

THE ZAMBIA'S **ONLY** QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FOR MINING & SAFETY

January - March 2026  
Issue No.01 | Volume.04



# ZAMBIA MINE SAFETY



[www.gedik.com.tr/en](http://www.gedik.com.tr/en)  
[gedikafrica@gedik.com.tr](mailto:gedikafrica@gedik.com.tr)

*Joining. For life.*

9-12 February 2026  
CTICC, Cape Town

2026 INVESTING IN AFRICAN MINING INDABA

**TAIFA GROUP PLANS TO INVEST OVER \$500 MILLION IN ZAMBIA, TARGETING GAS, SOLAR POWER AND MINING TO EASE ENERGY GAPS.....PG. 11**

**ZIMEC 2026**

25 - 26 MARCH 2026

KITWE, ZAMBIA

[www.zambiaminesafety.com](http://www.zambiaminesafety.com)





# YOKOHAMA

# 2700R49

# TYRES

EX-STOCK



**AUTOMOTIVE  
EQUIPMENT  
LIMITED**

*'cause you deserve quality!*



WhatsApp  
+260975813323



info@aelzm.com  
www.aelzm.com



Great North Road,  
Lusaka, Zambia

# Advertisers IN THIS ISSUE

ISSUE 01 JANUARY/MARCH 2026

**FRONT COVER;** GEDIK  
**INSIDE FRONT COVER;** AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT  
**PG.03;** ZIMEC  
**PG.05;** M & J MINING PTY LTD  
**PG.07;** PROTEA HOTEL  
**PG.12;** AFRICA ENERGY INDABA  
**PG.17;** INFRASTRUCTURE AFRICA  
**PG.21;** ZIMEC  
**PG.22;** MMEC  
**INSIDE BACK COVER;** MINING INDABA  
**OUTSIDE BACK COVER;** PENTHOL

## CONTENTS

**PG.04...** Government expects 60% mining taxes to be paid in USD, 25% in Kwacha, 15% in Yuan

**PG.09...** Kitumba mine set to commence copper production

**PG.10...** Dewatering of shaft 28 at Luanshya new mine has been completed, set to resume copper production by august 2026

**PG.14...** Shuka minerals delays full takeover of Zambia's Kabwe zinc mine as funding shifts

**PG.16...** First quantum welcomes increased local participation in the Zambian mining sector

**PG. 20...** Africa's future may well lie in the sun - By Mukwandi Chibesakunda, Chief Executive Officer, Zanaco Plc

# ZAMBIA MINE SAFETY

## ZMS MARKETING TEAM

NOEL MWANDWE : noel@zambiaminesafety.com  
 SALIFYANJI BANDA: salifyanji@zambiaminesafety.com  
 WILSON NGOSA: wilson@zambiaminesafety.com  
 JULIET MUYUBA : juliet@zambiaminesafety.com

## ZMS WRITERS

THERESA MWICHE: sales@zambiaminesafety.com  
 PETER MUSONDA: editor@zambiaminesafety.com

## ZMS DESIGN/LAYOUT

MARGARET MIYAMBO: info@zambiaminesafety.com

## ZMS MEDIA PRODUCTION

197A Ferngrove, Off Lusaka Bypass Ring Road,  
 Lusaka Zambia  
 +260978975030 | www.zambiaminesafety.com

**DOWNLOAD OUR  
 DIGITAL  
 VERSION NOW!**

On our website or Links on our social pages



**13<sup>th</sup> ZAMBIA  
 INTERNATIONAL  
 MINING AND ENERGY  
 CONFERENCE**

**25-26 MARCH  
 GARDEN COURT HOTEL  
 KITWE, ZAMBIA**

"Promoting Equitable Investment Partnerships, Intra-Regional Mineral Value Chains & Renewable Energy to Catalyse Zambia's Sustainable Economic Growth".

SUPPORTED BY



Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development



MINISTRY OF ENERGY



ASSOCIATION OF ZAMBIAN MINING, EXPLORATION COMPANIES



CONTACT US

www.zimeczambia.com

zambia@ametrade.org

#ZIMEC

# GOVERNMENT EXPECTS 60% MINING TAXES TO BE PAID IN USD, 25% IN KWACHA, 15% IN YUAN

**G**overnment has clarified that the decision to allow the payment of some mining taxes in the Chinese currency, Renminbi also known as Yuan, is a strategic and cost-saving measure aimed at improving debt management and reducing foreign exchange conversion costs.

Minister of Finance and National Planning, Situmbeko Musokotwane, says the measure should not be interpreted as a shift away from the Zambian Kwacha, which remains the primary legal tender for domestic transactions.

Speaking during a media briefing in Lusaka, Dr Musokotwane said the clarification was necessary following widespread public and regional interest after reports emerged that Zambia had begun collecting mining taxes in Renminbi.

The Minister explained that taxes in Zambia are ordinarily payable in Kwacha, but the government may, from time to time, designate other currencies for specific sectors for macroeconomic stability reasons.

He cited the 2018 decision, later expanded in 2020, which required mining companies to pay certain taxes in United States Dollars.

Dr Musokotwane said the same strategic logic now applies to the limited use of the Renminbi.

He further disclosed that in 2025, about 75 percent of mining taxes were paid in USD, approximately 25 percent in Kwacha, and about 2 percent in Renminbi.

Dr Musokotwane added that looking ahead to 2026, the government expects around 60 percent of mining taxes to be paid in USD, about 25 percent in Kwacha, and approximately 15 percent in Renminbi.

The Minister stressed that China remains Zambia's largest bilateral creditor and that most loans contracted from China were denominated in Renminbi and not USD.

"When it is time to service that debt, repayment is required in the same currency that was borrowed. Allowing a portion of taxes to be paid in Renminbi enables the government to avoid unnecessary conversion costs," Dr Musokotwane said.

