

Construction KENYA SHOWCASE



APRIL - JUNE 2022

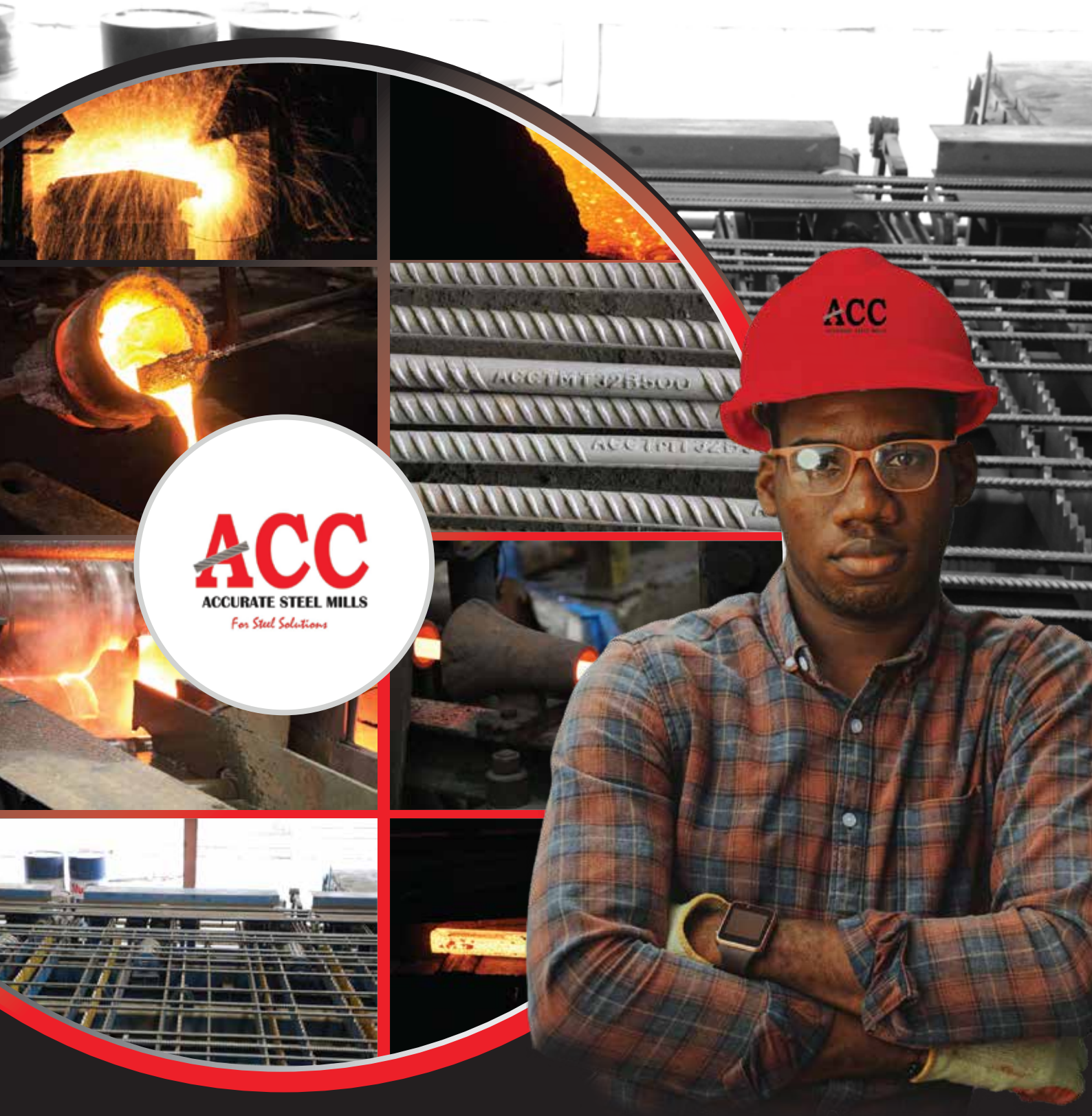


CONTEMPORARY URBAN DESIGN EasternVille, Nairobi

ALSO INSIDE:

- SUCCEEDING AS A LOCAL CONTRACTOR - SHYAM GENERAL MERCHANTS LTD
- CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS
- GROUNDWATER
- MANISH MEHRA, NEW MRM CEO

Every product has a different story.



Orders delivered to you, at your convenience, wherever you are located!
We offer great pricing on special length work, as well as providing cut and bend services

+254 733 610 313
+254 710 610 313
accurate2000@gmail.com

www.accurate.co.ke
@AccurateSteelMillsLimited
@AccurateSteelKE
Accurate Steel Mills Ltd

Ricky Road,
Off Enterprise Road,
Industrial Area,
Nairobi, Kenya



WE ARE HERE

LATICRETE®, Globally Proven Construction Solutions, Products Are Now Distributed To You Directly From Our Local Production Facility, **Kenya**.



Scan QR to
Chat on WhatsApp



SPECTRALOCK EAST AFRICA LIMITED, A SUBSIDIARY OF LATICRETE MIDDLE EAST LLC
Contact No. Office : +254 7 597 21 020 | +254 20 800 44 66.0 | Mob: +254113722405
E-mail : enquiry@laticreteafrika.com | www.af.laticrete.com

© 2022 LATICRETE International, Inc. All trademarks shown are the intellectual properties of their respective owners.

Contents

APRIL-JUNE 2022

APRIL-JUNE 2022



8 | INDUSTRY

Like any other players in the economy, building contractors in Kenya face a host of challenges ranging from financing to regulation. However, some prudent companies have managed to navigate this terrain and emerged successful. We highlight the case of [Shyam General Contractors Limited](#).



18 | COVER

The [EasternVille](#), located off the Eastern Bypass in Nairobi, is a contemporary gated community designed for the discerning homeowner. Not only are the designs superior but the facilities have been carefully chosen to make living in this community a comfortable and enjoyable experience.



24 | CORPORATE REVIEW

Notwithstanding the size of the project at hand, [MBA Construction Limited](#), a local contractor with international experience, always gives the project maximum attention with the goal of leaving every customer satisfied with the level of service.

OPINION | 29

Kenya has vast potential in [underground water](#). But how to sustainably manage and protect these largely untapped natural resources that would be a game-changer for our economy? Engineer Philip Holi weighs in.



PEOPLE | 30

Mabati Rolling Mills, the country's largest manufacturer of roofing materials, recently appointed [Manish Mehra](#) as its Chief Executive. An executive with vast international experience in Africa, Middle East and Asia, Manish is an empathetic leader who believes in the power of people and enables them to perform to their potential by leveraging on their strengths.

FEATURES | 32

[Construction chemicals](#) are an essential part of modern building and infrastructure projects. These chemicals are applied in the construction of dams, roads, bridges and tunnels as well as in industrial, residential and commercial building projects.



EDITOR
John Njiraini

PROJECTS EDITOR
Francis Makari

SENIOR WRITER
Uddi Benkiff A.

CONTRIBUTORS
Anthony Kamau
Miano Kihu

MARKETING AGENCY
Northwest Ventures Ltd

AGENTS
William Mutama; Peter Mbugua, Lilian. K.

**Construction
KENYA SHOWCASE**

© Construction Kenya Showcase
All rights reserved.

