friendly interface, the HI98294 stands as a benchmark in portable water analysis. It

empowers scientists, environmental engineers, and water quality professionals to make informed decisions - because when it comes to water, accuracy matters.

Water is life — measure it with confidence.

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HANNA instruments

Namibia Drone Services distinguishes itself by combining local expertise of the Namibian terrain with strict adherence to NCAA aviation regulations.

We serve as a "one-stop-shop" for DJI drones, flight operations, and data analysis. A grasp of our services:

Industrial Inspections & Engineering

NDS utilizes advanced sensors to collect data in locations that are difficult or hazardous to access.

- **Energy:** Inspection of wind turbines and high-voltage power lines.
- **Solar Energy:** Thermal scanning of solar panels to detect faulty cells and efficiency loss.
- **Infrastructure:** Inspection of bridges, telecommunication towers, and buildings for structural integrity.

Mining & Surveying

By leveraging LiDAR and photogrammetry, NDS provides highly accurate data for the Namibian mining sector.

- **Volumetric Measurements:** Fast and safe calculation of stockpiles.
- **Digital Twins:** Creation of high-resolution 2D maps and 3D models of mine sites.
- **Mapping:** Elevation maps and terrain models for prospecting and site planning.

Conservation & Security

Namibia's unique ecosystem benefits from drone technology for protection and management.

- **Anti-Poaching:** Night-time surveillance using thermal imaging in wildlife reserves.
- **Perimeter Security:** Efficient monitoring of large estates and border perimeters.

Media

- **Aerial Photography & Videography:** High-end 4K captures for the tourism industry, film productions, and real estate marketing.

Retail, Maintenance & Training

As an authorized DJI dealer, NDS provides a complete ecosystem surrounding drone hardware.

- **Sales:** Official supplier of DJI drones (Enterprise series).
- **Technical Services:** In-house repairs, maintenance, and firmware updates.
- **Academy:** Consultancy for NCAA permit applications and together with Namibian Drone

Academy, we provide training to obtain your commercial drone certificate.

MTC delivered digital connectivity at Rössing

Advancing smart mining in Namibia

On 24 April 2026, MTC Namibia handed over four dedicated LTE network sites at Rössing Uranium Limited, a significant step forward in the digital transformation in Namibia's mining sector.

The sites were deployed, at the request of Rössing mine, specifically to enhance digital connectivity in mining zones that previously had poor or no network coverage. In mining, digital connectivity is not a luxury. It is safety, efficiency, and real-time decisions on the ground.

The deployment introduces four LTE sites across the mine, delivering enhanced mobile voice and high-speed data connectivity in key operational zones. This infrastructure is designed to support seamless, real-time communication in an environment where reliability is critical to both safety and operational efficiency.

As mining operations become increasingly complex and data-driven, the need for robust, site-specific connectivity has become essential. The private LTE network enables improved coordination between teams, faster decision-making, and the integration of modern digital tools that support smarter, more responsive operations on the ground.

Speaking at the inauguration, MTC Managing Director Dr. Licky Erastus emphasised the broader significance of the initiative:

"This project is about improving how people connect and work on the ground. It is an enabler of safer, smarter, and more efficient mining operations. By bringing reliable, high-performance communication into complex industrial environments, we are empowering teams with the tools they need to make better decisions in real time and operate with greater confidence." Erastus added "...in the past few years, MTC has adopted a business model, through our Enterprise Business Unit, focused on delivering customized enterprise solutions tailored to the specific needs of private sector partners. Today's milestone is a clear demonstration of that strategic approach in action."

Johan Coetzee, RUL Managing Director, expressed "Today we commission the newly installed and upgraded four towers on our mine..., mining is more than the heavy machinery, blasting, hauling, and long hours of physical work. We goes unseen is that mining runs on something just as critical: data. Real time, reliable, and constant data.

"Every truck we dispatch, every drill reading we analyze, every safety alert we depend on, these all rely on strong, uninterrupted communication. Without it, we are not just inconvenienced, we are exposed. Quite simply, without reliable connectivity, we are operating without full visibility."

The partnership between MTC and Rössing Uranium reflects a shared commitment to innovation and operational excellence. For Rössing, the private LTE network forms part of its ongoing efforts to modernise infrastructure, improve productivity, and align with evolving global mining standards.

For MTC, the project reinforces its role as a strategic enabler of digital transformation across Namibia's key economic sectors, delivering tailored connectivity solutions that address industry-specific challenges.

The inauguration brings together leadership from both organisations, along with key stakeholders and members of the media, to witness the deployment firsthand and engage on the future of connected industries in Namibia.

Beyond the immediate operational benefits, the initiative signals a broader shift towards smart mining, where connectivity, data, and automation converge to create safer workplaces, optimise performance, and unlock long-term value.
As Namibia continues to position itself within a globally competitive mining landscape, investments in digital infrastructure such as this private LTE network will play a critical role in shaping the industry's future.

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From Belt to Balance Sheet: Precision mass flow measurement in mining conveyors

Enabling accurate, continuous control of bulk material flow from pit to process.

The movement of bulk solids is constant, high volume, and tightly linked to production efficiency. From crushed ore to processed aggregates, materials are typically transported via conveyor belts or screw conveyors, forming the backbone of continuous production. While this seems pretty straightforward, the real challenge lies in knowing exactly how much material is moving at any given moment. This is where mass flow measurement becomes essential. Without accurate throughput data, process control becomes guesswork, and even small deviations can lead to costly inefficiencies, inaccurate billing between production units, or downstream process instability.

In conveyor-based handling systems, the primary measurement task is throughput monitoring. Operators need a continuous, real-time understanding of how many tonnes per hour are being transported, often at rates reaching up to 10 000 t/h. The measuring point is typically the conveyor belt itself, where bulk solids are in motion and constantly changing in load profile. The materials involved can vary widely in particle size, density, and moisture content, and the system must remain reliable across a wide process temperature range, typically from -40 to +60 °C. This variability places high demands on measurement technology, which must remain stable and accurate regardless of environmental and material fluctuations.

Mining environments add another layer of complexity. Conveyor belts are exposed to heavy dust loads, mechanical vibration, uneven belt tension, and constantly changing material characteristics. Larger and smaller particles may mix unpredictably, and flow patterns are rarely uniform. Traditional mechanical weighing systems can struggle under these conditions due to wear, drift, or sensitivity to vibration. As a result, non-contact and robust measurement technologies are increasingly preferred for long-term stability and reduced maintenance requirements.

A proven solution for these demanding applications is the use of radiometric mass flow measurement systems such as the WEIGHTRAC 31. This instrument is designed specifically for the continuous measurement of bulk solids on conveyor belts. Its frame-based construction allows for straightforward retrofit installation onto existing conveyor systems, making it particularly attractive for upgrades or plant optimisation projects without major mechanical modification. The WEIGHTRAC 31 operates using a radiation-based principle, enabling it to measure mass flow without physical contact with the material or conveyor.

Because the measurement is non-contact, the system is largely unaffected by dust, dirt build-up, or material abrasion. This is a significant advantage in mining environments, where conventional systems can degrade quickly under harsh conditions. The WEIGHTRAC 31 provides accurate, repeatable throughput measurement even when belt loading is uneven or when vibration levels are high. Its wear-free operation also reduces the need for regular maintenance interventions, which in turn improves overall plant availability and reduces operational downtime.

A key component of any radiometric measurement system is the radiation source holder, such as the VEGASOURCE 81. This unit is responsible for safely housing and directing the gamma emitter used in the measurement process. It ensures that radiation is emitted in a controlled and defined direction towards the measurement path, while effectively shielding the surrounding environment in all other directions. This design is critical for operational safety and regulatory compliance in industrial settings.

The VEGASOURCE 81 is engineered for high operational reliability, featuring pneumatic actuation of the source holder for safe handling and control. Its compact design allows for simple installation even in constrained spaces, while its shielding efficiency helps minimise the need for extensive controlled areas around the installation. This makes it well suited for integration into existing conveyor systems where space and access may be limited.

Employed together, WEIGHTRAC 31 and VEGASOURCE 81 provide a robust solution for continuous mass flow measurement in mining applications. The benefits to operators are significant. Reliable measurement is maintained despite vibration, belt tension changes, and harsh environmental conditions. Accurate throughput data enables precise accounting of bulk material flows between production units,

Why Mass Flow Matters:

