

# TRANSPORT DAY Magazine

...the mouthpiece of transportation & logistics

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## 10<sup>TH</sup> NIGERIA TRANSPORT LECTURE

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**DATE:**  
THURSDAY,  
MAY 11 2023

**VENUE:**  
SHERATON HOTEL  
IKEJA, LAGOS

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Air Peace Lifts  
55 Million  
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## SPECIAL EDITION




**NITT Making Giant Strides In  
Manpower Development, Research  
and Policy Formulation - DG**  
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# SAFETY

## FRSC: After *Ojeme* Ewurdjakpor, Comes Ann Marja As Highest Ranking Female Officer

**M**ay last year, the then highest ranking female officer in the Federal Road Safety Corps, Deputy Corps Marshal Ojeme Ewurdjakpor, was pulled out of service, marking the end of a successful career. She represented the South-South zone in the management team of the Corps. Then came Suzan Ajenge as DCM.

About eight months after, another female has emerged as a Deputy Corps Marshal, this time around, representing the North East region of the country, following the appointment of Dauda Biu (who is from the same region), as the substantive Corps Marshal.

The promotion of Ann Marja from Assistant Corps Marshal to Deputy



Corps Marshal of the FRSC, Dauda Biu (left), congratulating DCM Ann Marja on her new promotion.

Corps Marshal, was ratified on Friday, January 6, 2023, with that of seven Corps Commanders (CC) to the rank of Assistant Corps Marshal (ACM).

The Board Chairman, Mallam Bukhari Bello expressed delight

over the attitude of transparency and objectivity that heralded the whole process.

The Corps Marshal, Dauda Ali Biu equally congratulated the newly elevated Officers for their excellent

## Lagos State Sensitize Vehicle Inspection Officers On Creativity And Innovation

**T**he Lagos State Government has sensitized Vehicle Inspection Officers in the state on the need to come up with creative and innovative ideas that will improve service delivery to Lagosians.

The exercise, which was organised by the Ministry of Transportation in collaboration with the Office of Transformation Creativity and Innovation (OTCI) is part of the efforts of OTCI to fast track the State Government's Civil Service

Reforms.

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transportation, Engr. Abdulhafiz Toriola applauded OTCI for continuously striving to ensure that Public Servants are awakened to the consciousness of the need to be ingenious.

## Sniffer Dogs, FIOs, MOPOL deployed On Abuja-Kaduna Railway Corridor

**T**he Inspector-General of Police, Usman Baba, has ordered immediate deployment of armed personnel drawn from the Police Mobile Force, K-9, Force Intelligence Bureau, Explosive Ordnance Unit and Railway Police Command for the commencement of railway services along Abuja/Kaduna rail lines.

Force Public Relations Officer, CSP Muyiwa Adejobi, said: "The deployment covers major railway

stations along the route and operational coaches to provide adequate security for passengers,

their property and the entire service in order to prevent any unforeseen incidence".

## IGP launches Portal To Curb Car theft

**T**he Inspector-General of Police, IGP Usman Alkali Baba has inaugurated the digitalized Central Motor Registry (CMR) Command Centre at the Force Headquarters, Abuja for information leading to the investigation and recovery of stolen vehicles. Force Public Relations Officer,

CSP Muyiwa Adejobi said "The newly digitalized Central Motor Registry Command Centre will make it possible for members of the public to report vehicles stolen from as far back as 1st January 2018. Motorists were advised to take advantage of the platform-<https://reportcmr.npf.gov.ng> to upload their vehicle information.



# TRANSPORT PERSONALITY

## 10 Things To Know About New FRSC Corps Marshal, Dauda Biu

Here are 10 things to know about the Number One Road Safety Officer in Nigeria- Dauda Biu, whose appointment as a substantive Corps Marshal of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) was announced on Friday, December 30, 2022.

Born in Zaria, Kaduna State, he is a seasoned road safety professional, and hails from Hawul Local Government Area of Borno State. He joined FRSC in 1988 and became Deputy Corps Marshal and has held several positions of authority.

Before now, he was the Acting Corps Marshal, Deputy Corps Marshal in charge of Finance and Accounts Department at the National Headquarters Abuja.

“The (new) corps marshal holds a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) and a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Kaduna State.

His professional qualifications include but not limited to the following- Fellow Certified National Accountant (FCNA) Certified Public Accountant (CPA) (Ireland); Certified CMD



CM, Dauda Biu

Management Consultant.

Biu also attended several courses both within and outside the country amongst which include International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference Chicago, USA; World Conference of Accountants Sydney, Australia; California Highway Patrol Academy Sacramento, USA.