Tel: +254 101 865828/+254 772 864886
Email: editor @constructionkenyashowcase.com

DAIKIN INDUSTRIES TO SET UP SHOP IN KENYA

DAIKIN Industries, the world’s largest maker of air conditioning equipment, has launched its operations in Kenya as part of its global strategy to increase footprint across the emerging markets, globally.

Kenya has been globally highlighted as the new hot spot for business growth and Daikin is poised to partner in this economic and infrastructural development.



While announcing its plan to set up the facility, Daikin India Chairman and Managing Director, Mr Kanwal Jeet Jawa, said that the East African market has great potential for air conditioning penetration, which will be supported by the Daikin production facilities in India.

Jawa said Daikin is introducing cost-competitive and reliable products to the East African market specifically customized for usual weather patterns and fulfilling Kenya’s energy labelling standards.

“We are strong believers in cost competitiveness, which is offering quality products at the right price through local partnerships, powered by advanced technology and with value-addition,” he said.

NCA ICoRCE CONFERENCE SET FOR JUNE



NCA Executive Director Eng. Maurice Akech

THE 2022 International Construction Research Conference and Exhibition (ICoRCE) will be held in Naivasha this June. The event which is considered the National Construction Authority’s

flagship programme is designed to play an important role in the growth and development of research in the construction industry. The main aim of ICoRCE conference is to build and continue a research culture for construction practitioners in Kenya.

The ICoRCE legacy includes the cultivation of ongoing partnerships in the country bringing together all the disciplines (contractors, engineers, architects, quantity surveyors, building surveyors, environmentalists, financiers, developers etc.)

OHAGA TAKES OVER AS IEK PRESIDENT



THE INSTITUTION of Engineers of Kenya (IEK) recently elected Engineer Erick Ohaga as its 49th president.

Speaking after his inauguration, Eng. Ohaga vowed to ensure challenges facing the accreditation of engineering programs are tackled.

“This will ensure that Engineers Board of Kenya is able to assure the rest of the world that programs being carried out under their watch are up to international standards and fast track Kenya’s journey towards joining the International Engineering Alliance,” Ohaga stated.

Ohaga is also the director of Nuclear Energy and Infrastructure Development at Nuclear Power and Energy Agency (NuPEA) and has previously worked at the Kenya Power and Lighting Company as County Business Manager.

He currently serves in the World Federation of Engineering Organization (WFEO) Committee on Engineering Innovative Technologies and is a national interviewing panel member of Electrical and Electronics Engineering.



AT THE AAK DURACOAT AWARDS OF ARCHITECTURAL EXCELLENCE 2022

1. The Brickehaus team could not hide their joy. 2. Kamlesh Shah, MD Basco Paints, main sponsor. 3. Architect Shamla Fernandes. 4. Architects Prof. Alfred Omenya, Jaspal Singh and AAK President Arch Wilson Mugambi. 5. Ms. Emily Kariuki, Hansgrohe’s Sales Agent in Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and Eritrea. 6. Morphosis team accept their award. 7. Former AAK President Emma Miloyo with student award recipient Kariuki Kihenjo.

8. Bamburi Cement management team at the launch of their new tile adhesive. 9. (L-R): Mr Joseph Francois Dacosta, Director Spectralock East Africa Ltd, Mr Faisal Saleem, President and COO Laticrete International, Mr Ritesh Singh, MD Middle East and Africa when Laticrete opened a manufacturing plant at Athi River.

10. A group picture of participants at the 6th Women in Real Estate (WIRE) Annual Legends and Leaders Awards Ceremony.

MORE PICTURES FROM THESE AND OTHER EVENTS ON OUR WEBSITE

SUCCESSING AS A CONTRACTOR IN KENYA

SHYAM GENERAL MERCHANTS' STORY

Shyam General Merchants Limited rose from a sole proprietorship trading business to one of the country's respected building contractors. But it has not all been rosy as its Managing Director **Harish Rabadia** told Construction Kenya Showcase.

At only 33, Harish Meghji Rabadia is the unassuming Managing Director of Shyam General Merchants Limited, an NCA1 category building contractor based in Nairobi. NCA 1 is the highest classification of contractors by the National Construction Authority. It means the contractor is allowed and has the capacity to undertake projects of limitless value.

It has been quite a run for Shyam, a company that was established in 2008 initially as a trading business. But it was not until 2010 that it moved into the construction industry, starting out as a labour contractor.

For the young Harish, it was not an easy start.

"My main challenge when we were starting out was inexperience", he says. "My dad had experience in the construction industry having worked for S.S. Mehta & Sons as a supervisor but it was a totally new field to me. I used to attend meetings but I could not comprehend the discussions. It took me some time to fully understand industry terminologies and get to know things like formwork, concrete etc. But as they say, practice makes perfect and I eventually came to understand the business."

As a labour contractor, Shyam established a favourable reputation for itself. The company's first project was Crescent Business Park in Westlands. "One

Mr Harish Meghji Rabadia, Managing Director, Shyam General Merchants Limited



Crescent Business Centre in Nairobi was one of Shyam's first projects as a labour contractor. (NB: Shyam was Main Contractor in all the other projects pictured here.)



Rumaisa Residency in Nairobi



Fairfield Gardens, Syokimau near Nairobi

of our neighbours was a labour contractor and he had an offer from Tulsi Construction Limited to work on the 11-storey building. But he was too busy and since he knew we were now in business, he asked us to undertake the work." So Shyam successfully executed the labour contract and garnered useful experience which would prove invaluable in the days ahead.

"After that, it was God's blessings", Harish says. Citing Crescent Business Park as testimony to its capacity, Shyam went on to bag many other projects.

But things took a different turn when the company plunged into full contracts. One of the main challenges was lack of experience, which brought about the question of ability to undertake projects. At the same time, real estate had begun experiencing challenges. "Since we were new in the industry, we did not check if the projects we were handling had financial backing from banks," says Harish. Some of the projects were also funded by organizations that experienced turmoil midway. "We went into debt."

Despite the challenges, Shyam would remain in business, buoyed by the trust it had earned from industry players. The company would obtain materials running into tens of millions of shillings on credit without a problem riding on Harish's integrity and the fact that he was well known in the Temple as a trustworthy businessperson. And so Shyam continued rising and thriving, until the contested general elections of 2017 and the collapse of some banks around the same time. The elections slowed down business while banks' collapse saw some of the company's customers lose money. "At least three of our projects stalled, though we are reviving them now," reveals Harish. The political agreement between the antagonists famously known as the handshake brought temperatures down and stability once again returned.

Another problem at the time was the demolition spree that was undertaken by authorities to reclaim road reserves. Harish says this brought about confusion and misunderstanding since the same government that had issued ownership documents was the same one that

Experience the Ultimate Lifestyle in Mombasa

FEATURING:

- Smart Homes Technology that includes Smart Access Controls, Smart High-Speed Lifts and Metered gas
- Spacious open plan kitchens
- Modular kitchen with fully integrated appliances
- Master bedroom walk-in closets
- Servant quarter with different entry
- Expansive balcony
- Porcelain tiles floor finish
- Ceiling mounted fans
- 24-hour security with CCTV surveillance
- Large swimming pool
- Metered gas to all apartments
- Landscaped garden
- Standby generator
- Biodigester system
- 2 car parking spaces per unit

We are proud to be associated with Shyam General Merchants Ltd, Main Contractor

Mira Heights

Where homes match dreams

+254 706 888 333

homes@miraheights.com

http://miraheights.com/



Aga Khan Hospital, Kisii



Antalya Apartments, Mombasa



Naurus Beach Apartments, Mombasa

was carrying out the demolitions. The cap on interest rates did not help the industry either, says Harish. “The local developers were in competition with the government. The government was borrowing at the same rate as the private sector and the banks decided their money was safer if lent to the government.” This denial of credit diminished the ability of developers to start or complete projects, hence adversely affecting contractors.