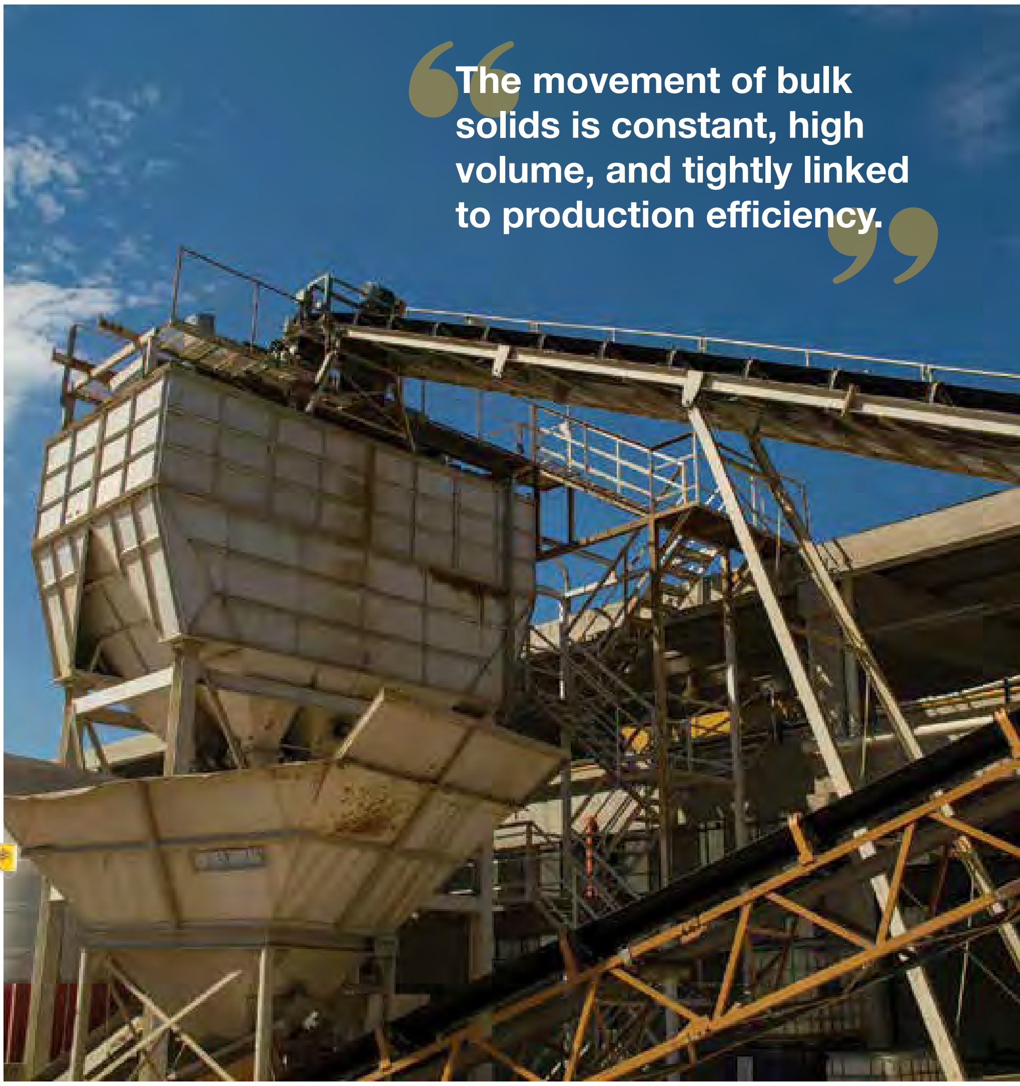
Accurate throughput measurement on conveyor belts ensures reliable production control, prevents material losses, and enables precise inter-unit billing across mining operations handling up to 10,000 t/h of bulk solids.

supporting both operational transparency and financial control. At the same time, the system's low-maintenance, wear-free design reduces lifecycle costs and simplifies long-term operation.

In a sector where every tonne counts, dependable mass flow measurement is not just a technical advantage, it is a fundamental part of efficient, profitable and controlled mining operations.

VEGA will be exhibiting at Electra Mining Africa 2026 at the Johannesburg Expo Centre, Nasrec, from Monday, 7 September to Friday, 11 September 2026.

Visit us at Stand B15, Hall 4.



"The movement of bulk solids is constant, high volume, and tightly linked to production efficiency."

FLOWTITE SOUTH AFRICA

ENGINEERING THE FUTURE OF AFRICA'S WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

As Africa continues to invest in resilient water, sanitation, mining and industrial infrastructure, the demand for pipeline systems that deliver exceptional performance, longevity and value has never been greater. At the forefront of this transformation is Flowtite South Africa Pty Ltd (Flowtite SA), one of the continent's leading manufacturers of Glass Reinforced Polymer (Grip) pipes, fittings and engineered piping solutions.

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of manufacturing excellence in South Africa

4500+ KM INSTALLED
of GRP pipelines across Sub-Saharan Africa

DN100–DN2600
Diameter range

UP TO PN32
Pressure rating capability

150+ YEARS
Expected service life

SECURING AFRICA'S WATER FUTURE

ENGINEERED INSTALLATION
Field-proven project delivery

BUILT AT SCALE
Complete GRP piping solutions

DELIVERED ACROSS AFRICA
Trusted in complex environments

LOCAL EXCELLENCE. CONTINENTAL IMPACT

With over 30 years of manufacturing excellence in South Africa and more than 4500 km of GRP pipelines installed across Sub-Saharan Africa, Flowtite-SA has built a reputation for delivering innovative infrastructure solutions that stand the test of time. As the South African licensee within the global Flowtite network, the company combines world-class technology with local manufacturing expertise to serve municipal, mining, agricultural and industrial markets.

A COMPLETE, EXPANDED PRODUCT RANGE

Flowtite-SA has evolved and increased its product range from DN300 and now includes diameters from DN100 to DN2600 with pressure ratings up to PN32, providing complete piping solutions including fittings, couplings and customised components. Produced to internationally recognised quality standards, these systems are engineered to withstand aggressive environments where conventional materials often have challenges. GRP's corrosion resistance, lightweight construction, smooth hydraulic performance and low maintenance requirements significantly reduce installation costs and life-cycle expenditure while maximising operational efficiency.

LONGEVITY THAT CHANGES THE EQUATION

Perhaps the most remarkable characteristic of Flowtite's GRP technology is its longevity. Independent testing and decades of field performance demonstrate an expected service life exceeding 150 years, making GRP one of the most sustainable and cost-effective pipeline materials available today. Flowtite GRP pipes are immune to corrosion and maintain exceptional hydraulic performance throughout their operational life, ensuring reliable water delivery for generations.

INNOVATION WITHOUT COMPROMISE

Innovation remains central to the company's success. Continuous investment in advanced manufacturing technology has increased production capacity, improved product quality and introduced new engineered solutions such as specialised 3D fittings, enabling Flowtite-SA to deliver customised solutions for complex infrastructure projects without compromising lead times or quality.

SUPPORT BEYOND MANUFACTURING

Beyond manufacturing, Flowtite-SA provides comprehensive engineering support, technical design assistance, installation training and field services, ensuring every project achieves optimum performance throughout its lifecycle. This customer-focused approach, combined with stringent quality control and ISO-certified manufacturing processes, has positioned the company as a trusted partner on major water supply, wastewater, irrigation, mining, desalination and industrial projects across Africa.

SECURING AFRICA'S WATER FUTURE

As Africa accelerates investment in sustainable infrastructure, Flowtite South Africa continues to prove that world-class engineering can be designed, manufactured and delivered locally. By combining innovation, reliability and long-term value, Flowtite-SA is not merely manufacturing pipes—it is helping secure Africa's water future, one pipeline at a time.

SCAN TO VISIT WEBSITE

ifm's mobile IoT Gateway CR1058 and mobile IoT Suite

With mobile IoT, the benefits of digitalisation are also becoming a reality for mobile machines. Monitoring the performance status of a machine fleet, needs-based maintenance planning and software updates over the air – mobile IoT does it all.

In a nutshell: with mobile IoT you can get the most out of your machine fleet.

mobile IoT is a fully integrated, scalable end-to-end solution consisting of hardware and software. The hardware maintains the dialogue between the machine and the cloud software where the information from all the networked machines converges centrally. This makes it possible to find out the exact status and location of the machine at any time. Similarly, you can efficiently distribute software updates to your fleet via the mobile IoT cloud.

Regardless of whether you require a solution to permanently analyse and optimise prototypes in real field tests, to plan and prepare your rental fleet management more effectively, or to establish a convincing after-sales service, mobile IoT is the right choice for a wide variety of applications.

A data portal is also provided, allowing you to visualise and keep a perfect overview of all the collected data and use cases.

5 Simple Steps for more Overview and Efficiency

mobile IoT is a perfectly matched combination of hardware and software that offers the user a high degree of flexibility. Digitalising mobile machines is a breeze. The first step is selecting the appropriate mobile IoT gateway and connection option. The device is then activated online and a suitable data and / or service contract is selected. As every machine and every use case is different, various options are offered here. The application can then be configured and the benefits of mobile IoT can be harnessed.

mobile IoT Gateway Product Benefits

Reliably managed:

With mobile IoT, individual components, complex machines or even the entire fleet can be managed and individually configured.

Wireless connection:

Mobile IoT enables a fast, simple and secure remote connection to the machine.

Tailored:

The hardware and cloud solution are perfectly matched and enable simple implementation of the entire system.

Clearly structured – everything in one place:

With the mobile IoT DataPortal, all relevant machine data can be collected, analysed and visualised cyclically.

System Overview

Whether via mobile network or wifi, mobile IoT offers an optimally matched end-to-end solution consisting of hardware and software for mobile machines. On the hardware side, a mobile IoT gateway tailored to the machine architecture is required. The gateway communicates with the mobile IoT Suite or the DataPortal. For machine-to-machine communication, it is possible to use a CANwireless module.

Thanks to mobile IoT, needs-based maintenance can be planned and prepared in a targeted manner. Not all maintenance or troubleshooting requires on-site intervention – the mobile IoT solution offers the convenience of remote access for updating or changing software, parameters and configurations. Remote access is not only convenient but also contributes significantly to cost savings.

Application Examples

Remote access:

mobile IoT enables simple and secure remote access to machines. This enables better planning of maintenance and servicing, for example, which increases efficiency and reduces costs.

Fleet management:

Intelligent fleet management ensures a complete overview of the mobile machinery at all times. Real-time data on location and machine status enable optimum planning and utilisation of resources. In addition, the machines can be configured and access to the machine can be regulated by means of comprehensive rights and role management.

Machine maintenance and updates

The ecolog interface integrated in ecomatmobile components makes it very easy to update the entire machine from a central location in the field. Information on the installed components can also be read. This will form the basis for complete fleet management in the future.

Data management

Recording and evaluating machine data creates the basis for efficient operating processes and for informed decisions regarding operational planning and machine optimisation. Thanks to bidirectional communication, individual signals can be transmitted from the machine to the cloud while parameters can be relayed from the cloud to the machine.

ifm sensors tested while sailing: Do they work even under rough conditions?

During the 69F Cup, the last event of 2022 in Puerto Portals, Mallorca, ifm was sponsoring one of the sailing boats. The skipper of the boat "Captain Orange" was none other than our co-CEO Martin Buck. To test whether ifm sensors would still work under these very special and unusual conditions, the hardware was mounted to the foiling sailboat.

