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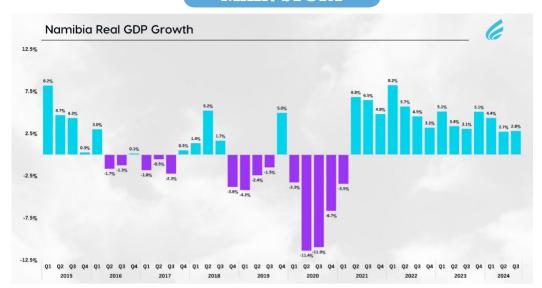


BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



# **MAIN STORY**



# Namibia's economy expands by N\$5.3bn

The Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) says during the third quarter of 2024, the size of the economy stood at N\$61.6 billion in nominal terms, reflecting an expansion of N\$5.3 billion from N\$56.3 billion recorded in the same period of 2023.

In real terms, the domestic economy grew by 2.8% during the third quarter of 2024 compared to 3.1% growth registered in the parallel quarter of 2023.

NSA Statistician-General Alex Shimuafeni said the growth was primarily driven by the tertiary industries, which saw a 4.9% increase in real value added during the third quarter of 2024. "This is an improvement when compared to a 1.9% growth recorded in the same period of 2023. Key performing sectors during the review period were health (16.0%), transport and storage (7.9%), and

financial service activities (7.1%)," he said.

Shimuafeni noted that the secondary industries experienced slower growth of 1.5% in real value-added, compared to a 4.4% increase in the third quarter of 2023.

"This was mainly due to the manufacturing and construction sectors, which grew by 2.6% and 1.6%, compared to declines of 9.4% and 7.3% noted in 2023, respectively," he said.

On the other hand, primary industries recorded a decline of 4.4% in real value-added, contrasting with a 13.8% growth recorded in the same quarter of 2023.

"This downturn was driven by the mining and quarrying and agriculture and forestry' sectors, which posted declines of 6.7% and 6.3%, respectively. The poor performance is owed to reduced livestock marketed, emanating from lower stock and drought

"

Gross fixed capital formation declined by 7.2%, in contrast to the huge growth of 92.8% observed in the same quarter of 2023

impact, along with a decrease in diamond production," he noted.

On the demand side, private final consumption expenditure in real terms grew by 0.5%, a slower pace when compared to the 1.0% increase recorded in the same period of 2023.

However, the government's final consumption expenditure rose by 5.7%, surpassing the 0.7% decline witnessed in

2023, mainly due to higher public sector compensation.

"Gross fixed capital formation declined by 7.2%, in contrast to the huge growth of 92.8% observed in the same quarter of 2023. Export of goods and services expanded by 19.3%, more than the 7.3% increase recorded in the import of goods and services, leading to a reduction in the external balance of goods and services deficit." he noted.



# The Frans Indongo Group Acquires Equity Stake in Bachmus Oil and Fuel Supplies, Elevating Namibian Ownership

The Frans Indongo Group is pleased to announce its acquisition of an equity stake in Bachmus Oil and Fuel Supplies. This strategic investment increases Namibian ownership in Bachmus, reinforcing the company's status as a proudly Namibian-led enterprise.

This development aligns with The Frans Indongo Group's mission to enhance local participation in key Industries and underscores its commitment to fostening inclusive economic growth within Namibia. With majority Namibian ownership, Bachmus Oil and Fuel Supplies is well-positioned to contribute meaningfully to the nation's emerging oil and fuel sector, ensuring that the benefits of industry growth are shared among local stakeholders.

Namibia's oil and gas sector has attained global attention due to recent oil discoveries. Bachmus, under majority Namibian ownership, is well positioned to support the sector's development while ensuring that Namibian businesses and communities are integral to this progress.

Jeremy George, Group CEO of The Frans Indongo Group, highlighted the strategic importance of the investment, stating: "This partnership signifies our dedication to ensuring that Namibians take a leading role in shaping the future of our country's economy. Together with Corne Schalkwyk and Moov Fuel, we will build on Bachmus's strong foundation to create a resilient and impactful enterprise that benefits all stakeholders.

Corne Schalkwyk, a Namibian shareholder in Bachmus Oil and Fuel Supplies, expressed his enthusiasm for the strengthened local partnership, stating: "Achievamiajority Namibian ownership is a significant milestone for Bachmus and our nation. This collaboration with The Frans Indongo Group and Moov Fuel reflects our shared commitment to harnessing Namibia's energy potential for the benefit of our people."

