

**Mission Statement:** Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI), is a force that represents, promotes and serves the common interests of its members, while playing a significant role in Namibia's economic transformation and growth together with the Government and national and international partnerships.

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### 2014 SAM NUJOMA INNOVATIVE ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AWARDS – WINNERS ANNOUNCED

START/

The Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI) hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Sam Nujoma Innovative Enterprise Development Awards (SNIEDA), which culminated in a glittering prize giving ceremony, last night, Tues 04 March 2014 at the Safari Court Hotel in Windhoek. The SNIEDA were initially launched under the custodianship of Junior Consultative Council (JCC) in August 2010 and upon JCC's closure in 2012 the event was handed over to the NCCI to coordinate and implement.

The SNIEDA exist to recognize and reward business excellence through best practice and business innovation. The SNIEDA strive to inspire change through an increased innovative business approach, by honouring and acknowledging Namibia's industry leaders who have made measurable impact through innovative business processes, product development, enterprise sustainability and overall business success.

Patron of SNIEDA, H. E. Dr Sam Nujoma underscored during the keynote address, the significant and critical role that innovative Namibian entrepreneurs are expected to fulfil in realizing Namibia's economic, social and developmental growth objectives, stating *"Entrepreneurship is the cornerstone and lifeblood of a modern economy... The economic prosperity that our country has enjoyed over the last two decades will however remain meaningless if, on account of the challenges such as poverty, a significant percentage of our population is unable to participate in its development"*.

All entries were judged by a panel of independent business experts, based on specific judging criteria which were underpinned by programmes and values of success, innovation and ethics. The judging panel comprised of:

- Juha Miettinen; Technical Advisor of Southern African Innovation Support Programme
- Danny Meyer; Director of SME Compete
- Robert Eiman; SME Banking Head at First National Bank of Namibia
- Audited by PriceWaterhouseCoopers, represented by Mrs Chantell Husselmann.

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#### DIRECTORS:

M. Namundjebo-Tilahun (President); S. Thieme (1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President); T. Mberirua (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President); O.T. Amadhila; R. Amadhila; I. Kalenga; S. Kankondi; E. Petersen; L.T. Hiveluah; B. Uirab; J.A. Endjala; I.K. Zaamwani-Kamwi; L.S. Hangala; N. Morar.

**Chief Executive Officer:** T.N. Shaanika; **Company Secretary:** C.M. Mwiya

#### NATIONAL CORPORATE MEMBERS:

Air Namibia; Bidvest Namibia; Castle Brewing Namibia; Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb; FNB Namibia; Mobile Telecommunications; Namdeb Diamond Corporation; Namibia Breweries; Namibian Marine Phosphate (Pty) Ltd; Namport; NamPower; Namwater; Nedbank Namibia; Ohlthaver & List; Old Mutual Namibia; Puma Energy; Pupkewitz Group; Roads Contractor Company; Sanlam Namibia; Standard Bank Namibia; Telecom Namibia; Total Namibia; TransNamib Holdings; Trustco Group Holdings; Venus Group; Vivo Energy Namibia.

**All official correspondence must be addressed to the CEO**

The 2014 awards attracted an impressively high number in response from across the country and in all categories, with the exception of the financial service awards. Entries were open to all business service providers, ranging from SMEs to multi-national, government departments, agencies and non-governmental organisations.

The following winners were announced during the Prize Giving ceremony:

**1. Business Leader of the Year**

Ohlthaver & List Group of Companies

Award received by Mr Gideon Shilongo, Chief Corporate Relations

Certificate of Merit awarded to: Laurelton – Reign Diamonds (PTY) Ltd

**2. Business Innovation Award**

The Document Warehouse

Award received by Mr Ray Vries, Sales and Marketing Manager

Certificate of Merit awarded to: Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb (PTY) Ltd

**3. Environmental Awareness Award**

B2Gold Namibia

Award received by Mr William Lytle, Managing Director

Certificate of Merit awarded to: Melrile Guesthouse

**4. No entries were received for the 'Financial Services Award'**

**5. Capacity Building Award**

Pupkewitz Megatech

Award received by Mr Paul Koster, Managing Director

Certificate of Merit awarded to: Luderitz Nest Hotel

**6. Enterprise of the Year**

B2Gold Namibia

Award received by Mr William Lytle, Managing Director

**7. New Business / Start-up Innovation**

National Agenda Production t/a Vision 2030 Focus Magazine

Award received by Mr Toferei Dube, Managing Editor

**8. Woman Innovator of the Year**

Namibia Media Monitoring (PTY) Ltd

Award received by Ms Natasha Beyleveld, Managing Director and Owner

Certificate of Merit awarded to: Ellie's Flower Garden

**9. SME of the Year**

Guan's Packaging (PTY) Ltd

Award received by Mr Herman Krauze, General Manager

*"The absence of entries from financial service providers is a concern, but we certain that commercial banks, insurers – short and long term, asset financing houses and other financial service providers,*

*will be more responsive in the future*” commented Mr Tarah Shaanika, Chief Executive Officer of the Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Special guest for the evening, Dr. Oupa Indongo, Executive Chairman of the Indongo Group, encouraged entrepreneurs to *“be on the lookout for opportunities and utilise those by working for success, to persist and remain adaptable to change and never expect wealth without hard work”*.

The date and venue for the official handing over of prize monies to the winners will be communicated by the NCCI in due course.

Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI) is the leading business representative and support organisation in Namibia. Membership comprises of companies across all economic sectors, including prominent large companies as well as thousands of SMEs.

Issued by:

The Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI)

Tel: +264 61 228809 / [www.ncci.org.na](http://www.ncci.org.na)

For more information contact:

Mr Tarah Shaanika

Chief Executive Officer

Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Tel: +264 61 228809

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