Despite these problems, Harish says he has never taken any client to court and has no intention of doing so in the future. “We are a young company, relying on goodwill and word of mouth; if we take one client to court, everyone will get to know and it will work against us,” he says. “Besides, my religion teacher taught me never to fight any client over money matters.” Asked what would happen if the amounts involved were extremely large, Harish says: “We Hindus believe in Karma; every action has a reaction.” He says one who does bad deeds is likely to be repaid in kind.

Harish also cites Covid-19 as a major destabilizer in the economy, creating problems for practically all sectors except the very few that were dealing with essential services or medical products required to fight the pandemic.

These days, says the contractor, banks are not as quick to provide loans to the construction industry as they were more than 10 years ago. “Back then, they would even give unsecured loans. But today they ask for collateral and significant turnover before extending credit services”.

“In addition, local contractors are experiencing unfair competition from their Chinese counterparts who have cheap credit from home and are heavily subsidized by



Mira Heights, Mombasa



Jumeirah Beach Apartments, Mombasa

the Chinese State”, says Harish. “Although they are doing done a marvelous job here, they have taken over work that local contractors can do.” Asked if local contractors have the capacity to undertake gigantic projects such as The Global Trade Centre, Harish responds: “A contractor like Laxmanbhai Construction Limited has been in existence for 50 years. They did GPO and Nyayo House decades ago; so you cannot say it’s an issue of capacity.”

Harish feels Chinese contractors’ forte is infrastructure projects and they should specialize in that. “Government should let them do the infrastructure projects while awarding building works to local contractors”, he suggests. He also calls for the enforcement of the 30 percent local contractor component on projects handled by foreigners.

Going forward, Harish reckons that the next frontier for contractors is affordable housing. “There is currently an oversupply in the high end segment, and affordable housing should now be the focus even for the incoming government.” He commends the government for the steps taken so far in this direction.

On professionalism in the industry including the vices of undercutting and compromises in buildings leading to structural failures, Harish feels there is sufficient framework for streamlining the industry and achieving

professionalism. He says while it is true that due to reduced margins many contractors now prefer to undertake all the work by themselves rather than subcontract, they look for savings in materials only and do not cut corners at the expense of safety.” He does not believe any established contractor can compromise on the structural integrity of buildings. He attributes recent widely reported accidents to lack of involvement of professionals in projects.

“Some developers have also become greedy; a plan is done for four storeys but they come later and ask for five storeys despite the fact that the structure had not been made to support extra floors.” He calls for strict enforcement of the building code so that everyone follows the laid down procedures.

Married with three children, two boys and a girl, Harish says his proudest moments are when his clients express satisfaction with the job. He spends most of his free time watching motivational videos and materials related to the construction industry as well as listening to spiritual sermons from Holy Scriptures. He is confident that Shyam will weather any challenges ahead and continue on its growth trajectory.



A One-stop Centre for Home Owners and Developers in Nakuru

To create something exceptional, your mindset must be relentlessly focused on the smallest detail.

It's been proven that the place you live, learn, work, cook, and dine affects your mental processing speed, concentration, tranquility and quality of output. In that regard, it is crucial to have an appropriate interior for maximum comfort and productivity.

The beauty here is that Ruby Granite & Interiors Ltd have skillfully put together a variety of products that are modern, contemporary and rustic - both foreign and local. We've got you covered.



Our products are high quality and unique in design and cannot be matched by others.

Improve your house interior particularly the kitchen, bathroom, living room and dining room to give it the current

trend and taste. Discover great ideas to spice up your house when you visit our shop or our website. We provide products to suit your lifestyle.

We always have some of our products on offer at cheap prices. In December, we offer a 10% discount on all our items.

FARMHOUSE SINKS

Create a dramatic focal point for your kitchen with a stylish and sturdy farmhouse sink. The modern look of stainless steel with traditional farmhouse style will suit any decor, from traditional to modern.



From Left to Right: Timothy Komen, Benson Amutete, Regina Kabuki and Daniel Mutoru



Daniel, on the left (in cap), and Benson Amutete the Shop Manager



- Comes with its fittings
- Measures 883 x 533 x 275mm
- Ksh. 28,000

ONE-PIECE TOILETS

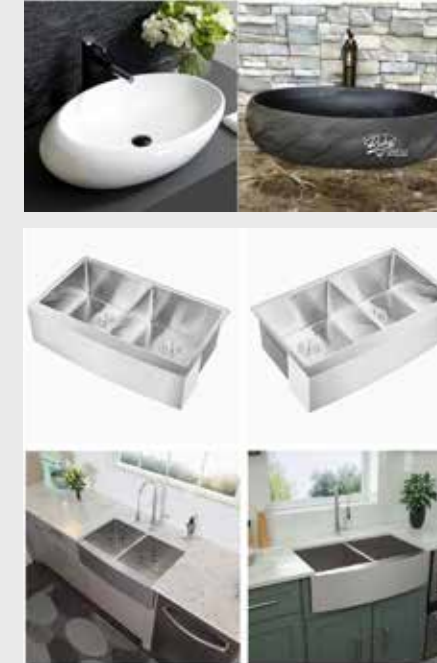
One-piece toilets are sleeker and aesthetically appealing more than two-piece toilets. They are more modern and luxurious while two-piece toilets are viewed as more traditional. Most one-piece toilets are skirted down concealing the trapway, which makes them look very elegant. The prices range from Ksh 8,900 to 22,500. We have in stock the one-piece toilets shown above.

HEAVY GAUGE KITCHEN SINKS

Stainless steel kitchen sinks are harder and tougher than any other sinks and are highly resistant to chipping, cracking and premature wear. Pictured above are heavy gauge kitchen sinks and mixer taps in our stock.

WALL-MOUNTED BATHROOM ACCESSORIES

Using wall-mounted bathroom



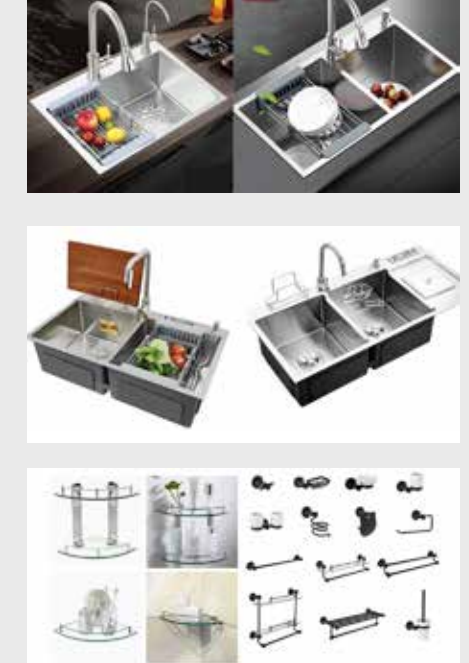
accessories to store your towels, toiletries and toilet paper helps reduce clutter and makes cleaning less tedious. We have an extensive selection of wall-mounted bathroom fixtures, fittings and storage solutions to suit every need and every pocket, from hooks and holders to soap dispensers.

