

UNBS to promote BUBU through quality

By Eddie Ssejjoba

The Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) has committed to promote the Buy Uganda Build Uganda (BUBU) policy through supporting the local industry to implement standards and to certify their products and services.

According to the executive director, Dr Ben Manyindo, the body's focus is on helping the local manufacturers to take advantage of the opportunities in the BUBU policy.

"UNBS has been engaging stakeholders in the textile and furniture industry, which are the key priority areas under BUBU policy, to promote standards and encourage the industry to certify their products and services.

"We believe this will go a long way in developing public confidence in the sector's ability to promote quality products and to improve competitiveness of local products, not just locally but also internationally," he said.

Manyindo was speaking during the UNBS annual quality gala held at Pearl of Africa Hotel in Kampala last week, where several companies were awarded prizes for demonstrating consistency and excellence in complying with product and management systems certification requirements.

This year's theme is, "Promoting Ugandan manufactured products".

Manyindo said for the last 15 years, they have continued to witness growth in a number of companies participating in the gala, which he said demonstrated industry commitment to uphold standards and ensure production of quality products.

He said UNBS' intervention in support of BUBU policy focuses on providing product quality assurance and safety between suppliers and buyers, building the capability of industry to



Representatives of Movit Products posing with their award at the gala

WINNERS OF THE YEAR

- Movit Products Ltd – cosmetics category
- AK Oils and Fats (U) – Ltd agro-processing (large) category
- Tursam Investments Ltd – micro, small and medium enterprises category
- Britania Allied Industries Ltd – beverages category
- Hariss International Ltd – foods category
- Regal Paints (U) Ltd – chemicals category
- Hima Cement Ltd – construction category
- Crane Roofing Ltd – electricals category
- Eagle Air Ltd –services category

adopt and implement standards to enhance product quality and safety and comply with standards requirements.

Other areas include providing conformity assessment services, such as testing and certification to assist industries to demonstrate that their products meet standards requirements.

The state minister for trade, Michael Werikhe, represented the Minister of Trade, Industry and Co-operatives, Amelia Kyambadde, and delivered her speech.

Kyambadde said the gala has, over the years, demonstrated that Ugandan companies, particularly the MSMEs, were committed to continuously improve their

processes to meet the increasing demand for quality products.

"I want to thank UNBS for recognising such companies and this demonstrates your commitment to improve competitiveness of local products through standardisation and quality assurance," Kyambadde said.

She explained that promoting the competitiveness of local industries under the BUBU policy was at the heart of the ministry strategy in contributing to the economic growth of the country.

She said the BUBU strategy had already made strides in ensuring that locally manufactured products get a fair share of the local market.

"If we are to promote industrialisation, create jobs and spur economic growth of our great nation, locally manufactured goods should be able to get a fair share of the local market," minister Kyambadde said.