The peculiarity of these boats is that once they are fast enough, they completely lift out of the water which makes the measuring of the distance between the boat and the surface of the water crucial. To measure the distance, two different level sensors, one radar-based sensor and one ultrasonic sensor were mounted onto the boat. Furthermore, an inclination sensor was used that measures the roll angle which is very important for the crew.

All the data from the sensors is gathered and shown live on the display. A modem sends all the data in real-time into the cloud of the ifm mobile IoT suite. Thanks to the hardware, the sailors were able to rely less on their feelings and more on the data. ifm and the sailing sport have in common that teamwork, reliability, and constant technical development are always in focus in order to be successful.

Want to see this product in action? Be sure to visit us at Electra Mining Africa from 07 – 11 September at stand A06 in Hall 7.

Contact: ifm South Africa

Postnet Suite # 279
Private Bag X8
Elardus Park, 0047
National Tel: 0861 IFM RSA (436 772)
International Tel: +27 12 450 0400
Fax: (012) 450-0412
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Leveraging namibia's critical minerals for job creation and industrialisation

By Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr (CDH) Namibia

Namibia stands at a pivotal moment in its economic trajectory. As global demand accelerates for critical minerals essential to the energy transition, such as lithium, rare earth elements, cobalt, and uranium the country is uniquely positioned to transform its mineral wealth into a catalyst for job creation and industrialisation. However, unlocking this opportunity requires a deliberate shift from a historically extractive model toward a more integrated, value-driven mining economy.

The mining sector already plays a central role in Namibia's economy, contributing over 13% of GDP and employing more than 20,000 people directly. Beyond direct employment, the sector supports thousands of indirect jobs through procurement, logistics, and services, with local procurement alone accounting for nearly half of total industry expenditure. This demonstrates that mining, when effectively integrated into the broader economy, can act as a powerful engine for inclusive growth.

Recent developments in the critical minerals space further reinforce this potential. Namibia is emerging as a key global supplier of uranium, already the world's third-largest producer as well as an increasingly attractive destination for lithium, graphite, and rare earth exploration. With a pipeline of mining investments exceeding N$48 billion and the potential to create over 18,000 direct jobs in the coming years, the sector is entering a new phase of expansion.

However, the real opportunity lies not merely in expanding extraction, but in deepening participation across the mineral value chain. Historically, Namibia has exported most of its minerals in raw or semi-processed form, effectively externalising the higher-value stages of production. Recognising this limitation, the government has prioritised mineral beneficiation through policy instruments such as the Mineral Beneficiation Strategy, proposed reforms to the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, 1992, and a government directive issued in June 2023 banning the export of unprocessed lithium and other critical minerals. These frameworks aim to incentivise local processing of critical minerals, particularly lithium and rare earth elements, and to stimulate domestic downstream industries, creating jobs and fostering industrialisation.

This policy direction is already beginning to reshape the industry. Namibia's decision to ban the export of unprocessed lithium, for example, is designed to stimulate domestic processing capacity and create downstream industries. Such measures have the potential to significantly increase employment across multiple levels of the value chain, including mining, refining, manufacturing, and associated services such as engineering and logistics.

Encouragingly, early signs of this transition are already visible. Investments in downstream infrastructure such as planned sulphuric acid plants and refinery developments highlight a growing recognition of the need to support mineral processing domestically. Similarly, the development of industrial hubs, special economic zones, and processing facilities, including the modernisation of the Tsumeb smelter, signals a shift toward a more integrated mining ecosystem.

Nevertheless, significant challenges remain. Industrialisation is inherently capital-intensive and requires reliable infrastructure, including energy, water, and transport systems. In Namibia, water scarcity and energy constraints pose risks to the expansion of mining and processing activities. Addressing these bottlenecks will be critical to sustaining growth in the critical minerals sector.

Equally important is the need for skills development and workforce readiness. As the sector evolves toward more technologically advanced processes, the demand for skilled labour will increase. Government initiatives aimed at training, upskilling, and supporting small-scale miners are therefore essential to ensuring that Namibians are able to participate meaningfully in the emerging value chains.

Local content policies and procurement frameworks also play a crucial role in maximising the socio-economic benefits of mining. By strengthening linkages between mining companies and domestic suppliers, Namibia can foster the growth of small and medium enterprises, enhance industrial capabilities, and promote economic diversification. The current emphasis on local procurement already yielding significant economic spillovers provides a strong foundation for further development.

From a legal and regulatory perspective, clarity, stability, and investor confidence will be key. While policies aimed at increasing local participation and beneficiation are essential, they must be carefully calibrated to avoid deterring investment. Striking the right balance between resource nationalism and competitiveness will be critical to attracting the capital and expertise required to develop complex mineral value chains.

As Namibia advances along this path, the role of legal and advisory institutions will be increasingly important. A firm such as Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr (CDH), a leading commercial law firm, is well positioned to support both government and investors in navigating the evolving regulatory landscape, structuring complex mining and infrastructure transactions, and ensuring that beneficiation and local participation objectives are implemented in a manner that is legally sound and commercially viable.

Namibia's critical minerals present a unique opportunity to drive job creation and industrialisation in a manner that is both sustainable and inclusive. The country has already demonstrated its capacity to leverage mining as a pillar of economic growth. The next phase will require a strategic focus on value addition, infrastructure development, skills enhancement, and regulatory certainty.

If effectively implemented, this transition could position Namibia not only as a leading supplier of critical minerals, but as a regional hub for mineral processing and manufacturing, ensuring that the benefits of its natural resources are more fully realised within its borders.

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LIFTING NAMIBIA FORWARD

Johnson Crane Hire expands into Namibia Through a Strategic Local Collaboration

Johnson Crane Hire (JCH), one of South Africa's largest crane hire companies with half a century of lifting experience, has expanded its operations into Namibia. Rather than entering the market simply as an external equipment provider, the company has chosen to collaborate with two well-established, Namibian-based businesses: Windhoek Hire Sales and Service (WHSS) and Afrisales Investment Group (AIG).

> ***"We didn't want to arrive in Namibia as outsiders parachuting in equipment. By collaborating with WHSS and AIG, we are combining JCH's world-class lifting capability with genuine local knowledge, an established regional footprint and real logistical insight on the ground. That is what makes this a true collaboration rather than simply a presence."***
> *Cedric Froneman, Chief Sales Officer - Strategic Customers and Partnerships, JCH*

This collaboration allows the three companies to focus on local opportunities across Namibia's key business sectors, and to grow that footprint through the development and management of dedicated digital platforms and a strong online presence. The approach combines world-class lifting capabilities with a strong regional footprint and deep logistical insight.

Drawing on JCH's extensive fleet — ranging from 30-ton units to 800-ton hydraulic and crawler cranes — the collaboration ensures that complex infrastructure, mining, industrial and port projects are executed with precision, efficiency and safety. Together, the three companies deliver a comprehensive offering of mobile cranes, aerial platforms, telehandlers, rigging and engineered lifting solutions.

A COLLABORATION BUILT ON EMPOWERMENT

At its core, the collaboration is built around true socio-economic empowerment. It prioritises training, certifying and employing local Namibian people in basic rigging, crane operation, and advanced Johnson Engineering Projects (JEP) solutions. The strategic collaboration between JCH, WHSS and AIG is designed to create lasting opportunities for the transfer of skills and the generation of local employment.

> ***"Machines provide capability, but people drive success. Our commitment is to train, certify and employ Namibians, and to leave behind skills that stay in the country long after any single project is finished. Empowering local communities isn't an add-on to what we do — it is central to why we structured the collaboration this way."***
> *Cedric Froneman, Chief Sales Officer - Strategic Customers and Partnerships, JCH*

THE ORIGINS: BUILT ON DECADES OF TRUST

To understand the strength of the collaboration, it helps to look at what each company brings to the table.

Johnson Crane Hire (JCH): Founded in 1976, JCH has spent half a century scaling it's operations to become one of the leading operators of the largest mobile and crawler crane fleets in Africa. Widely recognised across the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region, the company offers lifting solutions ranging from 30-ton units to several 800-ton cranes in various configurations — providing the heavy-lifting capability required for mega-scale infrastructure and industrial projects. As JCH celebrates it's 50th anniversary in 2026, its emphasis remains firmly on growth, innovation and development.

Windhoek Hire Sales and Service (WHSS):
Established in October 1987 by Kris Guttzeit, WHSS started from humble beginnings with just two air compressors, one Nissan Safari pick-up truck, and a single foreman. Over nearly four decades, it has evolved into a trusted Namibian plant hire company. Operating from key hubs including Windhoek and Swakopmund, WHSS brings an unmatched understanding of local logistical requirements and a strong domestic footprint.

Afrisales Investment Group (AIG):
A modern provider of crane hire, cherry pickers and telehandlers, AIG has built a well-established reputation. Driven by a strict "One Business, One Family" ethos, the company excels at tailoring comprehensive, cost-effective machinery and material-handling solutions that optimise client budgets without ever compromising on job-site safety.

CAPABILITY ACROSS NAMIBIA'S TOUGHEST SECTORS

From the bustling ports of Walvis Bay to the demanding environments of the mining, energy, construction and industrial sectors, large-scale projects demand precise planning and flawless execution. The collaboration between JCH, WHSS and AIG brings a comprehensive fleet of mobile cranes, self-propelled access platforms and telehandlers to Namibia's business sectors.

> ***"Our fleet ranges from 30-ton units right through to 800-ton hydraulic and crawler cranes. Heavy industrial environments leave no room for error, so everything we do is built on precision, efficiency and safety. Clients in Namibia now have access to that full spectrum of capability, backed by local teams who know the terrain."***
> *Cedric Froneman, Chief Sales Officer - Strategic Customers and Partnerships, JCH*

Heavy industrial environments leave no room for error, and the collaboration extends far beyond equipment hire:

Specialised Rigging and Lift Engineering (JEP) Solutions:
Managing complex, heavy or high-precision lifts safely and efficiently.

Reliable Mobile Cranes:
Access to a modern, well-maintained fleet capable of supporting diverse project scopes — from major plant shutdowns requiring multiple cranes to large-scale, round-the-clock infrastructure, mining and renewable energy projects.