VANITY PRODUCTS

Bring elegance to your home with our wide range of quality and unique house finishing items. To us, Vanity means a piece of bathroom or dining room furniture with a mirror, sink and drawers.

The colour of your vanity cabinet will give your bathroom a certain vibe. For a modern and stylish look white, black and grey are great options. For a rustic look, go for vanities with brown tones and distressed finishes. The cabinet handle and the style of the sink certainly help convey a contemporary style tool. We have all these in stock.

The simplest wall-mounted vanities like the ones shown at the bottom



right of the page tend to be the most striking. With nothing more than a bottom cabinet with sink and mirror, this is about as minimal as you can get. The minimalist feel makes your space seem larger than it really is and leaves it looking clean and refined. This set, available in 3 sizes, is suitable for a small bathroom or dining area.

CHANDELIERS

Bring elegance into your home with classy and sparkling crystal chandeliers. Iridescent flowers and leaves are beautifully handcrafted from gold-plated brass and adorned with clear K9 crystals adding the utmost in striking glamour, rich in elegance - the epitome of outstanding style.

- Has matching wall lamps
- Height can be adjusted
- Inclusive of bulbs

When looking for lighting fixtures for your home, make sure you've chosen lights with an actual functional purpose, with the right amount of illumination shining off them, and with a stylistic





element to add to the room's aesthetic. The right lighting can really make or break a room. When done well, it lends the perfect atmosphere to help your design shine, but when done poorly, it can take away from your chosen aesthetic.

VESSEL SINKS

Elegant art vessel sinks. With choices like squares, ovals, rectangles and circles, one is sure to get the perfect fit for their space.

Create a focal point with a stylish vessel sink. From round ceramic bowls to ovals and elegant rectangles, you'll find the perfect sink for your bathroom from our shops.

GRANITE COUNTERTOPS

We stock a wide range of quality countertops from Ksh 10,000 per slab, kitchen sinks and kitchen mixer taps at friendly prices.

PEDESTAL SINKS

This solid freestanding one-piece pedestal sink is a modern look that brings a unique flair to any bathroom setting. The sink is constructed of durable ceramic for a long-lasting fitting. Its seamless finish provides a smooth surface for superior shine and easy cleaning. Pair it with one of our mixer taps to complete the look.

WALL-MOUNTED SINKS

Wall-mounted sinks are a great space saver in smaller bathrooms due to their compact nature. What's more, you can hang your wall-mounted sink at a height to suit your needs, perfect for families with small children. Our wall-hung sinks come complete with brackets which can be used to hang hand towels. Ideal for small bathrooms and dining area.

CHILDREN'S BEDROOM LIGHTS

Transform your child's bedroom with our beautiful and fun unicorn lamp

light. It is truly a whimsical accent piece that transforms any room from boring to majestic with the flip of a switch! The ceiling light features three-colour dimming function, which is perfect for a child's bedroom, a play room or even a bathroom - anywhere you would need a dim, warm or fun accent light. The length of the hanging wire can be adjusted according to your need.

Bedroom wall lights are a great way to add functional style to your bedroom and can be installed virtually anywhere in your room. When choosing them, keep in mind the overall design of your room and choose lights that have a complementary style and finish. We have these in stock.

SHOWERS, MIRRORS AND DÉCOR ITEMS

We also have modern showers, mirrors and décor items.



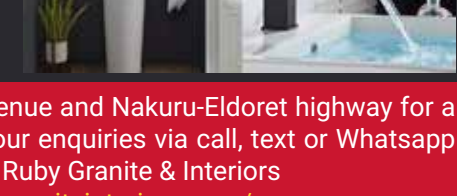
CONTACTS: Visit us in Nakuru at Kwanza House along Kijabe Lane between Kenyatta Avenue and Nakuru-Eldoret highway for a wide range of unique and quality products to suit all your needs. Or make your enquiries via call, text or Whatsapp 0722497389. | Instagram: Ruby Granite & Interiors | YouTube: Ruby Granite & Interiors | Email: info@rubygraniteinteriors.com | Website: <https://rubygraniteinteriors.com/>



A One-stop Centre for Home Owners and Developers in Nakuru

Our products are high quality and unique in design

- Kitchen Sinks
- Bathroom Accessories
- Toilets
- Vanity Products
- Countertops
- Chandeliers and other lights
- Mirrors
- Décor Items



Visit us in Nakuru at Kwanza House along Kijabe Lane between Kenyatta Avenue and Nakuru-Eldoret highway for a wide range of unique and quality products to suit all your needs. Or make your enquiries via call, text or Whatsapp 0722497389. | Instagram: Ruby Granite & Interiors | YouTube: Ruby Granite & Interiors | Email: info@rubygraniteinteriors.com | Website: <https://rubygraniteinteriors.com/>



EASTERVILLE: AN EXCITING DEVELOPMENT IN NAIROBI

The Eastern bypass that links Mombasa Road and Thika Highway has continued to spur development along the route. Numerous businesses have opened up along the 15-kilometer stretch. But even more remarkable is the number of middle class homes that have already been built in the area as others keep coming up. With the ongoing dualling of the road to tame the traffic congestion that has plagued it since it was opened, the area is likely to see even more development.

Among the developers that have taken advantage of this rapid growth is Verified Real Estate Limited, a fairly young real estate company that works with partners to identify high-potential areas and oversee the development of quality middle class homes in the greater Nairobi region. Verified Real Estate is already enjoying overwhelming success with its earlier projects in the vicinity of the Eastern and Northern bypasses, with most units of its developments snapped up even before completion.

Now, together with its development partner Bright Shine Housing Limited, Verified Real Estate has embarked on its biggest project yet in the same area. Dubbed EasternVille, the sprawling 100-acre master planned estate promises to be among the most stylish and lavishly designed of its developments yet. The first phase comprises 390 units of 4-bedroom villas, set

on spacious grounds with generous allowance being made for social facilities, unlike many other large developments that utilize every inch of the available space to put up units. EasternVille residents will enjoy amenities such as a 24-hour Day Care Centre and a Sports Arena featuring basketball, tennis and volleyball courts; a football pitch; a children's play area; a skating rack and a leisure park spread over 3 acres.

EasternVille has clearly been designed with the family in mind, with the typical aspirations of any family – comfort, security and a sense of community – well catered for. This has been achieved by dividing the estate into courts holding an average of 28 units each. The contemporarily-designed houses feature a semi open-plan kitchen with the all the bedrooms ensuite. The villas also boast a rooftop terrace and a family room to complete the essence of a family home, with functional and bright spaces all through the villa. The construction is already ongoing with the official launch date set for mid-May.

For homeowners and investors, there is hardly any risk of their property losing value from unplanned high-rise developments given that EasternVille is surrounded by properties of comparable quality. All the vital social amenities are within easy reach from EasternVille. Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, SGR Nairobi terminus, major malls and other facilities can be reached from EasternVille in 30 minutes or less.

