



KENAS, KEBS AND NTSA TO HOLD FORUMS WITH PSV PLAYERS

Nairobi, 1st November, 2016.... Three government agencies, National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA), Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) and Kenya Accreditation Service (KENAS), have kicked off a sensitization campaign with key players on the motor vehicle industry standards and road safety guidelines, aimed at reducing road carnage.

Over the next two weeks, KEBS in collaboration with KENAS and NTSA intends to hold six forums across the country. These forums will be held in; Mombasa, Nairobi, Kisumu, Nakuru, Eldoret and Nyeri.

The stakeholder awareness sessions are mainly targeted at passenger vehicle body builders, vehicle manufacturers, public service vehicle operators and key government agencies with an aim of informing and educating players in this sector on requirements contained in standards and conformity assessment procedures as well as motor vehicle standards and road safety rules.

KEBS Managing Director Mr. Charles Ongwae, emphasized that standards are used to achieve three objectives: facilitate trade, protect consumers from harmful and poor quality goods and protect the environment.

"The roads are at the heart of our social and economic development. Supporting road developments means contributing to this process. KEBS has worked closely with key stakeholders in developing standards to ensure we protect the road users. These covers speed limiters (commonly known as speed governors), speed bumps, motor vehicle body construction & inspection and many more," said Ongwae.

The road transport sector is considerably one of the most important industries to the growth of an economy. Not only does it play a significant role in the movement of goods and persons, but also in economic terms such as source of wealth creation and employment.

The World Health Organization (WHO) projects that by 2030, the fifth most common reason for loss of health will be an injury generated within the road transport system.

On his part, NTSA Director General, Francis Meja, notes there is not enough being done to apply existing knowledge and manage the actions taken by most road users.

“NTSA endeavors to develop a management system for all those stakeholders that use the road transport system, or that have a major impact on the safety of road transport systems. By bringing together all the common knowledge that has been developed over the years, NTSA's management system for road traffic safety is the answer to reducing injuries and deaths on our roads,” added Meja.

Meja, added to improve road safety requires the participation of many different organizations and players in the road sector. “We can look forward to a major breakthrough of traffic safety across the country if we collaboratively work together,” said Meja.

Meanwhile, the agencies have signed a three-year partnership agreement which will see them benefit from exchanging technical personnel, encourage and assist each other build competencies in Conformity Assessment as well as Accreditation.

KENAS CEO, Mr. Sammy Milgo, said the partnership will assist create a level playing field for competition in provision of conformity assessments towards the highest attainable standard of quality in the transport sector.

Ends

Editor's Notes:

About Kenya Bureau of Standards

Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) is a statutory body established under the Standards Act (CAP 496) of the laws of Kenya. KEBS motto is "Standards for quality life", while the Mission is "to provide standardization solutions for sustainable development".

Therefore, KEBS has a mandate to ensure:

- Development and harmonization of standards through a process that ensures all competing interests are heard, their points of view considered and consensus reached.
- Availing for sale Kenya standards, Regional and International standards.
- Testing of raw materials and finished products.
- Calibration of equipment.
- Product and system certification.
- Undertaking educational work in standardization and practical application of standards.
- Maintenance and dissemination of International System of Units (SI) of measurements.
- Support growth of industry by provision of quality assurance and inspection.

To find out more please visit the KEBS website at www.kebs.org

About NTSA

The National Transport and safety Authority was established through an Act of Parliament; Act Number 33 on 26th October 2012. The objective of forming the Authority was to harmonize the operations of the key road transport departments and help in effectively managing the road transport sub-sector and minimizing loss of lives through road accidents.

To find out more please visit the NTSA website at http://www.ntsa.go.ke/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=88&Itemid=486

About KENAS

Kenya Accreditation Service (KENAS) is the Sole National Accreditation Body (NAB) mandated to offer accreditation services in Kenya. It is established under the States Corporations Act, Cap 446; vide Legal Notice No. 55 of May 2009. It gives formal attestation that Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) are competent to carry out specific conformity assessment activities.

To find out more please visit the NTSA website at <http://kenas.go.ke/about-us/>

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