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NEWS ALERT

Bheki Mthembu appointed CEO of PPC's Rwandan subsidiary, CIMERWA

Former General Manager of PPC Cement's Hercules and Jupiter operations in Gauteng, Bheki Mthembu has been appointed the CEO of CIMERWA.

PPC has announced the appointment of Bheki Mthembu as CEO of its CIMERWA plant in Rwanda. Mthembu assumed his new duties as CEO from 1 December 2016 under the guidance of Njombo Lekula, Managing Director of PPC International Operations.

A qualified development chemist, Mthembu started his career at PPC Cement in April 1995. By September 1999, he was managing the company's laboratory – a position he held for five years. His understanding of the manufacturing process, as well as his keen interest in business saw him subsequently move into the quality assurance space, culminating in his appointment as Group Quality Assurance Manager in January 2010. Mthembu went on to become the Head of Group Technical Services in April 2013. Just over a year later he assumed leadership of PPC Hercules as the General Manager, adding PPC Jupiter to his portfolio in 2016.

With optimisation of CIMERWA currently in progress, Mthembu is looking forward to this new challenge and the year ahead. "While PPC's well-established presence in Botswana and Zimbabwe had already positioned us as an African brand, CIMERWA spearheaded the next phase of our expansion onto the continent – demonstrating our vision and commitment to building Africa. Given that the plant is already running at capacity utilisation levels above 50% and sold over 148 000 tons of cement in the latest reporting period, it's a very exciting time to be joining the team."

Kevin Odendaal will be replacing Mthembu locally as PPC Executive: Gauteng Business Unit, building on his work to date. This is in line with the Group's vision and strategy to become a materials solution provider both in South Africa and across the continent.

Mthembu and Odendaal both see their new appointments as opportunities to continue to build the brand and the Group's operations. "As PPC moves into its next exciting phase of commissioning on the continent, we look forward to growing and strengthening our stakeholder partnerships through ongoing rollout of the Group's strategy."

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About PPC Ltd

A leading supplier of cement and related products in southern Africa, PPC Ltd has nine cement factories in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Rwanda. In 2016 PPC commissioned its fifth milling depot, located in Harare, Zimbabwe, bringing PPC's current capacity to around nine million tons of cement products each year. As part of its strategy and long-term vision, PPC is expanding its operations in South Africa, and extending its footprint into the DRC and Ethiopia.

PPC's Materials business, comprising Safika Cement, Pronto Readymix (including Ulula Ash) and, the recently acquired 3Q Mahuma Concrete, forms part of the company's channel management strategy for southern Africa. As a result of these acquisitions PPC's footprint has grown to include 26 readymix batching plants across South Africa and Mozambique and the capacity to produce half a million tons of fly ash.

PPC also produces aggregates with its Mooiplaas aggregates quarry in Gauteng having the largest aggregate production capacity in South Africa. PPC Lime, one of the largest lime producers in the southern hemisphere, produces metallurgical-grade lime, burnt dolomite and limestone.

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