More information on early bird offer, pricing, reservation and payment options may be obtained by contacting Verified Real Estate Limited or visiting EasternVille official website <http://easternville.com/>. *Please turn over for more perspectives of the development.*



Estate entrance



A bird's eye view



Plenty of sports/recreational facilities



Daycare Centre



Living room



Kitchen



Bedroom

INTERBUILD LIMITED RECOGNIZED FOR XYLEM LET'S SOLVE WATER PROJECT



Interbuild Limited Director Pramod Shetty receives an award from Arch. Nicholas Onyango at the AAK Duracoat Awards of Excellence in Architecture 2022 edition .



In the 2022 Architectural Association of Kenya Duracoat Awards of Excellence in Architecture, Interbuild Limited took the 2nd runners up position in the Best Interior Environment Category for their work on Xylem Let's Solve Water office project.

Background

Xylem Water Solutions (S.A.) Limited is a leading provider of pure water solutions. Recently, the organization opened a regional office in Nairobi, Kenya. Located at Garden City Business Park, the offices will serve as a hub for Xylem, its partners and customers across East Africa.

Interbuild Limited, a 12-year old Kenyan company specializing in architectural and interior design, was appointed to do the interiors. According to Interbuild, they were selected as a result of referrals from satisfied clients, a competitive quotation and a great presentation to the client.

Previously, Interbuild has successfully completed projects for Masai Sopa Lodges, Leopard Beach Resort and Spa, Basco Paints, Superfoam Limited and Executive Rentals Limited among others.





The Project

The Xylem project included a reception area, kitchen, two office spaces and a board room. The facilities included office furniture and accessories (Computers, TVs, UPS and related equipment etc.) and kitchen accessories (Fridge, Microwave etc.). The office layout enables smooth movement of employees and clients through the office without any confusion and interruption of operations. This enables efficiency and productivity of the entire office. The ceiling and office partitions designs create a conducive work environment hence enabling the employees to be innovative and effective in their purpose. The office wallpapers clearly portray the purpose of the company.

According to the Interbuild team, the AAK Awards recognition made the team to believe in itself and felt proud of their work. As a result, the team feels more motivated and not shy of coming up with competitive and ambitious innovations and ideas in their current and future projects.

Interbuild Limited were selected as a result of referrals from satisfied clients, a competitive quotation and a great presentation to the client.

Classic Ironmongers Ltd
is proud to be associated with
INTERBUILD LIMITED
on the award-winning
XYLEM LET'S SOLVE WATER
Project

Drywall angle line Drywall corner bead Drywall steel banding Drywall stud Drywall shadow gap
Drywall corner tape Drywall fibre tape Drywall screw

Gypsum ceiling Gypsum ceiling Fire resistant gypsum Moisture resistant gypsum Regular gypsum

<p>SHOWROOM 83 Muthithi Road Tel: 3753404/517/8/9. Fax: 3753410 Cell: 0728 975657 / 0770 931700 Email: sales@classicironmongers.co.ke</p>	<p>APIC CENTRE Tel: 3742597/3748577 Fax: 3472474 Cell: 0720 962095 / 0773 519191 Email: apic@classicironmongers.co.ke</p>	<p>KIBHARE CENTRE Unit B3 Msa Rd Opp. Nation Media Cell: 0737 199664 / 0708 367304 / 0775 631211 Email: kibhare@classicironmongers.co.ke</p>
--	--	---

IMPROVING LIVES

through

WATER & ENERGY SOLUTIONS

EST. 1946

75 YEARS

WATER PUMPS | BOREHOLE SERVICE | SWIMMING POOLS
WATER TREATMENT | GENERATORS | SOLAR | IRRIGATION
DavisandShirtliff.com

SPECIAL OFFERS

- **SAFETY & SECURITY FILM**
Blast Resistant, Forced Entry & Anti Bandit.
- **SOLAR CONTROL FILM**
Energy Saving, Glare Reduction, UV Protection for office & Buildings.
- **DECORATIVE FILM.**
Custom Cut Design, Ready Made, Printed Materials, Office & Buildings.
- **AUTOMOTIVE FILM**
Premium Range of Car Tints, Safety Security Glass Tints, Paint Protection Film, Car Branding.

LLumar®

A Product of USA

Safety & Security
Custom Style
UV Protection
Heat Rejection

Westland : 0732 516516 | Ind Area : 0735 516516 | Kilimani : 0734 212 212

BANKING ON CUSTOMER SATISFACTION

MBA CONSTRUCTION LIMITED

Our objective is to provide our clients with an assured experience when we are chosen to execute their projects.

MBA Construction Limited company was registered as a construction company in 2011. Over the years the company has undertaken many challenging projects and accumulated skills, knowhow and experience in design and building solutions, project management services, building trades and related engineering works.

While our years of experience and expertise as building contractors mean we tackle even the largest contracts with complete confidence, we are also equally adept at handling the smallest jobs. No matter how big or small the project, our customers are assured that it will be completed on time, within their budget and to the satisfaction of even the most exacting clients.

Our capacity to manage projects from conception to completion is found in our wealth of diverse internal experience at every stage.

Our objective is to provide our clients with an assured experience when we are chosen to execute their projects. Our policy on clear communication and follow through procedures ensures that the client's objectives are the top priority in the planning and execution of all our processes.

Our project management and delivery philosophy is:

- Create detail schedule and resources plan to meet client's objective
- Communicate clearly with all project stakeholders
- Track project progress and fine tune deviations
- Supervise closely the quality of work done
- Complete and commission the project on time

We take pride in our delivery thus our clients can always be assured that only the most experienced and qualified people are serving them all the time.

VISION

Our vision is to be dynamic industry leaders committed to quality and excellence through service to the industry.

MISSION

- We endeavor at all times to provide a comprehensive service to our clients.
- We strive to complete projects on time and within budget.
- We promote strict adherence to quality, health and safety standards and we adhere to labour equity and encourage harmonious personnel relationships in order to promote team work among staff.



OM SKY apartments in Ahmedabad, India.



United Aryan Warehouse, Baba Dogo



Jalaram Temple and Medical Centre, Nakuru



Nyangumi Road (Kilimani) project

- Specialist expertise will be applied in relevant areas to ensure that standards and values are achieved.
- To become a significant services company through partnership with significant industry players.

QUALITY STATEMENT

Our quality of work is a reflection of our business and as such we are proud to be part of industry quality assurance system. All employees from tender to construction are dedicated to strictly adhering to our quality control

procedures, set out in our Quality Manual to ensure a superior level of service delivery to minimize risk and build our reputation as a quality service partner.

OBJECTIVES

- To deliver our clients the standards of quality specified in the contract within budget.
- We adhere to labour equity and encourage harmonious personnel relationships in order to promote teamwork among staff.

- To meet all legal requirements.
- To ensure that quality control mechanisms are being sufficiently and effectively applied at all times.
- To ensure that all consultants, suppliers, sub-contractors and others who are involved in our projects meet the required quality standards.
- To continually review, improve and implement quality control and best practice.

Our reach stretches to the banking sector where we have a good and long-standing relationship with Guardian Bank Ltd, Bank of Baroda (K) Ltd, Diamond Trust Bank of Kenya Ltd and Equity Bank Kenya Ltd who have supported our projects and operations.

MBA prides itself in ensuring the client's interest is at heart. Although we guarantee the best services, we ensure our clients' trust in us is 100% by engaging with the following insurance companies: Tausi Assurance Company Limited, Aladdin Assurance, Monarch Assurance, BTB insurance, Capex Assurance amongst others.