He has also attended Transport Research Board meeting Washington DC, USA; International Financial Reporting Standards SWAT Valley United Kingdom, and of course;

Performance Management Beyond the Balanced Scorecard Cranfield University, United Kingdom.

Within the country, the newly appointed Corps Marshal attended the Guards Brigade, the Nigerian Army Special Arms Bearing Training for Senior FRSC Officers, Diamond School of Protocol and Etiquette on Emotional Intelligence and Fitch Institute of Directors Effective Governance Workshop Lagos, Nigeria and; Restral Franklin Covey-Speed of Trust.”

He is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP),

Association of National Accountants Ireland (CPA), Association of National Accountants of Nigeria, Transport Research Board USA, Institute of Safety Professionals of Nigeria (MISPON) and the Nigeria Institute of Management.

Others are Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria, and Nigeria Army Resource Centre (NARC).

*Read Full Details on- <https://transportday.com.ng/10-things-to-know-about-new-frsc-corps-marshal-dauda-biu/>*





# TYRE WATCH

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## Tips On Proper Tyre Care

**Maintain proper inflation pressure in your tyres**  
Proper inflation pressure is necessary in giving you the best tyre performance, safety, and fuel economy. Remember to frequently (at least once a month) check your tyres (when they are cool) with an accurate tyre pressure gauge.

**Maintain inflation pressure at the recommended level**  
The recommended level can be found on the vehicle placard or in your vehicle's owner's manual. Maintaining proper inflation pressure is the single most important thing you can do to help your tyres last longer and stay durable.

Under inflation is the leading cause of irreparable tyre damage and may result in severe cracking and subsequent air loss. It reduces load capacity, allows excessive sidewall flexing, and increases rolling resistance, resulting in heat and mechanical damage.

Over inflation increases stiffness that may cause an uncomfortable driving experience and generate unwanted vehicle vibration. It also increases the chances of impact damage.

### **Don't spin your tyres excessively**

Avoid excessive tyre spinning. This may cause tyre over-heating and irreparable damage. Use a gentle backward and forward rocking motion to free your vehicle. Never stand near or behind a tyre spinning at high



speeds, for example, while attempting to push a vehicle that's

stuck or when an on-car spin balance machine is in use.

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# INTERVIEW

## 'Nigeria Needs A One Shop Automation Port System'-Webb Fontaine

*Managing Director of Webb Fontaine Nigeria, Ope Babalola, responded to some questions on the sidelines of a recent conference in Lagos*

***There have been some concerns by freight forwarders concerning your services, especially your server and network. What is the true position?***

Firstly, I think the first thing we need to be able to do with them is to have a discussion with them, because there is no way our servers could break down. I see the stories and read them in the news, and sometimes I am quite disappointed to hear these accounts because we get there and see that nothing is wrong and there is no truth to the news.

And sometimes, these just come from poor research. So, I would prefer if we could get more accurate reporting on what is going on.

There are several things that can go on at the ports and the offices, and not all should be termed server breakdowns. Our servers and networks are always up and running over 99% of the time, so let us do a little bit better in reporting.

***Based on what you just said now and your analysis, can you say that***



MD, Webb Fontaine, Ope Babalola

***some of the officers that handle this software are not properly trained?***

They are well trained; they undergo extensive training for years, and they are very knowledgeable when it comes to what they do. Many of them will also be surprised at the turn of the reports too. As technology evolves, so do training needs.

***Talking about automation, a lot is happening from the Customs end, regarding modernization, the e-Customs project and all. And I know very well that Web Fontaine works with them closely on some of these projects. However, there are concerns about what would be left for your company to do when Customs fully integrates its automated platforms.***

Customs in Nigeria already



## INTERVIEW

operates a paperless and automated system, and it covers all the agencies that are involved in the country's trade cycle.

There are a few that are not yet fully integrated, like the NPA, but we're hoping that when they get their own automation done, we can work together so that, between the Customs and Ports' automation, everything will go smoothly.

Web Fontaine actually runs a port community system in the Benin Republic and several other countries, which integrates all the agencies involved in the trade cycle to make it all automated and functional. And those countries are really enjoying the best of everything, so I see no reason why we cannot do the same in Nigeria.

***So you're saying that not all the agencies in Nigeria's maritime industry have been automated?***

NPA is under the Ministry of Transport, NCS is under the Ministry of Finance, and Trade is under the Ministry of Trade and Industry, which means you have three different ministries sometimes with different objectives and goals or areas of focus and opinions on what is the best way to advance Nigeria's trade and commerce.

Their focus might be a little bit different, but I think there is a very important need to put all of them together so that there is a single focus and drive towards a one-stop shop for proper automation.

I would say we already have 90% of that in the Customs-based single window, which you can check out online at [trade.com.ng](http://trade.com.ng) to see the agencies involved. Those that aren't should just join so that we can make everything work together.