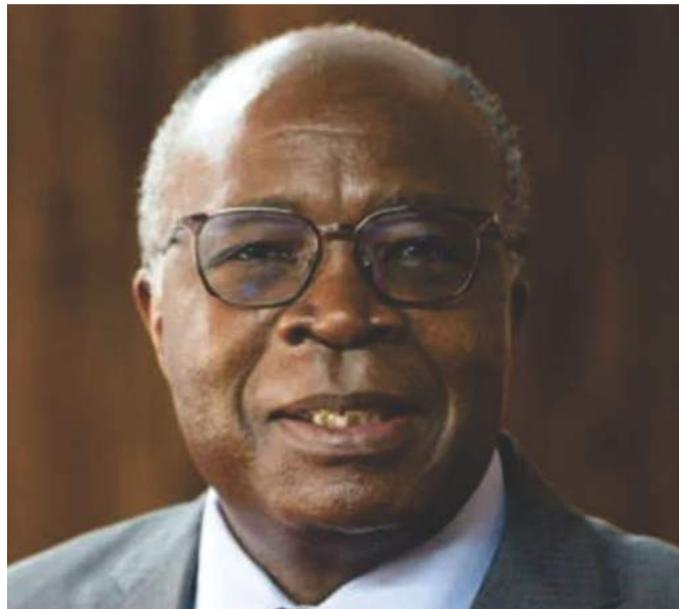
He noted that converting USD into Renminbi attracts transaction costs and settlement delays, which the government seeks to minimise through this approach.

The Minister emphasised that the arrangement is limited and targeted, currently applying to a small number of mining companies with strong links to China, and does not compel all mining firms to pay taxes in Renminbi.

"This does not mean that every mining company is being forced to pay taxes in Renminbi. That is not the case," he clarified.

***Dr Musokotwane further assured the public that the policy would have little to no direct impact on ordinary citizens.***

***"For the common person, there will be no noticeable change. The benefit is that the government saves money, and those savings can be redirected toward public services such as health, education, and social support," he said.***



Meanwhile, the Minister explained that the Renminbi already forms part of Zambia's foreign reserves, noting that the currency is included in the International Monetary Fund's Special Drawing Rights (SDR) basket.

He added that reserve management always involves balancing risks, stressing that no currency or asset is completely risk-free.

On monetary policy, Dr Musokotwane said domestic transactions will continue to be settled in Kwacha and that the policy does not undermine the effectiveness of Zambia's monetary framework.

"This measure does not represent a shift in monetary policy. It simply helps to ease pressure on the foreign exchange market by reducing over-reliance on a single foreign currency," he said.

And speaking at the same briefing, Bank of Zambia Governor, Denny Kalyalya added that the move also strengthens the stability of the monetary system.

Dr Kalyalya explained that holding Renminbi as part of Zambia's foreign reserves helps balance pressures in the currency market.

"Having multiple foreign currencies available reduces over-reliance on the USD and other single currencies. It gives the Bank more flexibility to manage liquidity and stabilise exchange rates," Dr Kalyalya said.

He further clarified that domestic monetary policy remains fully effective because local transactions continue to be settled in Kwacha.

Dr Kalyalya also highlighted that all foreign assets, including reserves, carry some level of risk, and that the Bank continuously monitors these risks to safeguard economic stability.

Meanwhile, Dr Musokotwane concluded by thanking officials from the Ministry of Finance, the Bank of Zambia, and the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) for their role in ensuring prudent economic management.

He reaffirmed that the government would continue engaging stakeholders as circumstances evolve.

WE SUPPORT  
YOUR MINE.



In underground mining,  
safety is paramount.

Using the **Power of Three** our  
technically superior ground  
support solutions create a  
comprehensive safety system  
of three essential elements.

Our vision is that the **Power of  
Three** will create a well rounded  
support system to create safer  
work faces in the mining industry.

#### CABLE ANCHORS

#### BLAST ON MESH

#### SAFELIGHT



Our flagship 25 Ton and 38 Ton tensile strength cable anchors provide primary and secondary support. Stabilizing the environment, preventing collapses and securing the mine's structure.



Blast on Mesh Aerial Coverage ensures that every angle is monitored and protected, covering unsupported areas between anchors reducing risks and enhancing oversight.



Safe Light Illumination brightens the path ahead, eliminating the dangers of unseen hazards.

#### SPEAK TO AN EXPERT TODAY:

+27 11 953 4137  
info@mjmining.co.za

**MJMINING.COM**



# FNB ZAMBIA AND KONKOLA COPPER MINES (KCM) PARTNER TO DELIVER ALTERNATIVE ENERGY FINANCING FOR EMPLOYEES



**F**NB Zambia and Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) have today signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to introduce an Alternative Energy Financing Solution aimed at improving access to sustainable, reliable household energy for KCM employees. The signing ceremony, held in Chingola, marks a significant milestone in the shared commitment between the two institutions to drive financial empowerment, support employee welfare, and contribute to Zambia's transition toward cleaner, affordable energy. Speaking at the event, Mrs. Mwamba Musambo, Head of Retail Banking at FNB Zambia, emphasised that the partnership represents much more than a financial agreement, it is a collective investment in the long-term well-being of employees, communities, and the country's energy future.

“Zambia continues to experience national energy constraints driven by reduced hydro-power generation and rising demand. This has made the need for alternative energy solutions more urgent than ever,” Mrs. Musambo said. “KCM has demonstrated strong leadership by acting proactively to support its employees, and FNB is honoured to partner with an institution that recognises the importance of sustainable progress.” The Alternative Energy Financing Solution is designed exclusively for KCM employees and offers access to solar energy systems through flexible, salary-backed financing. The product aligns with FNB's Next is Now philosophy, which focuses on delivering innovative, customer-centric solutions that address real, everyday challenges.

Key features of the financing solution include:

- Loan amounts of up to ZMW 550,000, subject to affordability
- Tenors of up to 48 months

- Comprehensive insurance cover on all approved solar solutions

The initiative is tailored to support reliable household energy supply, reduce carbon emissions, enhance employee welfare, and promote long-term sustainability. It also contributes to improved household safety, better evening productivity, and relief from rising electricity costs.

“For KCM, this initiative provides a meaningful employee benefit that enhances morale and supports long-term financial stability,” Mrs. Musambo added. “For the environment, it represents progress toward reduced emissions and improved energy efficiency, in line with FNB Zambia's Climate Risk Statement and our commitment to net zero by 2050.”