Mobile Elevated Work Platforms:
Safe and reliable access solutions for working at height across a wide range of industries.

Telehandlers:
A full range of 4x4 telehandlers equipped with various attachments, ready to work across the construction, building and mining industries.

PEOPLE FIRST: CAPACITY BUILDING AND SKILLS TRANSFER

While machines provide capability, people drive success. A cornerstone of the collaborative mission is a steadfast commitment to capacity building and skills transfer. Through technical training, mentorship and internationally aligned safety standards, the collaboration ensures that Namibian workers are equipped to operate complex machinery safely and effectively.

Operating from strategic hubs including Windhoek and Swakopmund, the collaboration ensures that projects across mining, commercial construction, industrial maintenance, logistics and infrastructure development receive exceptional technical support, reliable equipment availability and responsive service delivery.

> *"As Namibia continues to invest in its future, we want to help lift the nation forward — with the right expertise, the right equipment, and a long-term local commitment. Reaching our 50th year in 2026 and opening this new chapter in Namibia at the same time makes it especially meaningful for everyone at Johnson Crane Hire."*
> *Cedric Froneman, Chief Sales Officer - Strategic Customers and Partnerships, JCH*

This collaboration is about more than cranes and equipment - it's about empowering people, strengthening local capability and creating long-term value in Namibia

Together, we are lifting Namibia forward.

Terex MPS – Namibia, Angola & Botswana

On September 1, 2023, Consulmet (Pty) Ltd (Consulmet) signed an exclusive distributorship agreement with Terex GB Ltd to sell Terex MPS equipment and spares in Namibia, Angola and Botswana.

With its traditional expertise in the design, construction & supply of metals and minerals processing plants, in and to remote locations, distributing and supporting capital equipment was a completely new business stream for Consulmet, which called for the establishment of a new division, Consulmet Equipment, to look after the Terex MPS business in the three Southern African countries.

Consulmet is taking a phased approach to the Terex MPS business. Initial focus has been placed on Angola, a market where the company will leverage the existing Consulmet project footprint and support resources to kickstart and expand its business. The next focus country will be Namibia, and eventually Botswana.

Instead of 'jumping' into the three countries at once, we have taken a decision to stabilise our Angolan venture first before we spread out into the remaining two countries. The decision to start with Angola was based on the good infrastructure and existing support structures and partners in the country. The next step is to develop our support network and infrastructure in Namibia and Botswana before we roll out in those two countries.

Second project

In October 2025, Consulmet Equipment successfully commissioned a second Terex MPS aggregate crushing plant in Angola, for a mining client wanting to produce their own aggregates for their civil works for a new minerals recovery plant they are installing.

Consulmet Equipment supplied a complete, 180tph aggregates plant that will produce three aggregate sizes. The complete plant consists of a WJ3042i wheeled vibrating grizzly feeder and jaw crusher unit, a WC1150S wheeled cone crusher and screen combination unit as well as all the necessary plant and product stockpile conveyors and surge bin with VSD pan feeder.

This aggregate plant was fully assembled, installed and commissioned, by the in-country Consulmet Equipment team, supported by Terex MPS, within three months of being delivered to site.

The holistic scope included the procurement, engineering, shipping from Terex MPS India to Luanda Port, Angola, transport of the plant from Luanda Port to site in Angola, assembly and installation of the plant, including the supply of reinforced concrete "sleepers" for the civils, and commissioning of the plant. The supply, installation and commissioning of diesel generators to run the plant was also included in the scope.

Consulmet Equipment's scope further included the provision of all anticipated spares for the first year of operation of the aggregate plant as well as the operating and maintenance of the plant for the first year.

We are proud to mention that this project also benefits the local Angolan community.

Namibia project

Consulmet equipment are currently working very closely with a mining client in Namibia to replace their current fines crushing circuit with Terex MPS Modular Cone crushers with direct feed Surge Bins and VSD Pan Feeders.

The main benefit of utilising the Terex MPS modular systems, besides being a very cost-effective solution, is that they can be assembled, installed and commissioned with limited downtime and interruptions to the client's current crushing plant and production.

Support matters

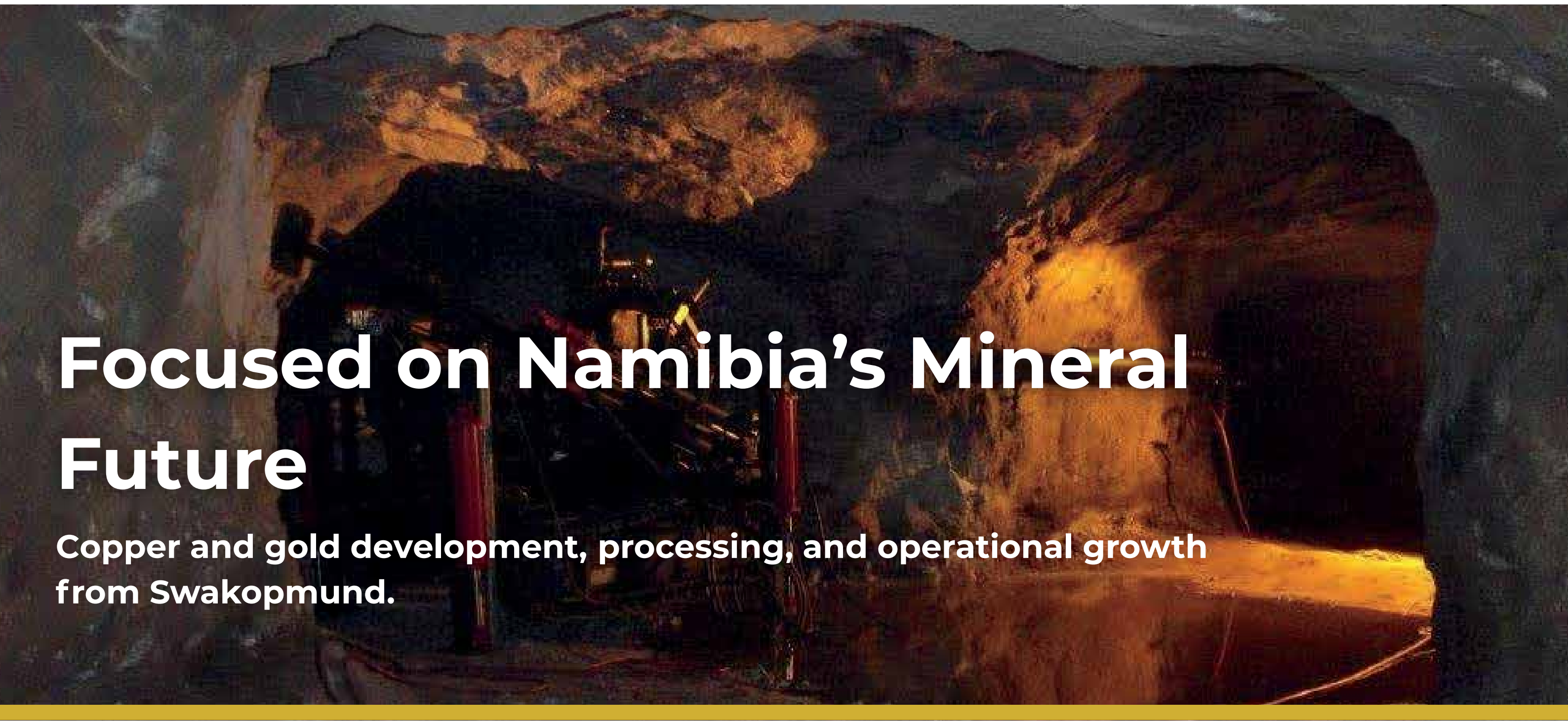
To ensure reliable customer support, Consulmet Equipment has deployed a fully equipped and trained team of technicians for installation, servicing, maintenance and refurbishment of Terex MPS and other Terex equipment. The team is supported by Consulmet's local partners, which warehouses Terex MPS equipment and spares in Luanda, Lobito and Saurimo.

Once established with local partners in Namibia, Consulmet Equipment will deploy a local Namibian technical team for the installation, servicing, maintenance and refurbishment of Terex MPS equipment sold in Namibia and will also warehouse Terex MPS spares at strategic sites in Namibia.

Consulmet Equipment's Second Terex MPS Aggregate Crushing Plant in Angola
Terex MPS WJ3042i Wheeled Jaw Crusher with 9m3 'wing folding hopper' and Vibrating Grizzly Feeder

Terex MPS WC1150S Wheeled Cone Crusher and Inclined, 3-deck Vibrating Screen combination

Terex MPS 20m3 Surge Bin with VSD controlled Pan Feeder and Conveyor with Metal Detector feeding the WC1150S Cone Crusher



Focused on Namibia's Mineral Future

Copper and gold development, processing, and operational growth from Swakopmund.

Tsoaxaub Metals (Pty) Ltd

Tsoaxaub Metals Pty Ltd is a fully permitted, high-grade mining operation based 30 km from Swakopmund, Namibia. Supported by robust infrastructure just 75 km from the port of Walvis Bay, the processing facility is currently being repurposed to treat the copper pre-concentrate from the Hope and Gorob project. To optimize operations, Tsoaxaub Metals leverages existing infrastructure to process copper concentrate alongside its lead and zinc portfolio, which is currently under active exploration to better define the resource.

We remain committed to responsible development, operational excellence, and sustainable value creation.

Core focus

Copper and Gold

INDUSTRY

Mining, metals and minerals processing

LOCATION

Swakopmund, Namibia

PROJECT FOCUS

High-grade development and processing facility

T +264 426250 | F +264 426251
info@tsoaxaubmetals.com | www.tsoaxaubmetals.com
2nd Floor, West Wing, Makarios Centre, Cottage Avenue | P.O. Box 7185, Swakopmund, Namibia

HOPE AND GOROB
HOPE AND GOROB PTY LTD

COPPER GOLD PROJECT | ERONGO REGION

BEZANT
COPPER GOLD SUPPLY PIPELINE

Advancing Copper-Gold Development in Namibia

A strategic copper-gold project positioned within Namibia's Erongo Region.