***Your company was given an award by the Association of Maritime Journalists of Nigeria, for its innovative services earlier today.***

***What does it mean to you, and what role will it enable you to play in the maritime industry?***

The award is important to us, firstly because it is from the maritime industry. Even though our main role is to facilitate trade, trade cannot be facilitated and cannot happen without the maritime industry.

The second reason why it is important is that the journalists association is made up of one of the most well-informed people in the country; they know what happens in the industry and who the players are. So, for them to recognize the work that we have done, it is very important to us.





# MARITIME

## NPA License 28 Empty Containers Holding Bays

The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has concluded the registration and licensing of 28 Empty Containers Holding Bays with a total capacity of 137,000 TEUs. Managing Director, Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA),

Mohammed Bello-Koko, stated this at the 2022 Seminar/Awards organised by the Association of Maritime Journalists of Nigeria (AMJON) in Lagos recently. The Managing Director was represented by the General Manager, Corporate and Strategic Communication of the Authority, Mrs. Yemisi Oyinlola at the event.



According to the MD, that was part of the initiatives by NPA to facilitate trade through the Sea. Other initiatives of the NPA, the MD said include On-going rehabilitation of port access roads to improve hinterland connectivity. "On-going rail linkage to Lagos Port Complex, Apapa aimed at addressing the pervading gridlock

and facilitating cargo evacuation. "Scaling up Port capacity via investment in Deep-sea Ports. For instance, construction of Lekki Deep Sea Port is completed and ready for commercial operations along with the development of others towards expanding port capacity".

## 'Lekki Port Will Create 170,000 Jobs'

The Managing Director, Lekki Port LFTZ Enterprise Limited (LPLEL), Mr. Du Ruogang, has announced that the \$1.5 billion newly completed Lekki Deep Sea Port is ready for official commissioning and commencement of commercial operations in the first quarter of 2023.

The port is expected to boost the growth of the Nigerian economy, creating about 170,000 direct and indirect jobs, generating approximately \$361 billion during the period of the concession, and generating over \$201 billion in



MD, NPA, Mohammed Bello-Koko

revenue for both Lagos State and the Federal Government of Nigeria. According to Ruogang, at the end of the year media parley held in Lagos, assured that all necessary arrangements are being put in place for the official commissioning by President Muhammadu Buhari, after which the port will be fully set for the start of commercial operations.

He noted that the terminal operator, Lekki Free Port Terminal (LFT), is putting everything in place to give a world-class port experience, adding that all the relevant agencies have been sensitised to undertake their roles in the new port.



# MARITIME

## Company in Focus - PIL Nigeria Limited

**P**IL came into the Nigeria market in September 2000 under the Agency of Blue Funnel, a division of Hull Blyth Nigeria Limited.

PIL Nigeria was established in August 2007 as Pacific International Lines and took a majority shareholding in a new agency business in a bid to strengthen the brand as well as maintain closer link with the Principal in Singapore.

The company has gone from strength to strength since its inception and has maintained a good market share in the shipping trade in Nigeria even till date.

Starting with staff strength of 38 persons, with 17,500 TEU imports and 3,150 TEU exports in its first year, PIL now has over 70 members of staff with 70,000 TEU imports and 9,000 export p.a. currently. Its current ports coverage in Nigeria is: Apapa, Tin-can-Island, Warri, Calabar, Onne and Port Harcourt. The Onne branch opened October 2009 while its MPV (Multi-Purpose Vessel) Service started May 2010. We are well represented by full time members of staff in Kano, Onitsha and other eastern regions.

PIL will continue to develop the existing network connecting Nigeria to potentially new markets and build on her core values which are: Relationship-centric, Integrity, Flexibility, Result-Oriented, Collective-vision and Entrepreneurship.

Our Promise is to keep our customers satisfied because we never forget who you are.



# AUTO

## Graduates Emerge From CFAO Suzuki Female Technicians Programme



Cross section of the first batch of graduands awarded certificates under the Suzuki by CFAO Suzuki Empower Her (SEH) programme. The event was held inside the Suzuki dealership located on Victoria Island, Lagos

**S**uzuki by CFAO has proven its willingness to contribute its quota towards the empowerment of women with the Suzuki Empower Her (SEH) program.

The training program, which lasted four months, ended with a graduation ceremony on December 15, 2022, for the first set of female automotive technicians.

The female technicians received

thorough theoretical and practical insights into a variety of topics, including but not limited to gearboxes, engine diagnosis, repairs, and sensors, during their training in partnership with Automedics, which began on August 1, 2022.

During the graduation ceremony, the General Manager, CFAO Suzuki, Aissatou Diouf, stated that she envisages a successful long-

term partnership that will empower the female gender beyond training and emphasized the need for consistency.