As a multi-national, full-service consulting, engineering and construction company, MBA Construction Ltd has the breadth of capabilities, professional talent, universal reach and capital necessary to offer our clients fully integrated services that set new standards in quality, value, timeliness and cost-efficiency. We transfer new and innovative ideas to all of our projects by sharing proven solutions from around the world.

“As a multi-national, full-service consulting, engineering and construction company, MBA Construction Ltd has the breadth of capabilities, professional talent, universal reach and capital necessary to offer our clients fully integrated services.”



Aristocrats Concrete Ltd

Manufacturers of Aggregate; Building & Civil Engineering Contractors;
Mass Excavators & Fillers.

P.O. Box 188660-00500 Nairobi - Kenya.

River Garden, Upper Basement, Laikipia Road, Kileleshwa, Nairobi. Tel: +254 20 2014633

Email: aristocrats@aristocrats.co.ke

We are proud to be associated with



MBA CONSTRUCTION LTD



What sets us apart is our superior service and responsiveness, using clear strategies to reduce risk and leave behind innovative, flexible cost-effective solutions that meet and exceed expectations. We use proven partnering principles that emphasize communication and cooperation among all parties through teamwork, mutual respect, and commitment to common objectives.

We follow the tradition of zero headache for our clients so that when they have kept faith in us by giving their prestigious business, we make sure they have the peace of mind that their project is in best hands:

- To build a concept around the vision of the client
- To transform the concept to a world class design
- To transform the design to a world class architectural structure by providing the complete structural drawings.
- Do all technical studies for plumbing, electrical and civil engineering works
- Capture the entire project in 3D view to present the

vision as reality.

- Create bid forms with bill of quantities and source all materials at the most competitive prices locally or by importing through our global sourcing network.
- Do construction as per the quality and design within the time line.
- Design the interiors
- Execute the interior design works
- Get all government approvals from start to finish (Completion Certificate)
- Do maintenance of the property as per the agreement.

We have the know-how as well as the financial capabilities to undertake large size turnkey projects (Government or Private). Nevertheless, no matter how big or small the project, our commitment to deliver on time, with agreed quality and within the agreed cost remains intact.

MBA Construction Ltd is fully equipped with ultramodern machinery and equipment to complete the projects. Our projects cumulatively have surpassed the billion-mark

giving us the mark of approval from our clients who have entrusted us with their hopes and dreams.

CURRENT/ONGOING PROJECTS

- Finishes Works: 112 units in Parklands
- Finishes Works: 256 Units in Syokimau
- Construction: 104 units in Kilimani
- Construction: 36 units in South C
- Construction: 20 units in Athi River
- Construction: 60 units on General Mathenge Drive

For more information, please visit <https://mbaconstruction.co.ke/>

kens metal industries
THE METAL EXPERTS
An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Company

ALUMINIUM

STAINLESS TUBES

MILD STEEL

ENG. STEEL

BRASS

SEAMLESS PIPES

STAINLESS SHEETS

// kens STAINLESS

STAINLESS STEELS CARBON STEELS CAST IRON ENGINEERING STEELS COPPER ALLOYS

TOOL STEELS MILD STEELS WEAR RESISTANT STEEL ALUMINIUM ENGINEERING NYLONS

CASTINGS GAS BURNERS LASER CUTTING WATERJET CUTTING

Enterprise Road, Industrial Area, Nairobi - Kenya

(+254) 0207 903903 , 0725 903903

sales.ind@kensmetal.co.ke www.kensmetal.co.ke

TOP MANAGEMENT



Eng. Omprakash Thakkar, Managing Director



Mr Ashwin Shamji, Project Director



Eng. Piyush Trivedi, Construction Manager

GROUNDWATER EXPLORATION POISED TO GROW ECONOMY - ENG. PHILIP HOLI

As world leaders continue to make pledges to achieve net zero global warming targets, it's time to reflect on the potential of the country's underground water, and how to sustainably manage and protect these largely untapped natural resources that would be a game-changer for our economy.

Kenya is a water scarce country with large parts of our lands being predominantly arid with frequent water shortages including in major towns.

Again, surface water resources like rivers and lakes are only concentrated in specific parts of the country meaning that in other areas the population must rely on groundwater resources to address their water needs. Severe droughts in recent years have also compounded the severity of the water situation in the country and deforestation has also contributed to reduced rainfall and surface water supplies.

All these challenges have left up to 15 million Kenyans without access to clean water while 15 percent of Kenyans are compelled to rely on unimproved water sources, such as ponds, shallow wells and rivers, according to data from Water.org.

To further exacerbate the situation 41 percent of Kenyans lack access to basic sanitation solutions, exposing many more Kenyans to deadly diseases.

There are also high costs involved in accessing water with water.org showing rural households bearing the biggest burden- approximately Ksh 3,800 in coping costs compared to an average monthly water bill of Ksh460 a month. While climate change will continue to impact the availability of surface water making droughts more common occurrences, there is still hope.



Kenya like elsewhere in Africa, still has abundant groundwater resources and if used sustainably, it can become a viable alternative to surface water.

Sustainable extraction of groundwater is extremely important - if the groundwater is removed faster than it can be replenished back into the ground then the problem of water scarcity will be compounded. This is the point where we need to have a concerted, multi-stakeholder collaboration to harness our individual strengths. We will need better policies to create a favorable investment climate where players can easily access affordable drilling equipment.

We will also need financing instruments to ensure that we scale faster by opening up supply of water pumps, drilling and piping equipment to ensure we reach as many people as we can.

A key challenge to extraction of groundwater resources

continued on page 36

MEET MANISH MEHRA

NEW CEO AT MABATI ROLLING MILLS LTD

Manish is an empathetic leader who believes in the power of people and enables them to perform to their potential by leveraging on their strengths.

Manish Mehra is the new Chief Executive Officer of Mabati Rolling Mills Limited effective February 1, 2022.

Manish joined the SAFAL Group in June 2021 as Business Head, MRM Building Solutions, where he has worked diligently with his team in sustaining Zero Harm (over one million manhours) for everyone who works for the business in line with the company's commitment to safety. He has also laid out a road map for creating a superior experience for the customers through various touch points of the organization.

Prior to joining SAFAL Group, Manish Mehra was the CEO responsible for Insignia Ltd, Tanzania managing their Tanzania, Zambia and Malawi markets. Manish is a seasoned business leader with over 30 years of experience in the fields of Sales, Manufacturing, International Business and General Management. He has spent most of his career with Asian Paints, where he successfully led businesses in India, China, Egypt and Middle East. Asian Paints is India's largest and Asia's third largest Paints' corporation. His experiences in International markets have ranged from re-starting a business unit in China in 2003 to setting up the biggest factory of Asian Paints in Egypt in 2010, followed by managing the business complexities there post the revolutions in 2011 and 2013. He also supervised the company's operations in Middle East from 2014 to 2018, which comprised setting up a new factory in Oman, driving the creation of Premium Retail Distribution network and co-creating the brand changeover from Berger to Asian Paints.



Manish is an empathetic leader who believes in the power of people and enables them to perform to their potential by leveraging on their strengths.