Project Facts

Hope and Gorob Copper-Gold Project

LICENCE

Mining License 246

REGION

Erongo Region, Namibia

MINERALS

Copper and Gold

Hope and Gorob Mining

Operating as the Namibian subsidiary of the London-listed Bezant Resources (AIM: BZT), Hope and Gorob Mining (Pty) Ltd manages Mining Licence 246. This high-grade Copper-Gold Project is situated within the Erongo Region of Namibia.The site is strategically located 100 km southeast of Walvis Bay and 215 km southwest of Windhoek, centered in the Matchless Amphibolite Belt. With a 15-year licence secured in June 2025, the venture is primed for sustainable development.

The inaugural production of copper-gold concentrates is currently projected to commence during the latter half of 2026.

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info@tsoaxaubmetals.com | www.tsoaxaubmetals.com
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Across Africa, industrial development continues to accelerate across mining, mineral processing, water treatment, manufacturing, and construction. As these sectors expand and regulatory expectations tighten, customers increasingly seek partners that deliver more than products alone - prioritizing reliability, consistent quality, technical expertise, and deep local market understanding in complex operating environments.

ETG Curechem operates across these critical industries, supported by ISO certified quality systems and a global sourcing network that ensures dependable access to key raw materials and specialty chemicals. This platform enables the delivery of compliant, cost effective chemical solutions tailored to the demanding conditions typical of African operations. As industrial activity grows, ETG Curechem continues to strengthen its footprint by offering resilient supply chains, sustainable sourcing options, and locally based technical support.

In the mining sector, uninterrupted supply of processing reagents, water treatment chemicals, and explosives raw materials is operationally critical. Variable ore bodies, remote locations, and challenging water quality conditions place a premium on consistent product performance and responsive technical service. ETG Curechem supports mining operations with a broad portfolio of industrial chemicals, water treatment solutions, and inputs for explosives manufacturing - helping customers maintain productivity, safety, and production continuity across extraction and mineral processing activities.

Water treatment has become an increasingly strategic focus for mining and industrial operations, driven by water scarcity, stricter discharge standards, and the growing emphasis on water reuse. ETG Curechem supplies chemicals for raw water, process water, and wastewater treatment, supporting clarification, solid liquid separation, scale and corrosion control, and environmental compliance.

Beyond mining, ETG Curechem is an established supplier of industrial and formulation chemicals to manufacturing, construction, and coatings markets. The company provides key inputs for paint and coatings manufacturers, including resins, solvents, pigments, and additives, supporting consistent formulation performance, durability, and cost efficiency.

Across Africa's industrial landscape, resilient supply chains and trusted partnerships remain essential. With its pan African presence and diversified portfolio spanning mining, water treatment, explosives inputs, industrial chemicals, and coatings, ETG Curechem supports customers in maintaining operational stability and driving sustainable growth as African economies continue to industrialize.

The Rapid Boom: Namibia's Oil and Gas Sector Takes Shape

Namibia has been the global focus of energy giants following the play-opening Venus and Graaf discoveries in the Orange Basin in 2022. The subsequent Mopane discovery in mid-2023 and the announcement in early 2025 that the Sagittarius well had encountered a hydrocarbon-bearing reservoir have solidified Namibia's status as a major hydrocarbon frontier. Of the twelve exploration wells drilled in the basin, nine were declared oil discoveries and only three dry holes — an unprecedented success rate of 75% on a worldwide scale. These developments position Namibia as one of Africa's most promising new energy frontiers, with far-reaching implications for economic growth, job creation, and long-term industry sustainability

Energy Independence and Industrial Development

While the upstream market is the main focus, there are auxiliary industries in tow. In addition to the rush for offshore exploration stakes, investments are flowing into parallel industries, from coastal properties to local equities and government bonds, as the country heads towards its 2029 first oil target date. This anticipatory atmosphere has spurred local planners to revitalise port, rail, and air cargo infrastructure to meet the growing logistics demands of the offshore. The successful commercialisation of offshore and onshore oil fields could reduce import dependency and position Namibia as an energy-exporting nation.

The presence of major energy players underscores Namibia's attractiveness as a stable and resource-rich destination. Compared to other oil-producing African nations, Namibia offers political stability, a favourable investment climate, and competitive fiscal policies. That said, immense hydrocarbon potential is often accompanied by an evolving regulatory landscape. While the government initially aimed for a final investment decision in 2025, no FID was taken that year, with decisions on the Venus and Mopane projects now expected in 2026, and first oil still targeted for 2029. While the discoveries indicate no shortage of hydrocarbon volume, some energy companies have encountered a complex subsurface with a high gas-to-oil ratio.

The Regulatory and Licensing Environment

Namibia's regulatory architecture is undergoing significant reform. On 22 March 2025, President Nandi-Ndaitwah placed the oil and gas industry directly under the Office of the President. By assuming direct oversight, the President seeks to safeguard national wealth and ensure that the benefits which flow from oil and gas resources reach the masses, but a number of key areas require clarification. The Petroleum Affairs Directorate continues to play a pivotal role in day-to-day management, overseeing regulatory functions such as issuing licences, monitoring compliance, and managing petroleum data under the Petroleum Act.

The Petroleum (Exploration and Production) Act and Regulations are under review to ensure they remain relevant and effective, especially following the recent oil discoveries. Based on the State of the Nation Address delivered on 24 April 2025, revisions will include amendments giving effect to presidential oversight. The proposed amendments would transfer certain powers from the Minister to the President and establish a Director-General structure within the new Upstream Petroleum Unit. Well-informed legal counsel will be essential for companies navigating this evolving framework.

The Local Content Drive

With unemployment a national priority, the National Upstream Petroleum Local Content Policy introduced in November 2021 requires companies to prioritise hiring and training local staff and using Namibian suppliers. The policy aims to target phased participation of Namibian labour, goods and services, company ownership and financing along the value chain, and is anticipated to become a key focus area for the President. Its relevant aspects will be incorporated into the revised Petroleum (E&P) Act and Model Petroleum Agreement, and bidders must submit local content plans to obtain exploration and production licences. Authorities expect foreign bidders to contribute to local skills development given that Namibia's offshore hydrocarbons sector is still in its early stages.

Midstream and Downstream Market

Namibia has no crude oil refining capacity, no gas-to-power or gas-to-liquids facilities, and no associated infrastructure; all refined fuel and gas requirements are met by imports, predominantly from the Middle East, Europe, and Singapore. In the medium to long term, discoveries may spur investment into offshore pipelines, onshore crude oil storage facilities, refineries, and gas-to-power and gas-to-

liquids plants. The downstream market in Namibia is N$20 billion-a-year revenue industry and comprises of trading, storing, distribution, wholesale and retail marketing of refined petroleum products. The market is regulated by the Ministry of Mines and Energy and all market participants are licensed and prices of petrol and diesel are regulated. The industry is oligopolistic in nature.

In the short term based on production well to barge/crude oil tanker offshore operations, Government will generate revenue from royalties and taxes under the current upstream legal regime. Similar to the Angolan model, revenue from crude oil could subsidise local pump prices through the National Energy Fund. In the medium to long term offshore pipeline, onshore crude oil storage facilities and refineries may become viable options depending upon volumes and regional offtakers. Such infrastructure will require significant investment, and local volumes are relatively small to justify investment therefore regional offtakers would be critical. Domestic production of oil combined with a domestic refinery and the possibility of gas to power or gas to liquids infrastructure have only become options for Namibia because the upstream market has unlocked these as potentials, but ultimately these ambitions remain subject to the volumes game, the development challenges associated with extraction and of course the support of Governments

Conclusion

Namibia stands at a defining moment. The comparatively small size of its population compared to estimated reserves means the average citizen stands to gain far more in downstream benefits compared to other, more populous African countries. The successful commercialisation of offshore oil fields could reduce import dependency and position Namibia as an energy-exporting nation, unlocking energy independence and new opportunities in the midstream and downstream sectors. For commercial, energy, and infrastructure practitioners, navigating the intersection of a maturing upstream sector, an evolving regulatory framework, and an assertive local content agenda will demand both technical excellence and a deep understanding of the legal and commercial landscape. With final investment decisions expected in 2026, the window to shape outcomes is open, and it favours those who engage early with both rigour and foresight.

CDH's market-leading cross-practice expertise

Megan Rodgers is Sector Head: Oil & Gas

Director: Corporate & Commercial

Patrick Kauta is CDH Namibia Managing Partner

Ilda Lomba is a Director: Namibia Corporate & Commercial

Amore Castens is a Director in Corporate & Commercial

James Ross is a Director in Corporate & Commercial

Dean Tennant is an Associate in Corporate & Commercial

Nhika Vassallo is an Associate in Namibia Corporate & Commercial

Nozinhle Mbuyane is an Associate in Corporate & Commercial

Rihupisee Kavari is an Associate in our Corporate & Commercial practice

Dual Valves: Global Slurry Solutions Anchored by Local Expertise

With a manufacturing legacy rooted in South Africa and a presence that spans the globe, Dual Valves has established itself as a premium provider of abrasion-resistant slurry solutions. For decades, the company has focused on the engineering challenges of the mining and minerals processing industries, developing a robust portfolio of over 48 specialised products designed to withstand the harshest operating environments on Earth.

At the heart of Dual Valves' philosophy is the "One Stop Slurry Solution." This approach ensures that every valve, from the flagship DFV model to the large bore pinch valves, is engineered with two primary objectives: increasing longevity and ensuring ease of maintenance in-situ. By prioritising these factors, the company helps mine operators minimise downtime and reduce the total cost of ownership in critical infrastructure. This dedication to quality is underscored by the company's ISO 9001:2015 certification, ensuring that every product leaving the factory meets rigorous international standards.