Moov Fuel, the South African-based shareholder, has welcomed this development. Fabian Magerman, Group CEO of Moov Fuel, commented:

"We are delighted to see Bachmus transition to majority Namibian ownership. This collaboration reflects a shared vision for growth and local empowerment, and we remain committed to supporting Bachmus in achieving its goals."

With majority Namibian ownership and the combined expertise of its shareholders, Bachmus Oil and Fuel Supplies is set to embark on a new era of growth and innovation, contributing meaningfully to Namibia's energy future.

#### **About The Frans Indongo Group**

The Frans Indongo Group is Namibia's leading previously disadvantaged investment company, with a diversified portfolio spanning automotive, logistics, manufacturing, distribution, hospitality, retail, property and energy sectors. The Group is committed to promoting local ownership, driving economic growth and supporting sustainable development.

As a fully Namibian-owned entity, the Frans Indongo Group prides itself in a diversified portfolio of business investments across Namibia. Founded by Dr Frans Aupa Indongo, a local Namibian entrepreneur, the Group's foundation is built on a commitment to sustainable growth and success. Since 2007, the Group has established itself as a successful investment firm, managed by a stable and capable independent Board and executive management team, all united with a goal to "Shape Today Own Tomorrow."

#### **About Bachmus Oil and Fuel Supplies**

Bachmus Oil and Fuel Supplies is a key player in Namibia's oil and fuel sector, specialising in energy distribution and supply solutions. Bachmus Oil and Fuel Supplies was established in 1994 by Whitey Erasmus and Erhardt Bachran. Since then, the company has maintained a personalised approach to service delivery through excellence and expertise, maintaining trust in the society. The company is dedicated to delivering reliable energy services and fostering local participation in Namibia's energy future.

#### **About Moov Fuel**

Moov Fuel has been part of the petrochemical sector since 1956, supplying and delivering high-quality fuel, lubricant and LPG products safely and responsibly to businesses across South Africa. Their extensive experience and commitment to excellence have been instrumental to the South African market.







# Universal Health Coverage Plan poised for Cabinet approval in 2025

amibia's Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Policy, which aims to strengthen equitable access to quality and affordable healthcare, is nearing completion and will be presented to the Cabinet early next year.

This announcement was made during a media briefing held by the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) to mark International Universal Health



Coverage Day.

The policy is expected to outline a broad vision for ensuring that all Namibians can access essential health services without financial hardship.

"The UHC Policy, currently in its final stages, will be presented to the Cabinet early next year and will set out a broad vision to strengthen equitable access to quality, affordable health services for all," said the Executive Director in the MoHSS, Ben Nangombe.

He further explained that over 92% of the population now lives within 10 kilometres of a health facility, enabling widespread access to essential services, particularly in rural areas.

Budget allocations to healthcare consistently exceed the Abuja Declaration target of 15%, with Namibia dedicating over 16% of its national budget to health.

This commitment has kept out-of-pocket healthcare expenditure at just 8%, far below the global threshold of concern.

Furthermore, Namibia's health system has also earned international recognition for achievements in maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS epidemic control, and the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

The government's investments in training healthcare professionals have ensured a health worker-to-population ratio above the World Health Organisation's benchmark, with medical practitioners deployed across the country to provide critical services.

"The government recognises the importance of strengthening health systems through investments in human resources, infrastructure, medicines, health information systems, and many other areas," he said.

Despite these successes, the Ministry acknowledged persistent challenges, including geographic and socioeconomic disparities in access to care, rising rates of non-communicable diseases, and the growing impacts of climate change.

To address these issues, the government has approved a N\$16 billion health systems strengthening proposal. This initiative includes key projects such as the construction of the Windhoek District Hospital and the introduction of dialysis services in public hospitals.

"The emergence of new diseases, rising rates of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, cancers, and mental health challenges, alongside the impacts of climate change and natural disasters, continue to exert pressure on Namibia's health system and broader wellbeing," he said.

Namibia currently has 1,150 outreach points, 27 primary clinics, 44 health centres, 30 district hospitals, and only five referral hospitals, as per the ministerial statistics.