He is an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, where he obtained a Bachelor of Engineering Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He also holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management (Marketing) from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

Manish has been passionately involved in various community activities in different countries. He is a keen traveller and an avid golfer.

CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

Construction chemicals have become an essential part of modern building and infrastructure projects. These chemicals are applied in the construction of dams, roads, bridges and tunnels as well as in industrial, residential and commercial building projects.

By altering the properties of regular building materials (mostly concrete), improved qualities can be achieved. This matrix usually includes properties such as strength, high performance, workability, decorative finishes, extended life spans, and structural protection.

Types of Construction Chemicals

Different types and varieties of construction chemicals exist, suited for a wide array of applications and projects. These range from concrete admixtures, adhesives, sealants, grouts, protective coatings to decorative modifiers, waterproofing agents, as well as chemicals for maintenance or repair of structures.

Other types of construction chemicals include primers, support agents such as bentonite slurry, cleaning agents, and polymers which are mostly used with flooring systems.

Concrete Admixtures

Concrete is the most widely used construction material globally, thus an emphasis on concrete structures is on high performance, durability, and sustainability. Concrete admixtures not only aid in achieving these in-service properties but they are also useful during the entire concrete operation including mixing, transportation, placement, compaction and curing as well as achievement of early strength.

Examples of concrete admixtures include:

- Water reducers – These include plasticizers, super plasticizers and workability enhancers. A practical application of super-plasticizers is in high-rise and tower construction where improved workability is crucial with low water content in the cement matrix.
- Accelerators – These speed up the rate of setting and early achievement of curing strength which aids the quick removal of formwork. Commonly used accelerators include calcium chloride, calcium formate and silica fume.
- Retardants – These reduce the rate of setting of concrete and thus allow concrete to remain workable for longer periods. This is useful, for example, where concrete has to be transported over long distances. Examples of retardants include



gypsum, starch and carbohydrate sugars.

- Air entraining admixtures – These modify the plastic properties of concrete to improve properties such as workability, bleeding, segregation, and finished quality of concrete.
- Pozzolanic admixtures – These modify the properties of concrete to achieve objectives such as increased resistance to leaching and sulfate attacks and water tightness. Examples here include fly ash, clay, and pumice.

Waterproofing and damp-proofing admixtures are important since this is the most widely used application of admixtures. These are used in swimming pools, basements, and marine structure construction. Other types of admixtures are used to create high strength or Ultra-High-Performance Concrete (UHPC) with strengths in the range of 80MPa-200MPa.

Adhesives and Sealants

Concrete and mortar are not suited for all types of building applications. One of these specific use cases is in bonding where high strength adhesives such as epoxy are used to bond various materials such as wood, metals, tile and stone applications.

Sealants are used to prevent fluids and other substances from passing through material surfaces, joints and openings. In specific situations, they may also be used to prevent the passage of dust, air, sound, insects, and so on. Examples of sealants include latex sealants, expanding foam, acrylic resins and butyl rubber.

High-strength sealants such as acrylic caulk also aid in resisting staining, mildew, and mold for both exterior and interior surfaces. Protective coatings such as fire retardants may also be categorized as sealants. Transformative sealants can be used to enhance colour or provide a polished or glossy finish.

Grouts

Grouting is an application used to reach difficult areas such as cracks and deep fissures. Grouts are usually fluid enough to flow through these cracks and fissures (usually by a pressure application such as pumping). The setting rate for grouts can also be increased or reduced depending on the desired outcome.

Grouts in various literature are categorized as part of admixtures although this would only be the case for cementitious grouts. Epoxy grouts are also widely used in industry because they are non-porous and don't require sealing, unlike cementitious grouts.

Polymers

Flooring is an important component of any residential, commercial, or industrial application. Flooring adds colour and personality to a structure. Aside from the decorative function, flooring is critical in industrial applications such as factories and warehouses and commercial applications such as car parks, airports, and hospitals.

Polymers are mostly used within flooring systems to improve properties such as

resistance to abrasion, slip and wear, chemical and water resistance, and staining. Some of the most commonly used polymer-modified systems include epoxy (polymer resins + hardeners), methyl methacrylate (MMA), polyurethane (concrete floor + urethane), acrylic and acrylic hybrids, etc.

Support and Lubricating Agents

In certain use cases, such as marine construction, construction of basements or foundations on alluvial soils, and borehole drilling, the structure may need support for various reasons, mainly to prevent wall collapse or water seepage. Another example would be filling concrete within secant wall systems when building in the marine environment.

In such cases, a supporting agent such as bentonite slurry can be used to not only support the structure but also to act as a lubricating suspension. It can also be used to create a permanent barrier to water seepage or flow, thus allowing the placement of concrete without degrading it or affecting any of its properties.

When in doubt, always consult an expert, whether you are planning your next building project or are trying to solve a problem in your current project. Finding the right solution starts by anticipating and mapping out any problem areas that may arise in the future. Again, if you are unsure about what these problem areas may be and what solutions are the best fit for you, seek professional advice from an expert such as a product dealer.

LATICRETE OPENS MANUFACTURING PLANT IN NAIROBI

Few organizations have managed to build a strong reputation for quality products like construction chemicals solution provider Laticrete International Inc, a company that has been in operation for 65 years and has a presence in over 100 countries.

Laticrete’s footprint of projects paints a picture of a company that has made an unrivalled mark in the building and construction industry globally. One of the iconic projects the company is associated with is Burj Khalifa in Dubai, the tallest building in the world.

The developers of the landmark building wanted the best construction products and contractors and Laticrete was chosen to supply large quantities of its adhesives and grouts as well as its waterproof membrane for various areas.

Having built a reputation for quality across the globe, the company is taking a keen interest in the African market that has massive potential but has largely remained underserved. For this reason, Laticrete has set up a regional manufacturing plant in Kenya that will deliver products not only for the Kenyan market but across Africa.

In Kenya, the products will be produced and marketed by an independent company called Spectralock East Africa, a subsidiary of Laticrete Middle East L.L.C based in the United Arab Emirates. “We are here with a very aggressive plan because Africa is a land of opportunities,” says Ritesh Singh, Laticrete Middle East and Africa Managing Director.

Though Laticrete is not new in Africa, a market that it has served for 23 years out of the Middle East, the decision to set up a manufacturing plant is strategic not only in terms of serving the continent expeditiously but also in enabling the company to grow specific markets.



(L-R): Mr Joseph Dacosta, Director SPECTRALOCK East Africa Ltd, Mr Faisal Saleem, President and COO LATICRETE International, Mr Ritesh Singh, MD LATICRETE Middle East and Africa after unveiling of the plaque.

“We are bringing products of high quality with a keen focus on innovation driven sustainable solutions that meet the requirements of each country,” explains Faisal Saleem, President and Chief Operating Officer Laticrete International.

In Kenya, Laticrete intends to manufacture some of its broad range of products covering tiles and stones installation and care; masonry installation and maintenance; resinous, decorative and epoxy floor finishes and concrete construction chemicals.

As a company that believes in research and development and innovation, Laticrete intends to bring products that will redefine the building and construction industry in Africa. In a continent where cement is commonly used in tile and stone installation, Laticrete is bringing products including surface preparation, waterproofing, sound control, anti-fracture, adhesive, grouts among others.