While the company's roots are firmly planted in Southern Africa, Dual Valves has evolved into a truly global entity. The company's export footprint currently covers more than 50 countries, serving major mining hubs across every continent. From Australia to Chile to the diverse industrial landscapes of the United States, Canada, China, and Europe, Dual Valves' technology is a staple in the global resource extraction sector. This international reach is supported by a sophisticated distribution network that ensures technical expertise and spare parts are available wherever slurry management is a critical priority.

The company's success in these diverse markets stems from its ability to provide application-specific solutions. Rather than offering a one-size-fits-all product, Dual Valves leverages its engineering expertise to tailor valves to the specific pressures, temperatures, and abrasive qualities of a particular site. This bespoke approach has led to the successful implementation of massive projects, including the installation of 900NB Flanged Knife Gate and 750NB Double Non-Return valves in high-demand environments.

In the context of the Namibian mining sector, a region known for its world-class uranium, diamond, and base metal operations, the need for reliable, high-performance valves is paramount. As mines move toward more automated and efficient processing, the reliability of the "slurry circuit" becomes the backbone of the operation. Dual Valves supports this region through its strategic partnership with Toolquip Namibia, the distributor for Dual Valves in Namibia.

This partnership ensures that Namibian mines have direct, local access to state-of-the-art technology and immediate technical support. By combining Dual Valves' manufacturing excellence with Toolquip's established footprint in Namibia, mining operations can benefit from shortened lead times and expert on-the-ground consultation. As Dual Valves continues to innovate, its focus remains on finding new ways to increase the quality and durability of its products, backed by a distribution network that understands the unique needs of the Namibian landscape.

Contact Toolquip Namibia for all inquiries, technical support, and quotations:
sales@toolquipnamibia.com / gabriel.silva@toolquipnamibia.com / +264 83 708 1166

New energy stories on the African continent have moved as fast or generated as much global interest as Namibia's offshore oil and gas renaissance. In the space of just a few years, a country with no commercial hydrocarbon production has accumulated at least 14 offshore discoveries, attracted virtually every major international oil company and positioned itself on the threshold of a development phase that could fundamentally reshape its national economy. The question is no longer whether Namibia has oil. It is whether the systems, decisions and governance required to turn that oil into sustained national prosperity can be assembled in time.

The Orange Basin has been the engine of this transformation. Stretching along Namibia's Atlantic coastline in water depths of between 1,200 and 3,000 metres, the basin's geological setting draws comparisons to Brazil's prolific offshore provinces, a similarity that has driven extraordinary investor confidence and unusually high exploration success rates relative to global averages. Two giant fields, Venus and Mopane, anchor the basin's resource base, alongside a growing portfolio of significant discoveries including Graff, Jonker, Lesedi, La Rona and Enigma. The basin has, in a remarkably short period, earned its place among the world's premier deepwater exploration addresses.
TotalEnergies has emerged as the dominant operator, cementing its position through the acquisition of a 42.5% operated stake in the PEL 104 licence in early 2026, building on its existing operatorship of both Venus and Mopane. The French supermajor's strategy reflects a deliberate play for scale, securing large-volume, long-life reserves in an emerging basin before development costs and competitive pressure intensify. It is not alone. Shell, Galp Energia, Chevron, Petrobras, QatarEnergy and ExxonMobil have all staked positions in Namibia's offshore, effectively turning the country into one of the most competitive upstream battlegrounds in the world.

Venus is the project closest to a development decision. A Final Investment Decision is expected in 2026 and if sanctioned, the field could deliver Namibia's first deepwater oil production before the end of the decade. The Mopane discovery, operated by Galp Energia and widely regarded as one of the most significant recent finds in the basin, continues through appraisal, with additional wells planned to refine resource estimates and inform development planning. Together, these two projects will largely determine the pace and scale of Namibia's transition from exploration frontier to producing nation.

That transition has not been without friction. In 2026, Namibian authorities challenged a transaction involving TotalEnergies and Petrobras, asserting that proper approval procedures had not been followed, a move that signalled the government's intention to exercise meaningful oversight over the sector rather than simply facilitate investor ambitions. The stance reflects a broader and deliberate policy direction: ensuring that petroleum transactions comply with national law, that the state retains genuine control over resource development and that lessons from other resource-rich nations that ceded too much ground too early are not repeated. Alongside these interventions, Namibia is advancing updates to its petroleum legislation to improve transparency, strengthen governance and build the

institutional capacity the sector will increasingly demand.

Not every operator has navigated the basin's complexity with equal success. Shell, one of the earliest entrants, faced challenges related to reservoir quality and elevated gas content that prompted a $400 million write-down of its Namibian assets. The company is repositioning rather than retreating but the episode underlines an important reality: Namibia's potential is immense, yet commercial success will ultimately be determined on a field-by-field basis, and the technical and economic challenges of deepwater development are not trivial.

Gas is emerging as a parallel opportunity. High gas volumes encountered across multiple discoveries present both a development complication and a longer-term strategic asset. The Kudu Gas Field, discovered in 1974 and holding substantial reserves, is being reassessed within Namibia's broader energy strategy, whilst recent well tests have confirmed strong gas flow rates across newer discoveries. If effectively monetised, gas could underpin domestic power generation, drive industrialisation and position Namibia as a regional energy supplier, complementing oil exports and adding resilience to a sector that might otherwise be entirely dependent on crude price cycles.

The economic stakes are significant. Successful development could generate billions of dollars in government revenue, catalyse infrastructure investment and create employment opportunities across a range of skill levels. Local content frameworks are being developed to ensure that Namibians participate meaningfully in the value chain through skills transfer, direct employment and supplier development, rather than watching a capital-intensive offshore industry operate largely beyond the national economy's reach. Namibia is also pursuing a parallel renewable energy and green hydrogen agenda, signalling an intention to use petroleum revenues as a bridge to a diversified, lower-carbon economic future rather than a destination in itself.

The next few years will be decisive. Final investment decisions, continued appraisal drilling, regulatory reform implementation and the development of supporting infrastructure must all advance in concert if Namibia is to achieve first oil by 2029 or 2030. Managing technical complexity whilst maintaining investor confidence and enforcing effective governance simultaneously is not a simple task but it is precisely the task that distinguishes nations that convert resource wealth into lasting prosperity from those that do not. Namibia has earned the right to be taken seriously. What it does with thatOil standing will define its economic trajectory for a generation.

DATAMINE

PRODUCTION

PRODUCTION BUNDLES

CONNECT PRODUCTION. DRIVE PERFORMANCE.

In mining, disconnected workflows and delayed production visibility can slow decisions, impact reconciliation and put operational value at risk. Datamine's Production Bundles connect every stage of your mining operation, from production to market into one integrated workflow, delivering trusted data and actionable insights that help mining teams respond faster, strengthen operational control and make more confident decisions across the value chain. The Production Bundles comprise six specialised components designed for mining operations, processing, logistics, commercial activities, and shift and equipment performance. Together, they connect production, material movements, inventory, and operational performance into a single, integrated workflow.

PRODUCT	WHAT'S IT FOR	HIGHLIGHTS
Production Accounting	Plant production accounting	Metal accounting; Compliance reporting; Auditable balances
Centric Ops	Plant operations monitoring	Throughput tracking; Performance metrics
MineMarket	Feed control and product tracking	Material tracking; Blending; Stockpile management
Centric Analytics	Operational analytics	Performance dashboards; Process optimisation insights
Reconcilor	Mine and production reconciliation	Geological reconciliation; Data validation; Reconciliation reporting
Minetrack	Mine dispatch and production management	Real-time fleet monitoring; Equipment tracking; Production optimisation

ONE CONNECTED WORKFLOW. COMPLETE VISIBILITY.

Production Accounting

Capture and validate what happens in the field.

Reconciliation & Traceability

Reconcile, track and validate every tonne, from mine to plant.

Commercial Confidence

Connect to market with accurate inventory, contracts & value.

WHAT SETS IT APART:

For Production, Datamine is more than individual systems for reconciliation, ore accounting or logistics. It is a single, connected workflow that brings transparency, confidence, and control across the entire production value chain.

Artificial intelligence is rapidly reshaping the mining industry, shifting the definition of value from purely geological endowment to the ability to interpret, optimise and act on data at scale. While ore quality and asset portfolios remain critical, the competitive edge is increasingly determined by how effectively companies and their people integrate AI into everyday decision making across exploration, planning and operations.

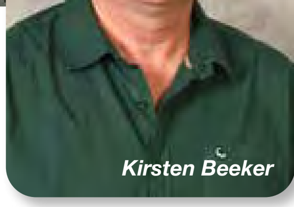
Recent developments underscore how quickly this transition is accelerating. Recently, Caterpillar expanded its mining technology capabilities through the acquisition of spatial data and analytics firm Skycatch, strengthening near real-time data capture and AI-driven insights for mine planning and execution. At the same time, industry leaders such as BHP are applying advanced computing and AI models to fundamentally re-engineer metallurgical processes, screening hundreds of thousands of potential solutions to improve copper recovery rates far faster than traditional laboratory methods.

Beyond the majors, AI is also transforming exploration. Recent reports highlight how AI-driven analysis of legacy geological datasets is unlocking previously overlooked mineralisation targets, demonstrating the growing value of historical data when combined with modern algorithms. This ability to extract new insights from existing information is becoming a critical lever for junior and mid-tier companies seeking capital efficiency in a volatile market.

However, technology alone is not delivering value. Industry research indicates that while AI adoption has moved beyond pilot phases, only a small proportion of mining companies are realising significant financial returns, largely due to gaps in data readiness, integration and workforce capability. As a result, the role of mining professionals is evolving. Geologists, engineers and operators are increasingly expected to work alongside data scientists, translating domain expertise into algorithms and ensuring that AI outputs are grounded in operational reality.

This convergence of human expertise and machine intelligence is redefining productivity. AI is enabling predictive maintenance, optimised material movement and faster exploration targeting, but its success depends on organisational alignment and a culture that embraces data-driven decision making. Companies that invest in upskilling their workforce and embedding AI into core workflows are beginning to build more resilient and adaptive operations.