# Non-banking sector assets record 9% growth in Q3 2024 to N\$486.6 billion

The country's Non-Bank Financial Institutions (NBFIs) sector achieved a 9% growth in assets during the third quarter of the year, reaching N\$486.6 billion, recent data from the Bank of Namibia shows.

According to the Governor of the central bank, Johannes !Gawaxab, this expansion was primarily attributed to favourable global financial market conditions, steady demand for NBFI products, easing inflation rates and increased government spending.

Notably, both the retirement funds and long-term insurance subsectors outperform

inflation with medium-term investment returns, maintaining sound capital reserves and solvency.

"In the third quarter of 2024, the sector experienced robust growth, with assets expanding by 9.0 per cent on a quarterly basis, reaching N\$486.6 billion. The expansion in assets is attributable to conditions in global financial markets and steady demand for NBFI products, bolstered by easing inflation rates and increased government spending," he said.

He further explained that the collective



investment schemes sub-sector continued to play a crucial role in the Namibian economy by providing a significant source of liquidity, further bolstering financial system stability.

On the other hand, the banking sector also remained resilient during the review period, with total assets growing by 3.7% to N\$181.0 billion in Q3 2024.

While non-performing loans (NPLs) increased slightly to 5.9%, driven by consumption-based credit, the sector maintained sufficient provisions and adequate capital to absorb potential credit losses.

"Notwithstanding this, the banks have sufficient provisions and adequate capital to absorb potential credit losses. In addition, the Bank has imposed the necessary supervisory interventions to contain credit risk and will continue to monitor the developments to ensure stability," he said.

This comes as Namibia's real GDP growth

is projected to moderate to 3.5% in 2024 before improving to 4.0% in 2025.

The slowdown is attributed to prolonged droughts, falling diamond prices, and subdued global demand for mineral exports.

Risks to the economy remain tilted to the downside, with uncertain rainfall patterns and water supply interruptions posing challenges.

!Gawaxab also said that the property market faced challenges such as subdued mortgage credit demand, elevated interest rates, and low housing sales.

However, he said regulatory measures and accommodative monetary policies are expected to stimulate the market moving forward.

Namibia's Interbank Settlement System (NISS) operated efficiently, with most payment obligations settled early to minimise risks.

Macroprudential policies continue to enhance the banking sector's resilience, according to the Governor, with measures such as the easing of loan-to-value ratios and preparations for a countercyclical capital buffer already underway.

"As such, the Committee has determined that no macroprudential policy intervention is required at this stage. The MOC will continue to closely monitor the economic and financial conditions, as well as the overall risk environment, and when warranted, take the necessary remedial macroprudential action with the tools at its disposal," he said.



#### **EXTERNAL ADVERT**

The Namibian Competition Commission (NaCC) seeks the services of suitably qualified, experienced & competent person to join its workforce in the following position:

## ANALYST: ECONOMICS (MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS) (C4) X1

## Job purpose:

Reporting to the Senior Analyst Economics: Mergers & Acquisitions, this is a specialist position, and the incumbent is expected inter alia to investigate the impact of mergers and acquisitions on competition and public interest considerations, compile investigative reports as part of a team and/or independently and make recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.

Interested candidates, kindly visit our website for more information on the vacancy: <a href="https://www.nacc.com.na">www.nacc.com.na</a>

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. No documents will be returned. Persons from designated groups are encouraged to apply.

# Closing date: 06 January 2025

Only hand-delivered applications will be considered. Enquiries in respect of the above position should be send to <a href="mailto:ndapewa.lukolo@nacc.com.na">ndapewa.lukolo@nacc.com.na</a> or contact (061) 224622.



# NamWater boosts revenue to N\$2.1 billion

amWater has reported a 0.7% increase in revenue for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2024, reaching N\$2.112 billion compared to N\$2.096 billion in 2023.

According to the NamWater Board Chairperson, Luther Rukira, the key contributors to this performance include N\$855 million generated from operations and investments.

External ventures such as rental income from NamWater houses, technical vocational education training programs, and water sampling services at the Windhoek Laboratory contributed N\$43 million, despite a decline from N\$114 million in 2023.

Investment income also increased by 4.8% to N\$130 million compared to N\$124 million

in the prior period.

"NamWater prioritises financial sustainability and diversified revenue diversification as crucial aspects of its streams, which are paramount to NamWater's operations. For the fiscal year ending on 31 March 2024, NamWater generated N\$2.1 billion, an increase from (2023-N\$2 billion) in 2023," he said.