She further noted that the MoU is a demonstration of what is possible when leading institutions collaborate with shared purpose.

***“This partnership is a statement of trust and a commitment to building the future today. By empowering KCM employees with accessible, sustainable energy solutions, we are not only addressing today's challenges but unlocking tomorrow's possibilities. Next is Now—and together, we move forward.”***



# Experience the BEST OF ZAMBIA with Protea Hotels by Marriott across 9 unique locations

From vibrant city stays to relaxing getaway spots, our hotels offer modern comfort, exceptional service and the perfect base to explore everything Zambia has to offer.



For bookings and enquiries: +260 211 254605 | [reservations@proteahotels.co.zm](mailto:reservations@proteahotels.co.zm) | [protea.marriott.com](http://protea.marriott.com)

PROPERTIES MANAGED BY ZENIA HOSPITALITY LTD

# CUTTING EDGE DRILLING SET TO BOOST FIRST QUANTUM SAFETY, PRECISION & EFFICIENCY

**F**irst Quantum is introducing new automated drilling technology at its Sentinel Mine in Kalumbila, marking the first time this advanced system has been used in Zambia. The innovation is expected to help the country move closer to its national goal of producing 3 million tonnes of copper per year, while improving safety and upskilling existing jobs.

Three automated drill machines were successfully tested at Sentinel, operated by First Quantum's subsidiary Trident Mining, in partnership with the supplier, Flanders Inc. Following the positive results, Flanders Inc. has committed to opening a local office in Zambia to support the roll-out and to build local capacity. Flanders Inc. is the industry leader for OEM-agnostic drill automation.

Importantly, no jobs will be lost as a result of the automation. Instead, employees are being trained for higher-skilled roles, including operating the technology from a central control room and serving as roaming field operators who oversee the automated drills.

The new system has already delivered major improvements. The X, Y and Z precision of drill holes have improved significantly thanks to advanced laser sensors and GPS technology. As a result, blasting quality and fragmentation have improved. The number of holes drilled has increased by over one-third and safety has also improved as operators can now manage the equipment from a secure, remote location.

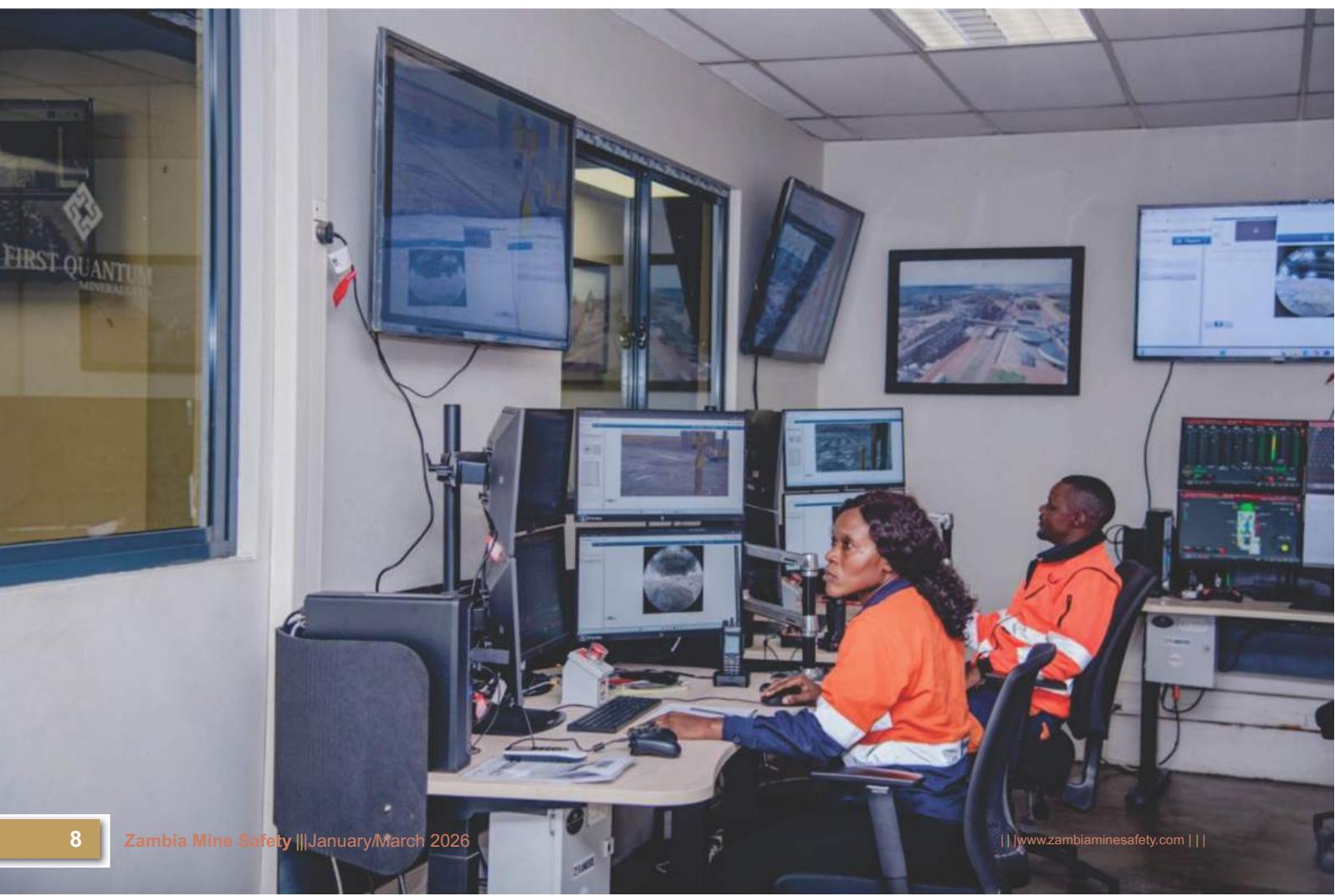
This type of drilling technology is already in use in mines in South Africa, Botswana, Australia, South America and the United States. With the trials now complete, the company has received the necessary regulatory approval to roll out automated drilling in Zambia.

