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MARTHINUSEN & COUTTS OFFERS INTEGRATED ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES THROUGH LATEST ACQUISITION

The recent acquisition of Cetus Turbo Machinery by leading electrical repairer of motors and generators, Marthinusen & Coutts (a division of Actom), will allow the company to offer all industries a comprehensive electrical and mechanical repair service solution on rotating machines as a single service provider.

"Being a single service provider with a market offering of this magnitude, our customers and potential customers no longer need to outsource refurbishments and rehabilitation of large equipment to different service providers," Mike Chamberlain, operations executive of Marthinusen & Coutts, says. "Our significantly expanded capability enables us to control the entire process, offering peace of mine coupled with optimised cost efficiencies, as the middleman is cut out completely."

As a one-stop shop, Marthinusen & Coutts now operates five production workshops covering 32 000 m² in southern Africa. This includes facilities in Cleveland, Benoni, Rustenburg, Kitwe, Zambia and the Cetus facility in Sasolburg.

Significantly, Cetus provides a unique set of mechanical turbine specialist skills which were previously not available within the group. Rebranded as Actom Turbo Machines, the new addition to the Marthinusen & Coutts stable undertakes maintenance, general servicing, rehabilitation and refurbishment of all types of mechanical rotating equipment, including all types of turbines (low, intermediate and high pressure), steam governors, compressors, blowers, pumps, fans, gearboxes, decanters, centrifuges, filter presses and scrubbers.

This complements Marthinusen & Coutts' existing range of services for electrical rotating equipment, which includes small, medium and high voltage AC and DC motors, flameproof motors, traction motors, generators, alternators and ancillary power generation equipment up to 500 MW.

In addition to its well-equipped facilities, Marthinusen & Coutts regularly deploys its experienced team to sites across the continent. The comprehensive on-site capabilities have been used by a

number of large blue chip mining and industrial companies to provide high level repairs, where logistics or urgent time frames discourage transportation of machines to and from the central workshops. The additional mechanical capability makes Marthinusen & Coutts and Actom Turbo Machines one of a few companies to offer the full electro-mechanical service capability.

Chris Bezuidenhout, founder of the original business, has been appointed managing director of Actom Turbo Machines, and believes that the strong synergies between the two businesses bode well for future growth. "Our customer service focused strategy will continue and, together with Marthinusen & Coutts, we will grow our market shares significantly. In addition, the financial backing of Actom will facilitate this growth path."

Actom is the largest manufacturer, solution provider, repairer and distributor of electro-mechanical equipment in Africa, employing about 7 500 people. It has 43 operating units, 44 production, service and repair facilities, and 41 distribution outlets throughout southern Africa.

"Asset management maintenance is one of our most important and popular market offerings as it adds significant value for customers in terms of ongoing maintenance of rotating equipment. The supply of our specialised mechanical and electrical skills ensures machinery operates at optimum performance levels and maintenance as well as major servicing can be planned," Chamberlain says.

Marthinusen & Coutts and Actom Turbo Machines have a maintenance contract at Kelvin Coal Fired Power Station B for 60 MW Turbo gensets and ancillary equipment. Over the last year, they have successfully overhauled and upgraded three of these Turbo gensets and completed the refurbishment of a second 70 MVA synchronous condenser unit for the Societe Nationale de'Electricite (SNEL) in the DRC. They are also currently completing the inspections and overhaul of three 30 MW turbines for Nampower's Van Eck Power Station in Namibia.

ACQUISITION OF CETUS TURBO MACHINERY PIC 01: Marthinusen & Coutts and Actom Turbo Machines have a maintenance contract at Kelvin Coal Fired Power Station B for 60 MW Turbo gensets, seen here.

ACQUISITION OF CETUS TURBO MACHINERY PIC 02: A portion of the Actom Turbo Machines workshop. It undertakes general maintenance and servicing, rehabilitation and refurbishment of all types of mechanical rotating equipment.

ACQUISITION OF CETUS TURBO MACHINERY PIC 03: A high-pressure turbine in the Actom Turbo Machines workshop.

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