He further explained that the financial performance highlights for the period show several significant changes.

The cost of sales increased by 24.5%, reaching N\$604 million compared to N\$485 million in 2023. Net income before taxation saw a sharp decline of 54.8%, dropping to N\$100 million from N\$221 million in the previous year.

Similarly, net income after taxation reduced by 50%, falling to N\$81 million from N\$162 million. Net cash generated from operations also decreased by 18.9%, amounting to N\$222 million, down from N\$274 million in 2023.

Additionally, operating expenditure rose by 11%, reaching N\$2 billion, up from N\$1.8 billion in 2023.

Treated and untreated water sales decreased by 3% to 85.2 million  $m^3$  (2023: 88.6 million  $m^3$ ), desalinated water sales rose by 15% to 14 million  $m^3$  (2023: 12.2 million  $m^3$ ), and irrigation water sales increased by 3.8% to 52.1 million  $m^3$  (2023: 50.2 million  $m^3$ ).

These variations reflect water availability and customer demand.

NamWater maintained its credit rating of BB- with a stable outlook.

The Corporation's solvency and liquidity remain robust, with the current ratio increasing to 546% (2023: 509%).

Operating expenses, however, grew significantly, leading to a profit before tax reduction of 55%, from N\$220.6 million in 2023.

Furthermore, NamWater continued its value creation efforts, prioritising employees and reserves to enhance service delivery.

Tariffs remained unchanged during the reporting period, with revenue growth driven by increased sales of desalinated and irrigation water.

The Corporation's top five customers, including the City of Windhoek and Swakop Uranium, accounted for 60% of total revenue.

"The Corporation's value

creation continued during the period, with N\$855 million created from operations and investments. The distribution of this wealth was skewed towards employees and reserves for operations. This is in line with our business being a service delivery entity, relying on its employees to provide a world-class service," the company's integrated report for FY23/24 read.

Cost containment, reduction, and debt collection strategies contributed to NamWater's positive financial performance.

Despite inflationary pressures, the Corporation supplied water at an average cost of  $N$14.56/m^3$  (2023:  $N$14.51/m^3$ ).

NamWater said it invested N\$252 million (2023: N\$214 million) in property, plant, and equipment, with N\$191 million (2023: N\$153 million) allocated to water infrastructure.

The net cash inflow from financing activities totaled N\$105 million, a significant improvement from the N\$87 million outflow in 2023.



# SINOMINE TSUMEB SMELTER

TENDER ST24\_014

## RIGGING LABOUR SERVICES

Sinomine Tsumeb Smelter (Pty) Ltd. invites registered, competent and experienced individuals or companies to tender for the provision of Rigging Labour Services for the Annual maintenance shut planned for March 2025.

**Details of the Tender** 

Tender availability

Cost per set

From Monday, 9 December 2024
Tender documents can be obtained by e-mailing: ststenders@sinomine.na

Closing date for submission

Friday, 10 January 2025

Submission requirements are defined in the tender documents and the closing date for submission is final, no extensions will be granted. Technical information, bid clarifications and any enquiries pertaining to this tender can be requested at: ststenders@sinomine.na

All tender proposals must be submitted via e-mail to: ststenders@sinomine.na

No other method of submission will be accepted

Sinomine Tsumeb Smelter employs an equal opportunity policy. Tenders will be awarded through a competitive bidding process which is transparent and open to all individuals or companies that meets the set criteria. Any person(s) or company that qualify as per the tender's evaluation criteria, may bid.

# The future of Namibia's financial market: The role of a Central Securities Depository

By Eunice Tjituka

'amibia's financial poised is significant transformation with introduction the  $\circ f$ the Central Securities Depository (CSD), a critical infrastructure approved by the Namibia Financial Institutions Supervisory Authority (NAMFISA) on

March 8, 2024. As a cornerstone of modern financial systems, the CSD promises to revolutionize the issuance, settlement, safekeeping, and corporate servicing of financial instruments by transitioning these processes into an electronic and dematerialized environment.

# Why the CSD Matters

The CSD represents a pivotal step in enhancing Namibia's financial market efficiency, transparency, and security. By replacing manual, paper-based processes with streamlined digital systems, it aims to minimize risks, bolster investor confidence, and strengthen overall market stability.

