

# Bamburi launches a Mobile Concrete Testing Laboratory

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The launch reaffirms Bamburi Cement's evolution from a building materials supplier to a construction solutions provider. The Mobile Concrete laboratory, in which Bamburi Cement has invested over Kshs.15 million, is fitted with state of the art equipment for conducting on-site tests.

The laboratory offers flexibility and convenience to users who would otherwise have been forced to go to fixed concrete laboratories for tests. This approach thus reaches out to a greater geographical sphere with regard to far off sites that have limited or no access to concrete testing facilities.

The Lab aims at ensuring that the quality of concrete and its constituent materials used at construction sites meet the specifications of standards stipulated by Kenya Bureau of Standards and requirements of the National Construction Authority which will ultimately result in overall improvement of construction and safety standards in the construction and building industry.

The Mobile Concrete Lab will conduct on-site aggregate analysis, testing of fresh and hardened concrete as well as assess soil stabilization tests for road works. Customers will be able to know the quality and adequacy of their aggregates, sand and concrete mix designs. Users will additionally benefit from expert technical advice on concrete optimisation and best practices.

“Bamburi Cement advocates for the use of quality materials in construction for achievement of the best results. It is against this backdrop that we introduce this new value added service to users of our products. The service is designed to provide quality testing and convenience to our customers,” said Bamburi Cement Managing Director Bruno Pescheux.

The latest innovation by Bamburi comes at a time when the country is experiencing rapid developments in the construction industry due to increased investment by government and private sector in infrastructure and housing. With this immense growth, there have been several challenges with building capacity and improving the level of professionalism in construction practices in Kenya.

“The Mobile Concrete Lab will bring sophisticated testing equipment to construction sites. To this end, our customers will benefit from immediate and advanced professional services to ensure that only quality materials are used for concreting works and construction on site,” added Pescheux

The construction sector in Kenya recorded a \$235 million (Sh24.6 billion) loss in 2013 according to the National Construction Authority (NCA), which it blamed on low and poor quality workmanship.

This launch augments the cement maker’s ongoing country wide initiative dubbed Builders Academy that has been offering free training to construction workers aimed at improving their skills, professionalism and safety in the building and construction industry. This is in line with its

advocacy in improving construction and building standards in the country. This year alone, it has trained over 1,600 masons from across the country.

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

With a well-balanced presence in 90 countries and a focus on Cement, Aggregates and Concrete, LafargeHolcim (SIX Swiss Exchange, Euronext Paris: LHN) is the world leader in the building materials industry. The Group has 115,000 employees around the world and combined net sales of CHF 33 billion (EUR 27 billion) in 2014. LafargeHolcim is the industry benchmark in R&D and serves from the individual homebuilder to the largest and most complex project with the widest range of value-adding products, innovative services and comprehensive building solutions. With a commitment to drive sustainable solutions for better building and infrastructure and to contribute to a higher quality of life, the Group is best positioned to meet the challenges of increasing urbanization.

Bamburi Cement Limited, a subsidiary of LafargeHolcim, is the leading cement manufacturing and marketing Company in the Eastern Africa region. It has three subsidiaries Hima Cement Ltd (Uganda), Bamburi Special Products Ltd and Lafarge Ecosystems Ltd.

More information is available on LafargeHolcim's website: [www.LafargeHolcim.com](http://www.LafargeHolcim.com) and [www.Lafarge.co.ke](http://www.Lafarge.co.ke)

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