The broader outlook suggests that this trend will intensify. As global demand for critical minerals grows alongside the expansion of AI infrastructure itself, mining companies are positioned both as enablers and beneficiaries of the digital economy. The industry's future leaders are likely to be those that treat AI not as an add-on but as a foundational capability that enhances resource efficiency, reduces risk and unlocks new sources of value across the mining lifecycle.



Kirsten Beeker

Blue Water Shipping – Delivering project logistics for Namibia's mining industry

As Namibia continues to strengthen its position as one of Africa's most promising mining destinations, reliable logistics have become more important than ever. From exploration and construction to daily operations and mine expansions, efficient supply chains are essential to keeping projects moving safely and on schedule.

Blue Water Shipping combines global logistics expertise with a strong local presence in Walvis Bay to support mining companies throughout every stage of their operations. Backed by a worldwide network of more than 80 offices, our local team understands the realities of operating in Namibia and across Southern Africa, enabling us to deliver practical solutions tailored to each customer's needs.

"This is what sets us apart. As a global company with local roots, we ensure that international experience meets local understanding," says Kirsten Beeker, General Manager EPP, Blue Water Shipping Namibia.

Our services cover the full logistics chain, including international freight forwarding by sea, air and road, cus-toms clearance, project cargo management and transport of oversized and heavy-lift equipment. We also pro-vide reliable road transport connecting Walvis Bay with key inland destinations, supporting cross-border supply chains throughout the region.

Mining projects often require more than standard transport solutions. They demand careful planning, local expertise and the ability to manage complex logistics across multiple stakeholders and challenging environ-ments. Our experienced specialists work closely with customers to ensure every shipment

is delivered safely, efficiently and with full visibility throughout the process.

While mining remains a key focus, Blue Water Shipping also supports customers within renewable energy, hydrogen, oil and gas and other industrial sectors. This broad industry experience allows us to apply proven project logistics capabilities across a wide range of complex operations.

At Blue Water Shipping, we believe successful logistics are built on strong partnerships. By combining local knowledge with the strength of a global organisation, we help customers overcome logistical challenges, re-duce complexity and keep critical projects moving forward.

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COMPLEX
MINING LOGISTICS

Handled by people who know the terrain

From oversized project cargo and customs clearance to reliable transport and supply chain solutions, our team in Walvis Bay combines local knowledge with the strength of a global logistics network.

walvisbay@bws.net

Blue Water Shipping

BLUE WATER SHIPPING

Together we create solutions

ADVANCING ETANGO WITH NAMIBIAN PARTNERSHIP, SAFETY AND PURPOSE

BANNERMAN
MINING RESOURCES NAMIBIA

Bannerman Mining Resources Namibia (Pty) Ltd (BMRN) is proud to be advancing the Etango Uranium Project, one of Namibia's most significant undeveloped uranium projects and a potential future contributor to the country's long-standing reputation as a leading global uranium jurisdiction.

BMRN is a 95% owned subsidiary of Bannerman Energy Ltd, an Australian uranium development company listed on the Australian and Namibian stock exchanges and traded on the OTCQX Market in the United States. The remaining 5% of BMRN is owned by the One Economy Foundation of Namibia, reflecting Bannerman's commitment to meaningful local participation and shared national benefit.

Located in the Erongo Region, approximately 37 kilometres east of Swakopmund and 67 kilometres northeast of Walvis Bay, Etango is strategically positioned within one of Namibia's most established mining regions. The project is underpinned by a globally large-scale uranium Mineral Resource of 207 million pounds of contained U_30_8 and has benefited from more than 15 years of exploration, technical studies and feasibility work.

Since commencing operations in Namibia in 2006, Bannerman has worked to build Etango responsibly and with a long-term view. The company has maintained strong environmental standards, supported by an extensive environmental baseline dating back to 2008, innovation in drill pad rehabilitation in the Namib Desert and a peer-reviewed Environmental and Social Impact Assessment that formed the basis for environmental clearance of the project.

Etango has also been substantially de-risked through the successful operation of the Etango Heap Leach Demonstration Plant, which validated the project's processing method and provided valuable technical confidence.

Following the award of the Etango Mining Licence 250 in December 2023, Bannerman moved immediately into early enabling construction works. Bannerman is proud to have awarded these works to four Namibian contractors; Namibbeton, K Neumayer, Tulela Mining and AN Construction. With more than 560 personnel currently on site these works have been delivered on time, on budget and most importantly, Safely.

Safety remains central to Bannerman's approach. In June 2026, the BMRN team and its contract partners achieved 1.1 million LTI-free hours on the Etango Project, extending Bannerman's unbroken 17-year LTI-free record. This milestone reflects the strong safety culture, workforce engagement and leadership commitment embedded across all project activities.

As Etango advances, Bannerman remains focused on delivering the project in a way that supports Namibia's people, economy and mining future.

EARLY WORKS PROGRESSING AT ETANGO

Following the award of the Etango mining Licence in December 2023, early enabling works commenced immediatey and continue steadily.

4 NAMIBIAN CONTRACTORS

560+ PERSONNEL ON SITE

EARTHWORKS

CIVIL CONSTRUCTION

AGGREGATE PRODUCTION

INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS

Aerial view of the fine ore silo which now stands approximately 36 metres above the ground.

ETANGO

COMMITTED TO NAMIBIA.
INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE.

Etango is more than a project - it is a commitment to creating long-term value for Namibia through local partnerships, skills development and sustainable economic contribution

PROJECT TO DATE

N$690m
WORTH OF CONTRACTS
Placed on Namibian Construction Contractors

N$109m
WORTH OF CONTRACTS
Placed on Namibian Consulting Firms

N$1.6m
SPEND EVERY MONTH
On local owner's teams and administration

SAFETY IS OUR FOUNDATION

1.1 MILLION LTI-FREE HOURS ACHIEVED IN JUNE 2026
EXTENDING OUR UNBROKEN 17-YEAR LTI-FREE RECORD

Ore in the Ground Is a Resource. Ore Processed Is an Economy.

Every mining conversation in Namibia eventually arrives at the same aspiration: stop exporting rock, start exporting value. It's the right instinct. Ore in the ground is a resource. Ore processed, certified, and sold at a premium is an economy. The distance between those two things is exactly what "delivery" needs to close — and this year's Mining Expo theme, "From Dialogue to Delivery," is really just asking one honest question: how much of that distance have we actually closed?

The answer isn't a single fix. Closing this gap means four things happening roughly at the same time, because each one is currently a bottleneck for the others.

First, the economics of processing have to work before anyone invests in it. Industrial electricity in Namibia runs 35–40% above the regional average. The corporate tax rate, at 37.5%, is among the highest in Southern Africa, with no structured incentive framework to soften it — compare that to Botswana's 22% or Mauritius's 15%. Nobody builds a smelter or a cutting-and-polishing facility on those terms, no matter how good the geology looks. The fix isn't a blanket subsidy; it's tiering — a lower effective tax rate for qualifying processing investment, and industrial tariffs that make a Namibian facility genuinely competitive with one in Zambia or South Africa. This decision sits above the mining sector, in Cabinet, which is exactly why it tends to stall.

Second, the legal and licensing infrastructure has to move out of draft form. Capital is unlikely to flow into a beneficiation hub while the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) regulations, the Minerals Bill, and the ownership frameworks remain unresolved. Investors typically price regulatory uncertainty as risk, and the absence of clear implementation timelines can delay investment decisions. The path forward is relatively straightforward: promulgate the SEZ regulations, get the digital e-licensing and cadastre system live, and clear the backlog of pending approvals on a fixed timeline. None of this requires new money. It requires sequencing and political will to complete what's already been drafted.

Third, traceability and certification need to be built as infrastructure, not treated as paperwork. This is where the "premium" half of the equation is actually earned. Luxury and technology buyers pay more for provenance because they can prove it, chain of custody, credible due diligence, sometimes digital tracking. Namibia's gemstone sector is currently moving in the opposite direction: raw stone exports have grown faster than processed value, which means stones are leaving the country before anyone captures the certification premium they carry. The concrete answer already exists on paper. Regional lapidary and certification centres in places like Erongo and //Karas, run in partnership with local institutions, backed by a national quality infrastructure programme so certification happens domestically instead of being outsourced abroad at a steep cost premium. A stamp of certification means little without the domestic capacity to process what's being certified.

Fourth, financing must be directed towards the stages of the value chain that private markets are often unwilling to fund independently. Global mining capital right now is chasing production-stage assets, not exploration or early-stage processing. Namibia can't out-compete that trend, it has to work around it. This requires strengthening development finance mechanisms that support exploration, geological mapping, equipment leasing and the formalisation of small-scale mining activities. It also requires greater use of blended finance structures, combining concessional and commercial capital, to reduce the risks associated with pre-commercial beneficiation projects that are often too early-stage for purely private sector funding. International processing capital pledged toward Namibia is a genuine opportunity, but it's also a caution: processing capital that arrives ahead of the mines meant to feed it risks sitting idle. The ore supply and the processing capacity need to be funded together, not one after the other.

Here's why all four have to move together. A tax incentive is meaningless if the regulation authorising it hasn't been signed. A certification centre creates no premium if the underlying mining licence took eighteen months to clear. Capital won't flow into exploration if the fiscal terms downstream make the eventual processing plant unbankable. This is the real mechanism behind the sentence this piece opened with, it isn't one missing ingredient, it's four half-finished systems that only generate value once they're running in parallel.

The real measure of progress at this Mining Expo is not whether beneficiation is a shared priority. There is already broad consensus on that. The question is whether the enabling pieces are being put in place. Has the tax framework been enacted? Have the SEZ regulations been signed? Has a certification centre broken ground? Has the development fund received its committed capital?

These are not abstract policy debates; they are practical milestones. Ultimately, Namibia's beneficiation ambitions will be judged not by the quality of its plans, but by the speed and consistency of its execution. The goal is straightforward: to replace "in progress" with "done".