*“Innovation is central to how we operate at First Quantum,” said Zambia Country Director, Anthony Mukutuma. “We are proud to introduce this state-of-the-art drilling system and to show once again that Zambia is at the forefront of modern copper production. This investment helps us improve productivity while keeping workers safe and protecting jobs.”*

The move reflects the message shared by Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development Permanent Secretary Dr Kabeta Hapenga at the Zambia Chamber of Mines' 9th Occupational Health, Safety, and Environment Conference in October. He reminded the sector that:

*“Innovation and technology remain critical in our efforts to eliminate fatalities, injuries, and occupational diseases, ensuring that every miner returns home safely.”*

He added: *“Our focus on enhancing environmental safety and promoting local participation through job creation and wealth retention remains paramount. We are committed to building a safe, sustainable, and technology-driven mining and industrial sector.”*



## KITUMBA MINE SET TO COMMENCE COPPER PRODUCTION

**S**ino-Mine Kitumba Minerals, located in Mumbwa District of Central Province, is expected to begin copper production by June 2026, marking a significant milestone in Zambia's mining sector.

Government has welcomed the development, citing the investor's use of state-of-the-art mining technology and its commitment to skills transfer for Zambians.

Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet SIAZONGO SIAKALENGE said the mine is projected to produce about 50,000 metric tonnes of copper annually once operations commence next year. He noted that this output will make a meaningful contribution to Zambia's ambitious target of producing three million metric tonnes of copper per year by 2031.

Dr. Siakalenge made the remarks during a tour of the Kitumba Mine, undertaken to assess progress and ongoing developments at the site.

Meanwhile, Sino-Mine Kitumba Minerals Chief Executive Officer FRANK WANG disclosed that approximately half of the planned US\$690 million investment has already been injected into the project, with the balance scheduled for commitment next year.

Mr. Wang further revealed that the project has so far created more than 3,000 jobs, underscoring its growing contribution to employment creation and local economic development.

### MATALA GOLD MINING ENTERS A NEW CHAPTER

**M**atala Gold Mining Cooperative Society Limited has officially been granted an Artisanal Mining Right (Gold) by the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development.

This milestone marks our transition into licensed operations and strengthens our commitment to responsible, compliant, and sustainable Artisanal & Small-Scale Gold Mining.

With guidance from our Advisory Board and execution by the Executive Board, we are working to establish a model ASM cooperative in Zambia—scalable across the AfCFTA ecosystem.

### KANSANSHI MINE BOOSTS LOCAL CONTENT WITH NEW TAILINGS CONTRACT

**F**irst Quantum's Kansanshi Mining Plc has reinforced its commitment to Zambian business development through the awarding of another major contract to a Zambian citizen-owned company, FRECA Mining and Manufacturing Limited.

FRECA's journey with Kansanshi Mine dates back to 2005 when the company secured its first contract for the supply of sand, at a time when they had no vehicles or equipment. Over the years, this relationship grew and delivered some key infrastructure projects, including the Kansanshi Golf Estate housing and the Kabitaka housing project. The new contract, which was previously held by an international firm, entrusts FRECA Mining with the management of Kansanshi's tailings facilities for a period of one year.

## GOVERNMENT SIGNS DEAL TO OVERSEE OPERATIONS AT KIKONGE MINE

**T**he Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development, ZCCM-Investment Holdings, and Minerals Mining Resources have signed a three-way memorandum of understanding to oversee and support mining operations at Kikonge Mine in North-Western Province.

Speaking at the signing ceremony in Lusaka, Mines Minister Paul Kabuswe said the agreement is a key step towards formalizing artisanal and small-scale gold mining in the area and will help bring order, safety, and accountability to mining activities at Kikonge.

Mr. Kabuswe added that under the MOU, Minerals Mining Resources, working with ZCCM-IH, will oversee mining activities, provide technical support, and facilitate access to equipment, infrastructure, and gold buying arrangements at

Kikonge Mine.

The minister assured small-scale and artisanal miners that the government is working to integrate them into the formal mining system, not push them out. He stated that trained and licensed miners will be supported to operate legally and safely and will not be treated as illegal miners.

And Minerals Mining Resources Deputy General Manager Elise Tshibanga said the partnership represents a strong commitment to unlocking Zambia's gold potential.

He said the firm is bringing its experience in exploration, mining, and artisanal mining management and is committed to transparency and compliance with Zambian laws and international standards.

# DEWATERING OF SHAFT 28 AT LUANSHYA NEW MINE HAS BEEN COMPLETED, SET TO RESUME COPPER PRODUCTION BY AUGUST 2026



**C**NMC Luanshya Copper Mine has finished the dewatering of Shaft 28 at Luanshya New Mine, marking an important step towards the long-awaited re-opening of the company. At the start of the dewatering, about 170 million cubic metres of water was anticipated to be pumped out from the mine.

Luanshya District Commissioner Paul Malele, who confirmed the development, said conclusion of the dewatering process paves way for the next phase of underground preparation before production begins.

In an interview, Mr Malele said once the remaining works are finalised, the mine is expected to start production in the next few months, signalling the commencement of full-scale mining.

“The actual dewatering process has been concluded and what is being done is just the normal pumping out of water just like at any underground mine.

“In addition, rubble is being removed and rehabilitation works are under way to prepare the mine for operations, which are expected to commence by

August 2026,” he said.

Mr Malele has urged residents of Luanshya to remain hopeful and patient, adding that re-opening of the mine will create employment opportunities for locals and help stimulate economic activity in the district.

***“We expect a boost in employment opportunities for the people of Luanshya once production starts. This project will have a positive impact on livelihoods and the local economy,” he said.***

## TAIFA GROUP PLANS TO INVEST OVER \$500 MILLION IN ZAMBIA, TARGETING GAS, SOLAR POWER AND MINING TO EASE ENERGY GAPS

**T**aifa Group, the East Africa industrial and energy conglomerate controlled by Tanzanian billionaire Rostam Aziz, plans to invest over \$500 million in Zambia over the next two years. The investment will focus on gas distribution, renewable power generation, and contract mining, marking the company's largest expansion into Southern Africa and reflecting Aziz's emphasis on infrastructure and regional growth.

