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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **CIF launches Directory of Key Players in Construction Industry**

The Construction Industries Federation of Namibia (CIF) officially launched its fourth annual member directory, CIF Annual Directory on 7 April 2016. The annual publication was produced by the CIF to provide buyers in the construction industry information about respective members and the services they provide.

A total of 5,000 copies were printed and will be distributed throughout the year. The first 1,000 copies were sent by post today to key decision makers at all levels of government – central, regional and local. This includes ministers and their deputies, permanent secretaries, regional councilors, mayors, chief executive officers of state-owned enterprises as well as local authorities. Consultants in the industry are also recipients of the directory, which includes engineers, architects and quantity surveyors. Since the first issue in 2013, the publication has become a reference document and source of extensive information.

Bärbel Kirchner, consulting general manager of the CIF says: “It is no secret that the construction and building industry is very buoyant and that there is huge demand for services and products in our industry. We would like every buyer to be aware of the businesses that are involved in our industry. Although membership of the CIF is not a legal requirement, with a total of 470 members we do represent key players in the industry. These range from an annual turnover of over N\$200 million to SMEs with an annual turnover of less than N\$1 million.”

A critical feature of the directory is the categorisation of companies, based on their annual turnover. This provides a guideline in terms of their capacity of handling respective projects. Depending on the size of the tender, Namibian companies can also join forces.

“In most southern African countries there is construction council which regulates the construction sector. This is not the case for Namibia. A relevant bill was reviewed in parliament 2012 but was sent back to the legal drafters.

Bärbel Kirchner says: “It is critical that we see a relevant bill being retabled in parliament. This will allow for greater regulation of the industry, including the grading of contractors. However, in the absence of a national construction council, the directory is providing a useful who’s who of the industry, and information about the spectrum companies in Namibia’s construction industry.

“The CIF invites principal agents and buyers of construction services to consider the services of CIF members when sourcing for service providers. The same information is also available to the public for their personal building requirements. They might find the short article on “How to Select a Building Contractor” as helpful”.

Ms Kirchner further said: “We are excited about our new edition. This year it is a mammoth publication. By the time of going to print, a total of 313 paid up CIF members were listed in our directory.

“The 2015 edition is the result of a formidable team effort. It required persistent focus to ensure that the content is accurate and the tenacity to solicit advertising support of 63 companies. We are very grateful to our advertisers. Without their support financing this new edition would not have been possible. For the first time this year, we managed to produce this publication at break-even”.

Very exciting is also the CIF online public directory of companies operating in the construction industry. This searchable directory on [www.cifnamibia.com](http://www.cifnamibia.com) will help buyers of construction and building services to find contractors – including SMEs as well as trading companies and affiliated members, such as electricians, on the website.

The online version of the directory will be a practical tool for anyone that has internet access. The directory is a searchable, sortable listing featuring the name of the company, first and surname, city and type of business. The online version also provides a buyers’ directory, where the required services can be searched.

**End**

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