Key Benefits for Custodians Like Nedbank Namibia

Nedbank Namibia, through its Investor Services division, serves as a custodian bank for domestic and international 66

The CSD represents a pivotal step in enhancing Namibia's financial market efficiency, transparency, and security.

institutional investors. With the current manual environment prone to inefficiencies and risks, the CSD introduces significant improvements in three core areas:

# 1. Streamlined Settlement with Delivery Versus Payment (DVP):

Currently, securities settlements in Namibia rely on manual processes, exposing transactions to counterparty risk. The CSD ensures simultaneous exchange of securities and cash, achieving DVP and Receipt Versus Payment (RVP) status. This reduces settlement risks and fosters confidence in the financial system.

# 2. Secure Electronic Safekeeping:

Transitioning from physical safekeeping to an electronic environment eliminates



the risks of loss, misplacement, or misrepresentation of securities. The CSD will act as the definitive record for securities ownership, reducing settlement cycles and errors, while enabling real-time reconciliation and fraud prevention.

# 3. Efficient Corporate Actions:

Manual processes for activities like income collection, dividend distribution, and proxy voting will be streamlined, ensuring higher accuracy and reliability. This not only promotes investor confidence but also enhances data accuracy across the market.

Broader Market-Wide Benefits

Beyond its impact on custodian banks, the CSD introduces systemic advantages for the entire Namibian financial ecosystem:

- \* Efficient Issuer Services: The CSD will manage the issuance of securities, including assigning International Securities Identification Numbers (ISINs), ensuring seamless operations in both primary and secondary markets.
- \* Enhanced Market Transparency: By maintaining accurate records of securities ownership and transactions, the CSD supports fair and efficient market operations, enabling detailed scrutiny by investors and regulators.
- \* Reduced Systemic Risks: The digitized settlement process minimizes delays, inaccuracies, and errors in ownership and income allocation, mitigating risks associated with the current manual environment.
- \* Improved Market Liquidity: Swift and accurate transaction handling will shorten settlement cycles, boost market activity, and deepen capital market participation.

A Milestone for Namibia's

Financial Market

The introduction of the CSD marks a critical milestone in advancing Namibia's financial sector. As a key market participant, Nedbank Namibia recognizes the transformative potential of this development. By modernizing financial operations, the CSD will deepen market participation, enhance market stability, and provide the reliability necessary for sustainable growth. In an era where efficient financial infrastructure is a cornerstone of economic success, Namibia's adoption of a CSD is not just an upgrade—it is a leap forward.

\*Eunice Tjituka is Nedbank Namibia Investor Services, Global & Treasury Operations Senior Manager.



We are proud to announce that Tommy Mbundu and Martin Schurz, Portfolio Managers at the Old Mutual Investment Group, have obtained the prestigious CFA ® - Chartered Financial Analyst-designation. This is a reflection of their commitment to professional excellence and deep expertise pertaining to investment management.



We join to congratulate them both for this milestone and look forward to their continued contributions to Old Mutual Investment Group. Their success is an inspiration to the team and further entrenches our commitment to delivering excellent Investment solutions and remaining deeply rooted in Namibia.

Lionel Kannemeyer, Managing Director, Old Mutual Investment Group

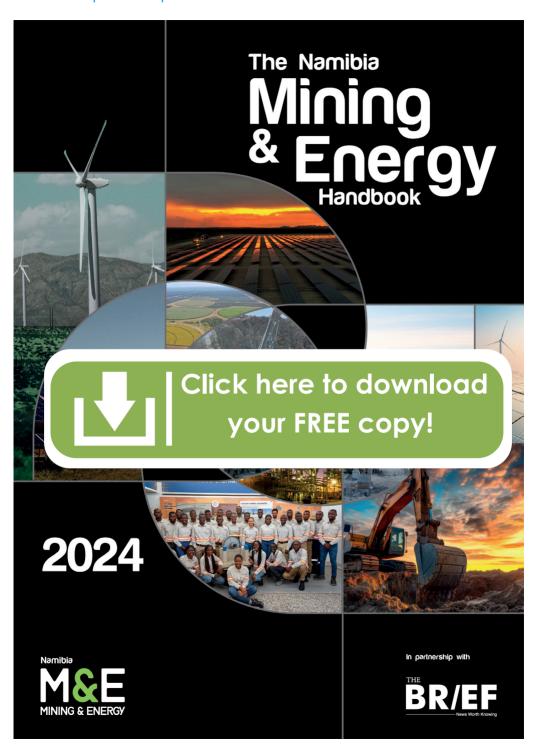




OLDMUTUAL

INVESTMENT GROUP

oldmutual.com.na/old-mutual-investment-group





# Windhoek approves 169 building plans worth N\$166.3 million in November

The City of Windhoek approved 169 building plans worth N\$166.3 million in November, marking an 18.2% month-on-month increase in value but a 22.1% decrease in the number of approvals, latest data shows.