The investment is designed to support Zambia's resurging copper sector while addressing long-standing gaps in energy access that continue to constrain industrial productivity and household welfare.

"Zambia has become a major focus country for Taifa Group due to industrial ties, proximity and opportunities that are arising. We need to reduce exposing our women to fumes from charcoal burning and cut diesel dependence in key industries," Aziz added, pointing to lower carbon emissions and improved quality of life as long-term dividends of the strategy. Zambia's economic outlook is closely linked to renewed momentum in copper mining, alongside agriculture and light manufacturing. Taifa Group is positioning itself as an enabler of that growth, supplying the energy inputs and services that keep mines, factories and households running efficiently.

The group's initial emphasis will be on gas supply for both domestic and industrial use. Taifa Gas is expected to begin

shipping liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) into Zambia in 2026. The group plans to back supply with extensive storage and distribution infrastructure, building depots beyond Lusaka to ensure reliability and reach smaller towns and industrial zones.

In parallel, Taifa Group is advancing plans to develop up to 500 megawatts of solar power capacity, aimed at easing Zambia's acute power shortages and reducing reliance on diesel generators, particularly in mining operations. The group will also deploy its three decades of experience in contract mining and equipment supply to support Zambia's extractive sector. Linking growth to health, environment and regional resilience

Rostam Aziz, Tanzanian billionaire and chairman of Taifa Group, described the Zambia investment as part of a broader strategy to support sustainable development initiatives across East and Southern Africa, extending the group's regional economic footprint.

With Zambia drawing increased foreign interest and tourism, Aziz says confidence in the country's next phase of growth is strengthening. By committing large-scale capital to critical infrastructure, Taifa Group is positioning itself not only as an investor in Zambia's recovery but as a long-term partner in building the industrial base of a more integrated African economy.





**3 – 5 March 2026**

Cape Town International Convention Centre

---

**REGISTER NOW**

---

 [africaenergyindaba.com](http://africaenergyindaba.com)

 [info@energyindaba.co.za](mailto:info@energyindaba.co.za)



# Shape Africa's Energy Future at the **Africa Energy Indaba**

Join Africa's premier energy platform bringing together policymakers, investors, utilities, IPPs, developers, and innovators to unlock the continent's energy potential. The Africa Energy Indaba offers unparalleled access to market intelligence, investment opportunities, cutting-edge technologies, and strategic partnerships that drive real outcomes.

Participate to gain visibility, influence policy discussions, and position your organisation at the forefront of Africa's sustainable, secure, and inclusive energy transition. Engage in high-level dialogues, showcase your solutions, and connect with decision-makers shaping Africa's energy landscape.

Don't miss your opportunity to lead the conversation and accelerate progress across the continent.





## SHUKA MINERALS DELAYS FULL TAKEOVER OF ZAMBIA'S KABWE ZINC MINE AS FUNDING SHIFTS

**S**huka Minerals Plc, a Kenyan-based dynamic and innovative mining and development company, has extended the deadline for completing its full acquisition of Zambia's historic Kabwe Zinc Mine, pushing the timetable to January 15, 2026 as financing timelines shift.

The AIM- and JSE AltX-listed miner said it agreed with vendors to move the long-stop date for acquiring Leopard Exploration and Mining Limited (LEM), the owner of the Kabwe Zinc Mine, to Jan. 15, 2026, from Dec. 31, 2025.

The delay follows updated guidance from Gathoni Muchai Investments Limited (GMI), the African-focused investment banking firm providing

debt funding for the transaction. GMI has verbally advised Shuka that the next tranche of funding will be released in the week beginning Jan. 5, 2026, prompting the extension.

Shuka is already economically exposed to Kabwe. In November 2025, the company settled an initial tranche of the acquisition consideration, securing an effective 22.2 percent stake in LEM and the Kabwe Zinc Mine.

Under the transaction structure, subsequent tranches, largely funded through an expanded GMI loan facility agreed in June 2025, are expected to lift Shuka's interest to 49.9 percent, before a final tranche delivers full ownership through a mix of cash,

shares, and warrants.

Kabwe is one of Africa's most strategically significant zinc assets, with historic production and scale placing it among the continent's premier base metal deposits.

Full control of the mine would materially reshape Shuka's asset base, positioning it as a potential mid-tier player in African zinc.

While the revised timetable introduces short-term uncertainty, Shuka said the transaction remains firmly on track, with no changes to the underlying commercial terms.

A further update is expected once funding is received and completion milestones are met.

## MOPANI OFFICIALLY KICKS OFF ITS LOCALISED SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (SDP)

**M**opani Copper Mines Plc has officially launched its Localised Supplier Development Programme, aimed at enhancing local content and fostering inclusive growth within its supply value chain.

The initiative, launched at a workshop in Kitwe under the theme “Strengthening Productive Capacity for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through a Supplier Development Programme,” is a pivotal step in the company's strategic response to boost the participation of local suppliers, particularly women-led enterprises and artisanal small-scale miners.

Speaking in a speech read on behalf by Mopani Consultant Engineer-Engineering and Asset Management, Douglas Bbela, Mopani Chief Executive Officer Eng. Charles Sakanya, said the initiative aligns with Zambia's new local content Statutory Instrument and the Geological and Mineral Development Act of 2025, which mandates increased participation of local companies and citizens in the mining value chain.

“In conjunction with the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) and the Copperbelt University Africa Centre for Excellence in Sustainable Mining, we have made strides in formulating a fully-fledged Mopani Supplier Development Programme. Early 2025, Mopani management approved the concept note for the rollout of this localised programme.

As part of this pilot initiative, we have completed the profiling and due diligence of 15 selected companies, which include 10 women-led companies and 5 Artisanal Small-Scale Mining Companies a rigorous evaluation process,” Eng. Sakanya said.

Eng. Sakanya explained that Mopani's commitment to the localised SDP goes beyond merely complying with local content regulations; it is about building a robust ecosystem that fosters economic empowerment within the communities. He further highlighted Mopani's ongoing investments in expansion projects, particularly with the arrival of International Resources Holding (IRH), which has

committed US\$400 million towards these crucial projects, including three shafts and two tailings dams.

