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Newly formed Joest Kwatani exceeds Mining Charter requirements

by **Mpinane Senkhane** on May 29, 2015 in **Press Releases**

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1 5

Local vibrating equipment manufacturer Joest has entered into an agreement with black-owned consortium Vhatsila Holdings to form Joest Kwatani. This agreement sees Vhatsila Holdings acquiring a 30% stakeholding in the company, making Joest Kwatani the first in its class to exceed the requirements of the Mining Charter.

BBBEE certification

As a result of this move and the concerted effort to continue with its programme of preferential procurement and skills development, Joest Kwatani has also achieved a level 3 BBBEE certification. Two shareholders from Vhatsila Holdings have been appointed to Joest Kwatani's board as non-executive directors.

Under Gunter Vogel's guidance, Joest Kwatani has grown over the past 26 years into a major supplier of high quality vibrating equipment suitable for the harsh African mining environment. According to Kim Schoepflin, managing director of the company, Joest Kwatani has a heritage that is proudly African and it is therefore fitting that the company has changed its name to one which embodies this credo.

For tonnage

"Interestingly *Kwa Tani* is Swahili for 'For Tonnage'. This is appropriate, given the fact that Joest Kwatani has a 39 year track record of designing and supplying high quality customised vibrating equipment, characterised by robust construction and emphasis on continuous tonnage," says

Schoepflin. Part of the company's heritage is its ongoing commitment to overall transformation and it will leverage this operating strategy to continue to empower and uplift South Africans.

"We have a philosophy of identifying talent from within the organisation and have a programme whereby individuals' skills are developed in their area of potential, allowing them to better their position in the company. This includes the ongoing training of artisans, both at learnership level and above," says Schoepflin.

Social upliftment efforts

Showing care for the communities in which it operates is one of Joest Kwatani's core values and education remains the key focus of the company's Social Upliftment Programme. Joest Kwatani facilitates business and administrative skills development for a number of disabled, previously disadvantaged individuals who would otherwise not have access to this type of education.

"Since Africa has some of the harshest mining conditions in the world, we engineer our products to global best practice standards and as a result we can boast an established footprint on the African continent of screens and other vibrating equipment. In all instances, our products set the benchmark for reliability, efficiency and performance," Schoepflin points out.

"Similarly, the Vhatsila Holdings directors and shareholders have strong mining and engineering backgrounds, indicating that there is a clear understanding of the industry in which we operate as well as the challenges faced in the sector. They will naturally leverage their expertise and experience to assist us on our continued growth path," Schoepflin adds.
