

M.Z. (Knox) Msebenzi – Resume

Qualifications

Academic

MA Engineering (Cambridge University – June 1983)
MSc Electric Power Engineering (Ransselaer Polytechnic, New York - 1986)
MBA (Wits Business School – June 2003)

Professional

Registered Professional Engineer (South Africa)
Chartered Electrical Engineer (UK)
Member, South African Institution of Electrical Engineers

Experience in Non-Executive Directorship of Companies

South African Quality Institute (1999 – 2000), Turbomecca Africa (2004 – 2005), Denel Property Group (2004 – 2005), Denel Personnel Solutions (2004 – 2005), EWSETA (01/07/13 – Present)

Work Experience

01/07/13 – Present

Managing Director - Nuclear Industry Association of South Africa (NIASA).

01/07/13 – 31/12/16

Executive Director – Power Institute of East and Southern Africa (PIESA)

01/09/11 – 30/06/13

Projects Manager – NECSA – Managing the upgrading of the security system at Pelindaba site to comply with IAEA INFOSEC - 225 requirements.

01/05/09 – 31/07/11

Chief Technical Officer – National Nuclear regulator: Responsible for all the core business areas of the nuclear regulator i.e. Authorisations, Compliance Assurance, Technical Assessments, Enforcement and Security. Reporting to the CEO, I have been tasked with turning around the operations.

01/03/08 – 30/04/09

Senior Manager, Analytical and Calibration Services, Nuclear Energy Corporation of SA (Necsa). After successfully setting up the farm in Zambia, I decided to re-enter the corporate world to utilize my experience. I took the current position which entails driving the commercialization of laboratory services. I utilized the experience I gained at the SABS running the Test House. I took this job knowing that it would be limited in challenges and the main objective was to return to the corporate world.

01/09/06 to 28/02/08

Farmer, Lusaka West, Zambia: - While I was at Plessey in Zambia, I saw an opportunity to embark on a full-time farm development on the outskirts of Lusaka. The farm is now in operation and requires minimal management by relatively low skilled personnel.

01/12/05 to 31/08/06

Country Manager, Plessey Zambia – MTN Operations: Responsible for the in-country services in the site construction for the transmission towers of the MTN network in Zambia. This was a turn-key project for the roll out of the MTN Zambia network as well as the upgrade of the existing (Telecel) network. The whole project was worth about US\$20m. My responsibility as country manager was to manage the two separately administered projects and be accountable to the client (MTN) for delivery on time. To Plessey, my deliverables were controlled costs and timely delivery (to prevent penalties). Some of the challenges involved were the identification and development of local Zambian contractors and personnel to execute the contract.

01/07/03 to 31/08/05

Group Executive Director: Denel Aerospace: Reporting to the CEO, I was responsible for 5 operating divisions of Denel that are in the aerospace technology area with over R2.5 bn turnover. Each of them headed by a General Manager, they consist of Denel Aviation, Denel Aerospace Systems, Denel Optronics, OTB and Denel Personnel Services. During my time of office, I was responsible for the restructuring of the aerospace divisions by forming synergistic groupings. For instance, we moved a business unit involved with optronics work from the old Kentron Division to the old Eloptro to form Denel Optronics.

01/09/00 – 30/06/03

General Manager – Eloptro, Division of Denel (Aerospace Group): Total accountability of a R100m turnover high-tech company. Eloptro develops, manufactures and markets laser range finders, submarine periscopes and other optical/thermal devices used mainly by the defence and security industries.

01/02/99 – 31/08/00

General Manager - Test House Strategic Business Unit (SBU), South African Bureau of Standards. The SABS was restructured into 3 SBUs – Certification, Standards and Testing and they had to operate on a commercial basis. My brief was to implement a turn around strategy to make the Test House SBU profitable (commercialization) with a view to privatization in future. As a member of the top management team, all strategic issues pertaining to the SABS were within the scope during my tenure at SABS.

01/02/97 – 31/01/99

Assistant General Manager - Eloptro, division of Denel

I started off at Eloptro as a manager of operations services, then business unit manager, mechanical manufacturing, before I became AGM. I then focused my attention on restructuring the company to shed non-core activities and with a view to privatization in line with the guidelines of the department of public enterprise.

01/01/95 – 31/01/97

Engineering Manager - South African Breweries, Port Elizabeth

SAB had a clearly spelt out strategy for world class manufacturing and my responsibility was the translation of this strategy into an operational strategy in the engineering department and the alignment with the rest of the production departments such as brewing and packaging. People related issues such as establishing effective teams with defined goals, were key in this process.

01/10/92 – 31/12/94

Plant Electrical Engineer - Hulett Aluminium Rolled Products, Pietermaritzburg.

I was in charge of the Industrial Control Department of 20 engineers and technicians who performed maintenance on the electrical and electronics systems of the entire factory. With the R1.6 b expansion project, I was responsible for plant specification of new equipment on the electrical plant - including state-of-the-art drives for rolling mills.

01/01/91 – 30/09/92

Lecturer - Electrical Power Systems, University of Natal.

As a lecturer in electrical machines and power systems to 3rd and 4th year students, I was also involved with research work with industry. I had started work with Eskom investigating voltage stability in power distribution systems. I left the university to pursue a career in industry.

01/01/89 – 31/12/90

Lecturer - Electrical Power Systems, Botswana Polytechnic, Gaborone. I designed the B.Tech curriculum for electrical power systems. I specified and procured hardware for the electrical machines laboratory.

01/06/86 – 31/12/88

Projects Engineer - Hwange Power Station, Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority. I first underwent a comprehensive pupillage in engineering on Thermal Power Station Operations and Maintenance before being appointed as Projects Engineer.

01/07/83 – 31/07/84

Technical Assistant - Buchwa Mine, Zvishavane, Zimbabwe. This was my first postgraduate job and I was plunged to the deep end of electrical maintenance on conveyor belt drives, P&H electric shovel and general power reticulation. I was given a project to design and install an electrical reticulation system at a nearby school to the mine, as part of the mine's corporate social investment projects.

Contact Details:

Cell: +27 82 904 3913

Email: knox.msebenzi@gmail.com / knox@niasa.co.za