“These expansion investments are crucial in enhancing our operational capacity and ensuring that our local suppliers are an integral part of our growth path. By integrating local businesses into our supply chain, we not only strengthen our operations but also contribute to the economic fabric of our community,” he stated.

And United Nations Development Programme UNDP Country Resident Representative, Dr. James Wakiaga stated that the SDP initiative has a dual focus on strengthening local supply chains and fostering gender inclusivity, noting that it will empower women-led enterprises and artisanal small-scale miners through capacity building and improved access to procurement opportunities.

Dr. Wakiaga, expressed appreciation to the Zambian Government, Mopani and partners for their joint commitment to advancing local economic transformation through the localised SDP.

He explained that the Mopani localised SDP is a 10-month capacity-building journey designed to strengthen the local supply chain, and 2026 UNDP will roll out a Supplier Development Methodology (SDM), an accreditation programme for national business consultants on the Copperbelt and North Western provinces.

Meanwhile, Copperbelt University Africa Centre for Excellence in Sustainable Mining Director Dr. Mwanza Chabala, noted that many small-scale miners lack skills, equipment, and proper organisation.

Dr. Chabala said through this programme, the university and its partners are helping to train miners, support formalisation, and improve productivity.

He underscored the important contribution this programme will make, noting that the SDP serves as a critical bridge that connects previous initiatives with future goals, ensuring that both Mopani and suppliers can achieve their objectives.



# OVER 1,000 COOPERATIVES TRAINED AND ISSUED LICENCES

The Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development has trained artisanal and small-scale miners from more than 1,000 cooperatives through three phases of its intensive national capacity-building program, conducted in the last quarter of 2025.

Each phase delivered a comprehensive 21-day curriculum, with sessions held in Mufumbwe, Kasempa, Solwezi, and Mpika districts.

Ministry's Principal Public Relations Officer, Shamwinda Tembo, highlighted that the initiative was designed to strengthen responsible mining practices and ensure regulatory compliance across the sector.

Mr. Tembo noted that upon completion of the training, all participating cooperatives were formally issued artisanal

mining licences, marking a significant step toward the full legalization and formalization of artisanal and small-scale mining activities.

*"The programme provided essential knowledge on the mining sector's role in advancing national values and principles, pathways to accessing finance and markets, distinctions between mining and non-mining rights among others," Mr. Tembo said.*

Mr. Tembo disclosed that throughout the programme, emphasis was placed on productivity, safety, environmental stewardship, and fostering positive community relations. He emphasised the Ministry's commitment to expanding this 21-day training and licensing initiative nationwide in 2026.

## FIRST QUANTUM WELCOMES INCREASED LOCAL PARTICIPATION IN THE ZAMBIAN MINING SECTOR

First Quantum Minerals acknowledges the Minerals Development (Preference for Zambia Goods and Services) Regulations, 2025 issued recently by The Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development. The legislation is designed to increase local participation in the country's growing mining sector.

As an investor in Zambia for almost 30 years, First Quantum supports all efforts to unlock opportunities across the mining value chain for Zambian businesses.

The government's goal of producing 3 million tons of copper a year by 2031 will require, alongside significant levels of investment by international mining companies, many more skilled workers and a range of local suppliers to provide these growing enterprises with the necessary products and services.

Across our global operations, First Quantum always prioritizes local businesses and develops regional supply chains wherever possible; the monitoring and performance of our suppliers is a process of continual improvement. As a global business, more than 80% of our spend is with nationally registered suppliers.

First Quantum's Zambia Country Director, Anthony Mukutuma, commented: "First Quantum strives to foster the development of local supply chains whenever it is commercially viable to do so.

In 2024 alone, First Quantum spent more than \$1.7 billion with Zambian-registered businesses, representing 84% of our spending on goods and services in the country. This is equivalent to around 6% of Zambia's GDP.



*"The recently commissioned Kansanshi S3 Expansion, one of the most advanced copper projects in Africa, involved over 2,500 Zambians and 535 local Zambian companies, working on the project alongside our in-house teams — gaining skills and capacity that will serve them long after S3 is complete."*

First Quantum has developed a new way for interested local Zambian suppliers to submit their interest in becoming a registered vendor with the company in Zambia.

Registration will enable consideration for relevant requests-for-quotes and tender processes, opening the door to future business opportunities with First Quantum Minerals.

See <https://supply.fqml.com> for further details.



INFRASTRUCTURE AFRICA

**2 – 3 March 2026**

Cape Town International Convention  
Centre (CTICC) South Africa

The 2026 edition of Infrastructure Africa will be hosted to keep sharing information relating to the business opportunity around infrastructure development in Africa. The Event will be hosted on 2 – 3 March 2026. Infrastructure Africa will connect industry stakeholders, foster dialogue, provide leading-edge information, promote investment and expansion, as well as facilitate business development around Africa's growth and infrastructure needs.



**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/InfrastructureAfrica/>



**LinkedIn:**

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/infrastructure-africa-events/?viewAsMember=t>



**X:**

<https://twitter.com/InfrastructureA>

**#Infrastructureafrica**

For More info on this event, or to register, visit:

<https://www.infrastructure-africa.com/>

# MOXICO RESOURCES ZAMBIA CLARIFIES OPERATIONS AT KALENGWA MINE

**M**oxico Resources Zambia has clarified on activities at Kalengwa Mine, confirming that exploration works have been intensified and construction of the first processing plant is now nearing commissioning.

The Saddam site is an exploration zone within the Kalengwa tenement, while Moxico Kalengwa Resources Limited is an established mine undergoing significant construction and expansion to boost production capacity and socio-economic development.

In a statement, Ian Chitu Chomba, Public Relations & Corporate Affairs Officer, said: "Previously, the area experienced illegal mining due to prolonged ownership disputes, now resolved through the intervention of the Government of the Republic of Zambia under the leadership of His Excellency President Hakainde Hichilema."

Investigations confirm that no formal complaints regarding working conditions have been submitted through the company's internal reporting channels.

Operations meet all occupational health and safety standards in line with Zambian labour laws and mining regulations.

Employees have access to clean piped drinking water via borehole and free internet for personal and family communication without intimidation. Negative claims originate from individuals linked to previous illegal mining

activities, not current employees.