According to IJG Securities, the approvals' value is slightly below this year's average of N\$175.3 million.

"Year-to-date, 1,809 plans were approved, valued at N\$1.93 billion, marking a 2.2% y/y increase in number terms and a 36.3% y/y increase in value terms," added IJG.

Similarly, over the past 12





months, 1,903 building plans valued at N\$2.01 billion were approved, marking a 1.2% y/y increase in approvals and a 37.1% v/v increase in value compared to the previous year.

Meanwhile, in November, 87 building plans worth N\$116.4 million completed, reflecting a 101.1% v/v increase in value compared to last year.

This also represents a 141.7% v/v increase in the number of completed buildings. It must, however, be noted that November 2023 was a relatively weak month.

In November, 133 additions valued at N\$52.8 million were approved, a 36.9% m/m decrease in monetary terms.

"Year-to-date, 1,428 additions worth N\$779.9 million were approved, marking a 5.3% v/v increase in number terms and a 17.7% y/y increase in value when compared to the same period last year," said IJG.

Over the past 12 months, 1,513 property additions valued at N\$819.3 million were approved, showing a 4.5% y/y increase in the number of additions and a 19.8% v/v rise in their value compared to the prior

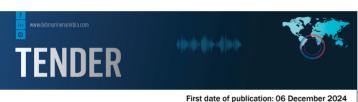
period.

In November. residential building plans valued at N\$58.5 million were approved, representing a 2.7% m/m increase in value, though showing a 5.7% m/m decrease in the number of approvals from October.

"When compared to the same period last vear, there was a 65.0% y/y rise in approvals 184.8% increase in the value of approved residential units. Additionally, 28 residential buildings, with a total value of N\$90.5 million, were completed in November," noted IJG.

Moreover. three commercial and industrial building plans were approved in valued November. N\$55.0 million.

One commercial and industrial building valued at N\$9.5 was completed during November.



TENDER NO: DBMNE0506 PROVISION OF ACCESS CONTROL AND RELATED SECURITY FUNCTIONS AT THE NAMDEB CENTRE

## DESCRIPTION:

Debmarine Namibia is seeking an experienced Service Provider for Security Services.

#### SCOPE OF WORKS

- The scope of the tender without limitation includes the provision of Security Services.
- Demonstrate five (5) years' experience of relevant security services considering the scope. A key criteria will be companies of suitable size and dealing with complexities in line with the requirements needed for bigger corporate clients
- List three (3) cornorate clients relevant to this scope of work describe the service provided and skills or competency required and number of resourced assigned to the service provided.
- Training manuals
- Number of staff allocated to the scope of work, describing their skill, background and relevant experience and qualification for this scope of work.
- Show services rendered in other regions in Namibia

# CLOSING DATE: 17 JANUARY 2025 at 12:00

#### REQUEST FOR ELECTRONIC TENDER DOCUMENT:

Registered businesses interested in providing such services are requested to register at Asite Marketolace: https://za.marketplace.asite.com/ to obtain a tender document with reference number DBMNE0506 ACCESS CONTROL AND RELATED SECURITY FUNCTIONS AT THE NAMDEB CENTRE

#### **ENQUIRIES:**

The Procurement Officer Tel: +264 61 297 8481

Email Address: e-tender@debmarine.com

Subject line: DBMNE0506 ACCESS CONTROL AND RELATED SECURITY FUNCTIONS AT THE NAMDEB CENTRE

Bidders must register on our electronic platform Asite Marketplace; https://za.marketplace.asite.com/ to participate in this tender.

Debmarine Namibia shall not be responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a response to this tender and furthermore reserves the right not to extend this tender into any future tenders, negotiations and or engagements

Debmarine Namibia shall not accept submissions rendered after the closing date and time.





# Save the industry: Use content responsibly!

**By Roger Gertze** 

he future of video entertainment depends on whether users consume content responsibly. As the biggest video consumers out there, Gen Z have a major part to play. Here's what young people can do to protect the world of content creation.

