



Namibian Standards Institution  
Tel: +264 61 386400  
Fax: +264 61 386454  
P.O. Box 26364  
Windhoek  
Namibia  
Forum (Old Sanlam) Building  
First Floor, Suite 115  
11 - 17 Dr Frans Indongo Street  
Windhoek  
Namibia

NSI Metrology Laboratory  
Tel: +264 61 386470  
Fax: +264 61 386477  
P.O. Box 26364  
Windhoek  
Namibia  
31 Edison Street  
Southern Industrial Area  
Windhoek  
Namibia

NSI Testing Centre  
Tel: +264 64 216600  
Fax: +264 64 200151  
Cnr. Nangolo Mbumba  
Drive & 11th Road  
NSI Inspection Centre  
Tel: +264 64 216650  
Fax: +264 64 203868  
220 1st Street East  
P.O. Box 123  
Walvis Bay  
Namibia

NSI Fishery Inspection  
Tel: +264 63 203698  
Fax: +264 63 203697  
P.O. Box 947  
Lüderitz  
Namibia  
Website: [www.nsi.com.na](http://www.nsi.com.na)

## BUSINESS PRESENTATION 1/2

### MEDIA RELEASE

23 August 2012

### NSI AND NCCI HOST BUSINESS LUNCH

The Namibian Standards Institution (NSI) in cooperation with the Namibia Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Northern Branch (NCCI) on 23 August hosted a business lunch for the business fraternity, NCCI members and representatives of local and regional authorities at Ongwediva. The aim of the meeting was to acquaint the business community with the activities of the NSI and inform them on how they could benefit from the NSI's services.

The NSI, as the national standards body for Namibia coordinates all standardisation and quality assurance activities in the country, including the certification of products, management systems and personnel. Manufacturers, business owners and SME's were encouraged to ensure that their products comply to internationally accepted standards through obtaining the relevant NSI Certification. "Once you can display the NSI Mark of Conformity on your product, consumers will have trust in the quality of your goods. An NSI Mark of Conformity means that the product has been tested and conforms to standards, which ensures that it is safe for consumption by the consumer, and is fit for purpose" said Riundja A. Kaakunga (Othy), CEO of the NSI. "A Mark of Conformity further makes it easier for a company to export its products beyond the Namibian borders, as the standards body of any other country will recognise the NSI's stamp of approval, accepting that the product is of a good quality," he continued.

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The General Manager: Certification at NSI, Lorna Shikongo-Kuvare, explained that the NSI can certify locally produced food products against specific food standards, while companies can be certified against the standards for Quality Management Systems (ISO 9001), Environmental Management Systems (ISO 14001) and Food Safety Management systems (ISO 22000). With regard to personnel, the NSI is able to certify Quality Management System Auditors.

Attendees were furthermore informed about the process of developing and adopting standards for Namibia, the tests offered by NSI's food inspection and testing laboratories at the coast, and the functions of the NSI Metrology Laboratory in Windhoek.

The lunch meeting took place ahead of the Ongwediva Annual Trade Fair, in which the NSI will also participate.

**End.**

**ISSUED BY:** Annemarie Saunderson  
Corporate Communications Officer  
Namibian Standards Institution

**CONTACT PERSON:** RA Kaakunga (Othy)  
Chief Executive Officer  
Namibian Standards Institution  
Old Sanlam Building  
First Floor, Suite 115  
11-17 Dr. Frans Indongo Street  
Windhoek  
Namibia  
Tel: 061-386 400  
Fax: 061-386 454