Workforce interviews reaffirm that staff receive proper safety equipment, welfare support, and have open communication channels.

Mr. Chomba added that Moxico Resources currently employs over 400 people at Kalengwa. With the processing plant soon commissioning, the mine will create more local jobs and contribute significantly to the development of Kalengwa.

To ensure responsible operations, the company is implementing stronger on-site monitoring by safety teams and supervisors across all exploration zones, robust grievance, feedback, and whistle-blower systems allowing confidential reporting directly to senior management, quarterly community and workforce engagement forums to ensure transparency, trust, and proactive communication.

"Moxico Resources Zambia is committed to lawful, safe, and sustainable mining. The company prioritizes job creation, local empowerment, and long-term community development, ensuring Kalengwa Mine delivers tangible benefits for its workforce, surrounding communities, and the nation," Mr. Chomba said.

Stakeholders and community members are encouraged to engage directly with the company for accurate information and constructive dialogue.



# WATER-MIST AND AFFF AS ADVANCED FIRE SUPPRESSION FOR MINING

**M**any mining companies audit not only production targets but also the resilience of their safety systems. In an environment where diesel, hydraulic fluids, rubber and high-temperature components co-exist, the choice of suppression technology can determine whether a small ignition is contained or escalates into a catastrophic loss of equipment, production and, worst of all, life.

“Conventional powder extinguishers still have a role, yet the industry is increasingly turning to advanced suppression options that better match the unique hazards of mining operations,” explains ASP Fire CEO Michael van Niekerk. Water-mist systems extinguish fire by atomising water into very fine droplets. These micro-droplets absorb heat rapidly and reduce the energy in the flame while creating a cooling effect on hot surfaces.

Since the droplets are small, they create a large surface area relative to volume, improving evaporation and heat extraction even in confined or cluttered spaces such as engine bays and equipment enclosures.

Experimental and review studies over the past few years confirm water-mist's effectiveness across a range of fuel types and compartments, and its ability to suppress flames while limiting water damage compared with conventional deluge systems.

## AFFF a mainstay for hydrocarbon incidents

Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) systems remain a mainstay for hydrocarbon incidents because they form a thin vapour-suppressing film on liquid fuel surfaces. This film interrupts the fuel-to-vapour transfer that sustains flame and helps prevent re-ignition, a critical consideration where fuel spills or ruptured tanks are involved.

Recent experimental work continues to refine application parameters for AFFF to maximise extinguishing performance while reducing discharge volumes. These technical advances make AFFF attractive for fuel handling areas on mine sites and for on-board systems on heavy mobile equipment.

Operational realities on mine sites make the choice of suppressant a practical decision, not an academic one. Dry chemical powders are effective at rapid flame knock-down, but they offer no cooling and can compact under vibration, reducing reliability in heavy machinery applications.

Powder clouds can also impair visibility in enclosed spaces, complicating evacuation and rescue. By contrast, water-mist provides both flame suppression and cooling, which reduces the chance of reignition, while AFFF addresses hydrocarbon fuel scenarios where a film agent is needed. Selecting the right technology therefore depends on a detailed hazard assessment that considers ignition sources, fuel load, enclosure geometry and maintenance regimes.

## Changes in foam use

Environmental and regulatory pressures are changing the calculus around foam use. Many forms of traditional AFFF contain PFAS chemicals, often referred to as 'forever chemicals' because of their persistence in the environment. Regulators in jurisdictions across Europe, North America and



elsewhere have accelerated restrictions and guidance on PFAS-containing foams, prompting operators to perform site-specific risk assessments and to consider fluorine-free alternatives where feasible.

At the same time, industry guidance documents set out transition pathways so that critical fire protection is not compromised during changeover. Mines that use foam must therefore balance immediate operational safety with medium- and long-term environmental obligations and consult applicable national guidance.

For mining operators, the practical steps are clear. “Start with a robust Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment that maps likely ignition scenarios and fuel inventories,” explains van Niekerk. Match suppression technology to the hazard: water-mist for confined equipment spaces and areas where cooling and minimal collateral damage are priorities, and AFFF or approved foam alternatives for hydrocarbon storage and transfer points.

## International standards

Ensure systems are specified and installed to international standards and tested under realistic conditions. Finally, plan for lifecycle management, including maintenance, training and, where relevant, strategies to transition away from PFAS-containing foams in line with regulation and best practice.

“On-board and fixed suppression systems are not an optional extra for mining, they are central to operational continuity and HSE performance,” stresses van Niekerk. “We have worked across African mines and understand how to apply water-mist and foam solutions in ways that reduce business risk while meeting health, safety and environmental obligations. Our experience shows that the right technology, applied to the right hazard, protects people and keeps production moving.”

If mining companies prioritise suppression technology as part of their end-of-year safety reviews, they will not only reduce the likelihood of major incidents but also improve long-term operational resilience. Regulators and communities alike expect that safety measures reflect both contemporary science and responsible environmental stewardship; advanced suppression systems, selected and managed correctly, offer a way to meet both expectations.

## AFRICA'S FUTURE MAY WELL LIE IN THE SUN - By Mukwandi

**Chibesakunda, Chief Executive Officer, Zanaco Plc**

**A**cross the African continent, one topic increasingly dominates conversations in boardrooms, parliaments and everyday households: energy. When the grid fails and the lights go out, the consequences cascade through industry, education, health services and family life. Energy has therefore moved beyond being a purely economic matter; it has become a deeply political one, shaped by national policies that determine how securely and sustainably the continent will be powered.

In the era of climate change, the need for innovative and resilient energy systems has never been more urgent.

Zambia is a good case in point. With 85 percent of its electricity generated from hydropower, the country remains highly vulnerable to weather extremes. The drought of two years ago exposed this fragility. By May 2024, Zambia could only produce 900 megawatts against a demand of 2,400 megawatts - a shortfall of roughly 750 megawatts. The economic impact was immediate and severe. Some businesses survived on costly generators; others did not survive at all. Once seen as the bedrock of national energy security, Zambia's large hydroelectric dams are now reminders of the need for deeper diversification. Encouragingly, the country is witnessing a surge in solar installations at both household and industrial levels.