Gen Z are the digital natives of our time, existing in a sea of digital content, but navigating it with ease and finding exactly what they need for information, entertainment, and social connections. The generation born between 1997 and 2012 will shape the digital future of our society. But that digital leadership comes with a great responsibility.

Being able to access any content you want with a couple of keystrokes is empowering and convenient. But what we do online can have a real effect on people's lives.

Streaming content such as films, music and TV shows is created by teams of professionals who invest their time and money in producing quality, relevant material that captures the imagination of audiences.

They deserve to be fairly compensated for that content.

The way to ensure that we behave ethically – as well as legally – is that when we access streaming content – whether its Op Pad Met My Potjie, Big Brother, Champions League Football, or Real Housewives – we should only view shows on legitimate, officially licensed channels. On these platforms, we can be

66

content such as films, music and TV shows is created by teams of professionals who invest their time and money in producing quality, relevant material that captures the imagination of audiences.

**Streaming** 

sure that producers and rightsholders have been fairly compensated for their work.

Today, we are all content creators, generating our own posts, pics, comments, stories, pods and video clips. One of the basic values of content creation is to never, ever, steal content.

Respect to those who earn a living as content creators and producers of film and television shows. For them, content is their only source of income.

Browsing and consuming content on legitimate platforms means we can be sure that everybody involved in the production will get the compensation and the royalties they deserve.

That means the writers, the actors, the hair and make-up artists, the producers and the sound crew will all be paid their salaries, and will receive the royalties they are entitled to.

When we consume content responsibly, we are living according to the values of fairness and integrity that we would like to see from those around us. We also ensure that the industry remains sustainable.

When all film and TV workers are fairly paid for a particular production, then it remains viable to keep producing shows. That means more shows will be filmed in the future.

Fair content use supports fair content creation.

On the other hand, when we stream content from pirate websites, we are basically stealing from the creators. We are robbing them of the income they deserve.

That content theft means it is no longer worthwhile to create those shows, and they will simply stop happening.

Pirate websites create nothing of their own. The only content that they can share is what they have stolen from other websites. When that goes on long enough, there will be no income for the creators, and no new content. Pretty soon, there

will be nothing left to steal!

Content piracy is huge. It has been estimated that there are around 230 billion views of pirated video material every year, and that digital video piracy costs its true owners billions each year.

As the largest generation of digital consumers, young people have the power to do something about this.

Consume content responsibly – support creators, encourage innovative, high-quality new content, and support a sustainable future for creative content.

By using content responsibly, we ensure that there will be content for the future!

\*Roger Gertze is MultiChoice Namibia Managing Director



# Fresh approach: Using technology creatively

By The Tech Guy

braham Maslow, the famous psychologist, once said, "If the only tool you have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail." Now, while Maslow was talking about psychology, this really applies to solving all sorts of real-world problems too.

When it comes to challenges like Non-

Revenue Water (NRW), we can't just keep using the same old tools. We need to think creatively and mix things up with some fresh, tech-driven solutions.

Imagine advanced metering infrastructure, sensors, valve control, and automation—all working together to monitor and control water flow more efficiently. So today, let's use these wise words to take stab at building the ultimate "smart" system together.

First up: the pump houses. These are crucial pieces of infrastructure, owned by the municipality, and they represent the biggest single investment in the system.

Thankfully, they're secure and typically have a reliable power source, so we have a bit of freedom to get fancy with the tech. For these assets, we're recommending SCADA systems—that's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition for anyone wondering. In simple terms, SCADA gives us real-time monitoring and control, ensuring everything runs smoothly and efficiently.

These systems integrate computers, sensors, and hydraulic valves to manage



water flow, pressure, volume, and more.

After the pump houses, the next step is to upgrade the distribution network. This is essentially massive system of pipes pressure tanks, and spread across regions. neighbourhoods. streetsblocks. and depending on how the municipality organises it. To keep things clear and manageable, we'll use a more technical term:

District Metered Areas (DMAs). DMAs are crucial for organising our approach to water distribution and for strategically placing sensors.

By dividing the system into smaller, independent sections, we can monitor and manage water flow with much more precision.

Let's take a typical residential neighbourhood as an example. The municipality supplies water to the entire neighbourhood through a single large pipe. At the entry point to this neighbourhood, we install a bulk water meter to measure the total amount of water entering the area.