In wall finishes, the company will supply a variety of commercial and industrial products to provide skim coating

- **FLOOR MATS**
Gym Mat, Restaurants Mat, Entrance Mats, Anti Slip Mats, Swimming Pool & 3M Safety Tapes
- **WINDOW BLINDS**
Vertical, Venetian, Wooden, Roller Blinds, Zebra Blinds, Logo Printing on blinds.
- **SIGNAGES.**
2D Sign, 3D Sign, Printed Sign, LED Sign, Roll Up Banner, Internal & External Signs.
- **WATER PURIFIERS**
Kent Purifiers, RO Machines, UV & UF + TDS Controlled computerized Machines
Semi-Commercial & Domestic Water Purifiers.

3M nomad
matting

Tirupati Mattings
Mats that enrich the hospitality

TIRUPATI SIGNS

KENT Mineral RO
Water Purifiers
HOUSE of PURITY

Raveras
ENHANCING SURFACES

venera
window blinds

Exclusively Distributed in East Africa By Tirupati Kenya Limited

and smoothing prior to the application of wall covering solutions while in flooding systems the company boasts high performance solutions.

For Laticrete, the push to conquer Africa will be holistic. Apart from manufacturing products, the company intends to engage in training and capacity building and offer world-class customer service.

“We come to the market with a promise of offering innovative, sustainable and affordable products in the East African market, which we intend to serve with trust, hard work and commitment,” states Singh.

Notably, Laticrete is seeking to increase its presence in a continent where its quality products have been used on some iconic projects across Africa. In Kenya, some of the projects that have used the company’s solutions include Safaricom Headquarters in Westlands, Taita Taveta University, Australian High Commission, DPL Festive Bread Factory and Carrefour Supermarkets.

Across East Africa, the company has a footprint in projects like Sheraton Hotel in Uganda and Marriot Apartment, Acacia Building, Vision Hotel and Crane Bank all in Rwanda.

For Laticrete, the commencement of production at the Kenyan facility comes at the opportune time when the building and construction industry is on a recovery trajectory following the devastating impacts of Covid-19.

For more information, please contact:

SPECTRALOCK East Africa Ltd
Graylands 3 – Warehouse E17,
off Nairobi-Mombasa Highway
Opposite Sidai Village, Athi River, Kenya
P.O. Box 21508-00505 Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254 759 721020/
+254 114 989430 / +254 113722405
Email: enquiry@laticreteafrika.com



Mr Faisal Saleem, President and COO LATICRETE International



Mr Ritesh Singh, MD LATICRETE Middle East and Africa



Mr Joseph Francois Dacosta, Director SPECTRALOCK East Africa Ltd



Connie Mwangi, Area Sales Manager

MESSAGE FROM MR RITESH SINGH, MANAGING DIRECTOR LATICRETE MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

At LATICRETE®, we are on a milestone roll. In 2021, we celebrated our 65th anniversary and we registered our first company in Kenya, SPECTRALOCK East Africa Limited. In 2022, yet another significant milestone with the start of our local commercial production unit in Kenya.

Africa, the continent known throughout history as being immensely diverse, culturally and geographically. “We need to be local.” LATICRETE International is privileged and proud to announce the opening of its subsidiary, Spectralock East Africa Limited with full production, in the beautiful green landscape of Kenya.

We are here, with a plan to improve the built world and the lives of those who build it. With our launch in Kenya, we embark on a new journey, and our promise of offering innovative, sustainable, and affordable products to the East African market comes into reality.

Africa, we are here for the long haul. Our commitment is to be indigenous in all continent regions (east, west, south, and central). This will create job opportunities in the local market and enable us to develop the product according to local climatic circumstances and construction practices.

Our innovation expands beyond products to every aspect of our customer engagement. We serve with trust, hard work, and commitment and we are grateful to all our associates, partners, and customers for their support and belief in us world-wide. Our success depends upon our relationship with every individual, whether he/she is an architect, builder, employee or end consumer.

“If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” LATICRETE is a family-owned business, we want to go far, and we want to go together. We look forward to this journey with you.

MESSAGE FROM MR JOSEPH DACOSTA, DIRECTOR SPECTRALOCK EAST AFRICA LTD

By investing in Kenya, LATICRETE is participating in the growth of Africa. LATICRETE is creating more employment for Africans and making people life better.

We are in Kenya with solutions for Tiles and Stone Installations, positioning ourselves as Solutions Providers in the east African market and beyond Africa.

Our success depends on our customers and without them we would not be where we are today. That is why it is important for LATICRETE Team in Africa, as an organization and as individuals, to be constantly thinking about how we could better be serving our customers and making it easier for them to do business with us. And we are happy to see that our clients in Kenya and East Africa are satisfied and happy with our products.

ACC ACCURATE STEEL MILLS
Got a project? Need Steel? Think ACC.
 Accurate Steel Mills - Home of Quality Steel. Every Time.
 For the best quality steel products and cut & bend services **Place your order with us today!**

GROUNDWATER EXPLORATION POISED TO GROW ECONOMY

from page 27

has always been the requirement for an electric pump to bring the water up to the surface. Unfortunately, much of the water scarce areas in Africa also have limited coverage by the main electric grid.

By pumping using solar power, remote communities with no access to the main electric grid, are able to access groundwater resources. Promotion of solar pumping for groundwater extraction though education and incentivization among other measures should be a key aspect of policy development by African governments when looking at sustainable groundwater use.

In the developed world extensive rural and urban piped water networks have been established over centuries to bring water from central utility companies to consumers. But for many countries in Africa including Kenya, we have limited water distribution networks making it difficult for centralized water utilities to get water to consumers. Tapping into groundwater resources through decentralized wells and boreholes however allows decentralized access to water enabling even the most remote customers to access water without a water utility connection. While some work has been done to tap these water resources, there is still need for a comprehensive overhaul and review of groundwater resources inventory and their capacity.

This coupled with an understanding of the recharge requirements of each of the major aquifers will give Kenya



We will need better policies to create a favourable investment climate where players can easily access affordable drilling equipment.

and other African governments a clear picture of the groundwater resource available for current and future generations.

Different governments in Africa are at different levels with regards to policy development to manage groundwater resources and while some countries are very advanced and have done extensive work in defining policies for groundwater abstraction others are still far behind. In addition to policy development, what is also critical is enforcement of the policies to ensure sustainable use.

Lastly, it is important to remember that groundwater needs to be replenished. It is not sufficient to promote the extraction of groundwater, governments must also encourage activities that will replenish groundwater resources such as planting of trees, establishment and protection of water catchment areas, as well as building swales.

The writer is the Technical Director of water and energy solutions company, Davis & Shirliff.



COMPLETE BATHROOM SOLUTIONS



FAUCETS | SHOWERS | SANITARYWARE | WATER HEATERS | WELLNESS PRODUCTS | FLUSHING SYSTEMS
WIDE RANGE OF PRODUCTS • LEADING GLOBAL BATH BRANDS • EXPERT ADVICE

Doshi Hardware: P.O. Box 40671 – 00100, Nairobi
+254 703 030 000 | Company Representative: +254 713 474374



GRANITE FINISH PAINT, PAINT YOU CAN'T STOP STARING AT.

Protect and enhance your interior and exterior spaces



Multi-surface application



Non-combustible



Eco friendly



Super weatherproof



Water repellent



Dirt resistant



VARIETY OF COLOURS AVAILABLE

A quality product from the King of Paints