With vast land and abundant sunshine, solar energy could become one of Zambia's most reliable pathways to energy resilience.

But the promise of the sun - and of all renewable technologies - hinges on one stubborn barrier: financing. Across Africa, inadequate financing remains the single greatest obstacle to universal energy access.

Unless governments, financiers and private players work in alignment, millions will remain in the dark. In Zambia, rural electricity access is still just 34 percent.

Zambia's Energy Compact aims to install 10,000 megawatts of renewable capacity by 2030. Achieving this will require nearly US\$12 billion in private investment - almost half of the country's GDP.

The need for commercial banks to rise to this challenge has never been more imperative, and banks like Zanaco Bank Plc have joined in this crusade towards a renewable energy future.

Over the past few years, Zanaco has contributed the following in the growth of the energy sector with notable projects being funding the 100MW Solar PV Power Plant (Phase 1) in Nambala, Mumba and will be commissioned by April 2026 and the \$25 million towards Phase 2 of 300MW Power Plant for Maamba Energy located in Maamba District. The total project cost is estimated at \$400 million.

These efforts are being backed by policy reforms in the energy sector, such as cost-reflective tariffs, faster licensing and open-access regulations, which are making Zambia a more attractive destination for energy investors. The government is also matching private sector-driven efforts with its own ambitious plan to add 1,000 megawatts of solar to the grid in the coming months.

Regionally, the Southern African Power Pool provides a safety



net by enabling cross-border power trading, reducing market risk for producers.

Globally, more than US\$3.6 trillion has been invested in renewable energy over the past decade; Africa received barely two percent. The issue is not a lack of global capital but a shortage of bankable projects. As World Bank energy specialist Ahid Maeresera notes, eight out of ten proposals collapse before reaching feasibility, and many of the remaining projects fail to reach financial closure.

Predictable regulations, transparent risk-sharing mechanisms and cost-reflective pricing are essential to attracting private capital.

Zambia's ongoing reforms - such as establishing an independent system operator and expanding blended-finance programmes like the World Bank's ASCENT - offer hope. The Mission 300 initiative, which aims to connect 300 million Africans to electricity by 2030 and has allocated nearly US\$90 million to Zambia, is another encouraging step.

But incremental progress will not close the gap. Policymakers must accelerate regulatory reforms, streamline procurement and secure reliable industrial off-takers. Development Finance Institutions should expand guarantees and provide patient capital to de-risk private investment. African governments must treat transmission lines as national priorities and build robust markets that serve more than just the mining sector.

Energy poverty is not an abstract economic concept - it is a daily reality that limits opportunity and erodes dignity.

Closing Africa's energy financing gap is therefore not optional. It is the key to powering the continent's economic future and providing millions of families with the basic security of reliable electricity. Zambia is already doing this by investing in the Zambia-Tanzania interconnector.

Added to this, solar power, small-scale hydro and mini grids will be central to this transition, especially in rural communities. Recent reforms, including the 30-year Integrated Resource Plan, faster licensing and open-access frameworks are helping attract private-sector interest.

Energy security is not a luxury; it is a necessity, and aligning government ambition with private-sector innovation can turn today's energy shortfall into tomorrow's competitive advantage.

# ZIMEC 2026

 **25-26 MARCH**  
 **GARDEN COURT HOTEL  
KITWE, ZAMBIA**



# 13<sup>th</sup> ZAMBIA INTERNATIONAL MINING AND ENERGY CONFERENCE

Promoting Responsible Investment  
& Partnerships to Sustainably Grow  
Zambia's Mining & Energy Sectors

SUPPORTED BY



Ministry of Mines and  
Minerals Development



MINISTRY  
OF ENERGY



ASSOCIATION OF ZAMBIAN  
MINERAL EXPLORATION  
COMPANIES

AZMEC

ORGANIZED BY



REGISTER NOW!



CONTACT US



[www.zimeczambia.com](http://www.zimeczambia.com)



[zambia@ametrade.org](mailto:zambia@ametrade.org)



#ZIMEC



# Join the 12<sup>TH</sup> Mozambique Mining and Energy Conference and Exhibition

## Theme:

**“Mozambique open for business;  
Unlocking natural resources for industrialisation  
diversification and inclusive growth.”**

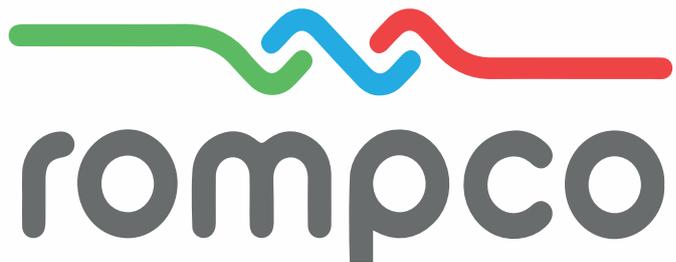


**06-07** | **MAY 2026**  
MAPUTO | MOZAMBIQUE

[www.mmec-moz.com](http://www.mmec-moz.com)  
[mmec@ametrade.org](mailto:mmec@ametrade.org)



**GOLD SPONSOR**



ORGANISED BY



SUPPORTED BY



MINISTRY OF  
MINERAL RESOURCES  
AND ENERGY



(+258) 84 428 9730 - EVANDRO LEBOEUF  
(+258) 84 551 2903 - NATERCIA BAMBO

**REGISTER NOW**



**One week.  
One city.  
One event.**

**The entire mining ecosystem — in one place.**  
Tickets for Mining Indaba 2026 are live.

**REGISTER FOR YOUR TICKET**

[miningindaba.com/page/registration](https://miningindaba.com/page/registration)





# Improve copper extraction yields with Penthol's trusted diluents



**Backed by global expertise,  
built for local performance**

**Penthol HF-250, Penthol D-80**

- Lower volatility and lower loss
- Flexibility in product range
- International technical expertise
- Greater safety with higher flash point



**Penthol**  
South Africa  
 penthol.com

 [info@penthol.com](mailto:info@penthol.com)  
 +27 83 676 2907

Scan the QR   
code to learn  
more about us