This is one DMA. Now, by adding a smart bulk meter, we can track the water consumption for the whole neighbourhood in real-time. But let's take it even further. If we install smart meters in the individual homes within that neighbourhood, our DMA now gives us visibility not just into the bulk usage, but also into the consumption at the household level.

Of course, the total consumption measured by all the individual smart



meters should add up to the total consumption recorded by the bulk meter. This balance allows us to ensure everything is working correctly and gives us a detailed understanding of water use at both the macro and micro levels. This is the essence of Automated Water Balancing.

With this setup, municipalities can detect and localise system leakages with a high degree of accuracy and speed. The best part? From a technology standpoint, the solution is simple and cost-effective. One of the big advantages of technology is how machines communicate with each other-far more efficiently than humans. That's why machine-tomachine (M2M) communication is our solution of choice for this part of the system.

For M2M communication, we recommend Low Power Wide Area Networks (LPWAN). networks are great for long-range communication, can handle millions of messages from hundreds of thousands of water meters, and do so at a fraction of the cost. Technologies like Sigfox, LoRa, and NB-IoT are perfect for smart metering, offering reliable, lowcost connectivity with impressively low power needs. And here's the best part: because of these low power requirements, smart meters can transmit data over these networks for up to 10 years without needing a battery change!

Once the hardware is in place, the next piece of the puzzle is the software. A smart, AI-powered platform is essential to make sense of all the data. This platform should be able to analyse the data, make predictions, and provide valuable insights to help municipalities optimise water management. By combining different tech solutions—like smart meters, water balancing, and AI-powered insights-we can transform the way water systems are managed. This approach not only helps reduce NRW but also builds a more efficient, responsive, and sustainable water system for the future. In the end, it's not just about having the latest gadgets, but about using the right mix of tools to tackle complex problems.

So let's embrace the tech buffet, put these tools to work, and build a smarter water management system that can keep up with the demands of today-and tomorrow.



# Pupkewitz MegaBuild Lifestyle store to open at The Grove

The Pupkewitz Group has announced the upcoming opening of its new MegaBuild Lifestyle store at The Grove Mall, a development that has created 240 jobs and engaged 34 local subcontractors.

Spanning 7,000 square meters, the store is set to provide an extensive range of home and lifestyle products, including décor, specialist building supplies, and trendfocused items.

Group Strategy Director Andrea Barry described the store as a key investment in Namibia's future, aimed at enhancing shopping convenience and fostering creativity.

"We are delighted to have created employment for 240 workers and partnered with 34 local subcontractors during this project. The store will offer customers a broader product range and a sophisticated shopping experience that encourages them to explore their own style and creativity," Barry said. The company noted that the store's design incorporates elements inspired by Namibia's natural beauty, with features such as a garden center at the entrance, a family-friendly coffee shop, and a children's play area—additions intended to create a welcoming and engaging atmosphere for shoppers.

MegaBuild Lifestyle, according to the Pupkewitz Group, will offer a Click & Collect service for online orders, spacious parking, and easy-to-navigate layouts to ensure a seamless shopping experience.

Collaborative spaces within the store, according to the company, will allow customers to work with design consultants to experiment with colors and textures, supported by a team of knowledgeable staff.

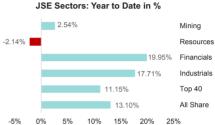
The company also highlighted that includes store's product range environmentally friendly and locally produced items, emphasizing its commitment to sustainability and supporting Namibian industries.

The new store, which is set to open soon, is expected to become a major retail destination, combining innovation, thoughtful design, and community engagement.



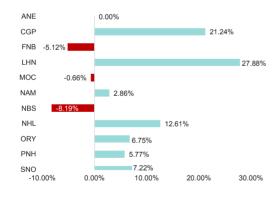
#### Commodities 2686.92 Spot Gold Platinum 935.58 Palladium 971.84 Silver 31.28 Uranium 76.95 **Brent Crude** 73.13 97 79 Iron Ore 9081.07 Copper Natural Gas 3.40 Lithium 9.85

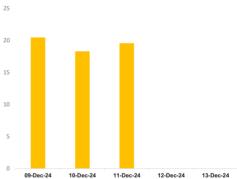




### NSX Local Stocks: Year to Date in %







## Global Indices: Year to Date in %