For more information, contact:

Kegan Strydom
Relationship Manager – Mining
RMB Namibia
Kegan.Strydom@rmb.com.na

Kegan Strydom

Central Technical Supplies (Pty) Ltd.

Central Technical Supplies (Pty) Ltd. (Geiger Engineering) is well established and represents the following international brands and products in Namibia:

Phoenix Contact (Industrial Automation): Terminal connection technology, Field cabling for all inter-equipment wiring, PC Board based connection technology, Surge protection, Signal conversion technologies, PLC's, HMI units, industrial PC's for automation.

Fluke (Test & Measurement): HVAC Tools, Indoor quality testing, Laser distance meters, Laser levels, Digital multimeters, Electrical testers, Clamp meters, Power quality, Earth ground, Installation testers, Intrinsically safe, Battery analyzers, Insulation testers, Portable Oscilloscopes, portable application testers, Wireless testers, Thermal cameras, Leak and PD detection, IR thermometers, Alignment tools, Calibration tools, Vibration Analyzers.

Bürkert (Fluid Control): Solenoid valves, Process and Control valves, Electromotive Valves, Pneumatic and Process Interfaces, Sensors, Transmitters and controllers, Microfluidic valves and pumps, Mass flow controllers, Solenoid Control Valves.

Megger (Electrical Test Equipment – High Voltage): Cable Fault test and diagnostics, Circuit Breaker testing, PD testing on switchgear, PD testing on bushings / spacers and insulators, Insulating oil testing, Earth testing, loop and RCD testing, Motor and generator testing, Voltage detectors, low Resistance Ohmmeters, Time domain reflectometers, Current and voltage transformer testing, Insulation testing, Powerline monitoring, Electric motor QC systems, Relay and protection testing, Water leak detection and monitoring.

Alfa Laval (Heat Exchangers): Thermal desalination for wastewater treatment and Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD), Heat Exchangers, Separation: Centrifuges and decanters, Precision fluid handling.

Danfoss (Variable Speed Drives): VSD's and Soft Starters from a few hundred watts to 1.2 MW. Voltage ranges from 220V single phase to 690V Three phase. With the VACON integration into Danfoss, we can also offer you a complete range of Drives in the Medium and High Voltage fields.

Spirax Sarco (Steam applications): Safety valves, Steam traps, Pressure reduction, Insulation, Packing and gaskets, Total dissolved solids (TDS) control, Boiler control, flow switches and Temperature control.

Eaton (Industrial switchgear and protection): Circuit Breakers, Protective relays, Fuses and fuse holders, Safety switches, Contactors and so much more.

Schneider / Elen Enclosure: Your supplier in specialized Enclosures from metal power coated over stainless steel, polycarbonate and the very strong Thalassa glass fiber reinforced control panel solution.

Calpeda (Pumps): Single and twin impeller centrifugal pumps, Multi-stage pumps, Submersible drainage and sewerage pumps, Self-priming pumps, Submersible borehole pumps and immersion pumps, Circulating pumps and Booster pump configurations.

Testo (Temperature monitoring): Flue Gas analyzers, Emission measuring devices, Nanoparticles measuring instruments, CO measuring instruments, Sound level meters, Tachometers, Stroboscopes, Temperature / Pressure / Shock / UV / Humidity data loggers, Environmental monitoring system, PH Measuring instruments, Vane anemometers, Volume flow hood, Infrared measuring instruments, Temperature/Humidity/Pressure/Differential transmitters.

EGE (Sensors): Counters & Encoders, Photoelectric sensing, Inductive sensors, Flow monitoring and specialized sensing, Magnetic switches, Capacitive level, Liquid Flow Sensor, Loop couplings.

Klaxon (Signaling and sirens): Our solutions cover a wide voltage and power (a few watts to a couple of kW) range as well as intensity level (dB) to cover the distance (from a few meters to 15km) one requires.

Isoil (Flow sensing and metering): Electromagnetic flow meters, Ultrasonic flow meters, Thermal energy meters, Flow data and analysis management software. Mass flowmeters, Slurry Meters, Open channel flow Meters and any other flow requirements battery powered and remote monitored.

Vaisala (Meteorological): Barometric pressure, Rain monitoring, Ground temperature, Irradiance, evaporation, cloud height, visibility sensors and measurement instruments. We also supply, install and service automatic weather stations (AWS).

Miele & Electrolux (Industrial Laundry): CTS design, supply, install and service industrial laundry machines and related equipment, a full turnkey solution.

Gauges: Gauges in various sizes and pressure ranges. Temperature or Pressure gauges with capillary and chemical seal all available from CTS.

Incineration: CTS can offer your various technologies for your waste reduction and treatment. Incineration, Shredding and Autoclaving for hazardous waste.

Sterilizer Technologies: Sterilisation, Autoclaving and Disinfection for your Lab and Hospital requirements.

Omal (Valves and Accessories): Butterfly valves, Globe Valves, Pinch Valves, Knife Gate Valves with their specific actuator solution.

Insulation: We supply Insulation from Thermal foam over Fiberglass to very high temperature resistant rock wool and various Refractory.

Gasketing and Packing: For water steam and oil applications. From a core rubber mixture to mesh reinforced gasketing for your special needs.

Burners and Boilers: From Hot water systems to sophisticated steam Thermal oil heaters for your high-energy requirements.

Vega (Level & Pressure Measurement): Sensors for measurement of level, point level and pressure, as well as devices and software for integrating the sensors into process control systems.

Elspec: Quality of supply metering, power factor correction and other Quality of supply rectification.

LSS
LOGISTICS SUPPORT SERVICES

MOVING NAMIBIA'S MINING SECTOR WITH PRECISION AND PURPOSE

WHAT WE DO

From offshore mobilisation to inland delivery, Logistics Support Services (LSS) delivers fully integrated project logistics and supply chain solutions that keep Namibia's mining operations in motion.

With over two decades of experience in the country's most critical industries, LSS provides a complete suite of services designed to meet the demands of large-scale mining and industrial projects. Our operations are anchored in Walvis Bay, where we offer tailored logistics support built on discipline, regional expertise, and operational control.

WHAT WE OFFER THE MINING INDUSTRY:

- International freight forwarding and customs brokerage
- Warehousing and bonded storage
- Project cargo handling and coordination
- Sourcing and procurement solutions
- Marine and vessel agency services
- Integrated supply chain management from origin to site

At every phase - from exploration to production - our teams understand the pace, compliance, and coordination required to meet operational milestones. Whether supporting remote supply chain routes or managing complex cargo, LSS is the partner trusted to deliver.

+264 64 276 600
info@lssnamibia.com

WALVIS BAY | WINDHOEK | LÜDERITZ

SWAKOP ARMATURE REWINDERS (PTY) LTD

Swakop Armature Rewinders: A New Partnership Driving Electrical Reliability in Namibia

Swakop Technical Group (STG) and DELBA Electrical are proud to announce the formation of a new joint venture company, SWAKOP ARMATURE REWINDERS (SAR), combining local expertise, technical capability, and a shared commitment to service excellence.

SAR has been established to support Namibia's growing mining, industrial, and power generation sectors by providing specialised repair, refurbishment, and maintenance solutions for low and high voltage electrical rotating machines. SWAKOP ARMATURE REWINDERS will focus on delivering reliable, high-quality services that maximise equipment availability, extend machine life, and reduce costly operational downtime.

Built on the strong foundations of both STG and DELBA Electrical, SAR brings together decades of industry experience and a shared philosophy of being quality conscious in everything we do. From initial inspections and diagnostics through to repair, rewinding, refurbishment, and final testing, every machine will be handled with precision, care, and a commitment to meeting the highest industry standards.

The partnership combines STG's established presence and knowledge of the Namibian market with DELBA Electrical's extensive technical expertise in the repair and maintenance of electrical rotating machines. Together, SAR aims to become a trusted partner for industries requiring dependable solutions for critical electrical assets.

SAR's long-term vision is to expand its capabilities and provide a comprehensive range of electrical rotating machine services to meet the evolving needs of Namibia's industrial landscape. Through innovation, technical excellence, and a customer-focused approach, SWAKOP ARMATURE REWINDERS is positioned to deliver the reliability and performance that industries depend on — strengthening operational efficiency and supporting sustainable growth across Namibia.

19 Einstein Street Company Reg No: 2025/0608
Swakopmund VAT No: 15430181-015
Tel: +264 81 383 5873
Tel: +264 81 648 3236
E-mail: info@sar.com.na

Engineering Sustainable Mining Solutions Across Africa

Mining is fundamental to Africa's economic growth, driving investment, creating employment, and supporting the development of critical infrastructure. As the industry evolves, mining companies are increasingly seeking integrated engineering and environmental solutions that enhance operational efficiency, manage risk, and deliver long-term value while meeting growing environmental, social and governance (ESG) expectations.

For more than 105 years, Knight Piésold has partnered with clients to provide multidisciplinary consulting services throughout the entire mining project lifecycle. From project identification and concept development to engineering studies, detailed design, construction support, operations and mine closure, our teams deliver practical, innovative and sustainable solutions tailored to each project's unique challenges.

Our expertise spans tailings and mine waste management, water management, geotechnical engineering, civil, structural, mechanical and electrical engineering, environmental and social services, transportation infrastructure, pipelines, renewable energy integration and construction quality assurance. By combining technical excellence with local knowledge and global experience, we help clients develop safe, efficient and responsible mining operations.

In Namibia and across Southern Africa, Knight Piésold is committed to supporting the responsible development of the region's mineral resources. Our multidisciplinary specialists work collaboratively with clients, regulators and communities to deliver solutions that balance economic growth with environmental stewardship and social responsibility.

Whether developing a new mining project, expanding existing operations or planning for sustainable closure, Knight Piésold provides the expertise and partnership needed to navigate complex challenges with confidence. As the mining industry continues to transform, we remain focused on delivering engineering excellence, fostering innovation and building lasting partnerships that contribute to a more sustainable future for Africa's mining sector. Knight Piésold – Going Further Together.