"We don't want to just train them and let them go." We need to do a lot of things to empower them more. It has to be something consistent, not to show that we are doing something but to know that Suzuki by CFAO have empowered women."

## Transport Day Kicks Against Hiked Third Party Motor Insurance

**T**he Editorial Board of Transport Day newspaper, has frowned at the recent hike in third party motor insurance premium as issued by the National Insurance Commission (NIC).

It would be recalled that the commission had in a recent circular issued on December 22, 2022, and signed by L.M Akah, Director, Policy and Regulation, announced increments on motor insurance premium to commence January 1, 2023.

The Board of Editors wondered why NIC which has woefully failed in enlightening motorists on how they

can make claims when the need arises, it now increasing the premium at a time when the purchasing power of most Nigerians was heading south.

In a statement signed by the Editor-in-Chief of Transport Day newspaper, Frank Kintum, the board wondered only a few days notice was given to motorists when the



CEO of National Insurance Commission, Sunday Thomas

increment was as high as 200%.

According to the Board, "how do you want the ordinary motorists to adjust to an alarming 200% increment by making an announcement just a few days to implementation".

Hence, the editors called on road transport operators and motorists to use all

available legal means to resist the move as soon as possible.





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# AUTO

## Lafarge Launches Third Driving Institute

Lafarge Africa Plc says it has established a driving institute at its Ashaka Plant in Gombe State, as part of its commitment to conducting business in a safe and healthy manner for all stakeholders. The North East Lafarge Driving Institute, which is the third of its kind, owned by the company in Nigeria, is designed to provide industry-leading training programmes tailored to the requirements of Nigerian heavy goods vehicles (HGVs). The Supply Chain Director, Lolu Alade-Akinyemi, said: "At Lafarge Africa, we have a robust vision and well-defined road map to ensure the safety of the drivers and external parties involved in our logistics operations. The road map, which was developed in 2015, undergoes continuous improvement in



alignment with our road safety focus and key strategic intents to deliver on our ambition "0," i.e., zero injuries and zero fatalities in our operations." Speaking at the launch event, the

Managing Director of Ashaka Cement, Ibrahim Aminu, revealed that the new driving institute underscores the company's commitment to achieving the ultimate safety mission of zero harm in its operations.

## LASAA Launches 2023 Mobile Advert Stickers for Branded Vehicles

The Lagos State Signage and Advertisement Agency (LASAA), the agency has announced the release of its 2023 mobile advert stickers for branded vehicles in the state.

Managing Director of LASAA,

Prince Adedamola Docemo, in a statement in Ikeja, stated that the new and improved mobile advert e-sticker will be in force effective from the 1st of January 2023, a development that will render the 2022 sticker invalid.

He reiterated that, just like last year, the agency has fully deviated from the yearly tradition of launching the stickers with pomp and would rather focus on improving the efficiency of the new process.

## Mercedes Launches High-Speed Charging Network

The network will also expand to include more than 10,000 chargers in Europe, China, and "other main markets" by the end of the decade, Mercedes said. Initially, Mercedes plans for each hub to have between four and a dozen chargers, but this number could grow to 30 chargers at a hub in the



future.

One big reason Mercedes is willing to spend billions to acquire land and install thousands of charging stations is to improve, eventually, a Mercedes driver's EV experience, according to Markus Schaefer, Mercedes-Benz chief technology officer.



# TRANSPORT

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Magazine  
**DAY**

...the mouthpiece of transportation & logistics



DG/CEO,  
Nigerian Institute of  
Transport Technology,  
Dr. Bayero Salih Farah.

**NITT Making Giant Strides In Manpower  
Development, Research and Policy Formulation-DG**



# FOCUS ON NITT

*The Director General of the Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT), Dr. Bayero Salih Farah, in this chat with Transport Day at the institute's headquarters in Zaria, Kaduna state, talks about the activities of Nigeria's foremost Transport and Logistics training and research institute. Issues such as how the institute is contributing to manpower development, nation-wide research and consultancy services were explained.*

**You have been on the hot seat as DG for about two years now, what progress has been made so far?**

We organized a retreat in 2019, where the council, management, and stakeholders made certain decisions. We have been implementing those decisions to ensure that we position the institute on three fronts. One, provide adequate infrastructure and facilities as required by our activities. Two, revisit our programmes and update them to current realities and a reflection on the current needs of the Nigerian transport sector. And number three, build capacity in terms of human

resources, including employment of new staff and training to enable them to deliver on this institute's mandate.

**One of the cardinal responsibilities of NITT is training manpower. How have you been able to achieve this? Because I saw a report where you said that you have been able to train about 6000 people in five years.**

You know we have two levels of programmes, we have short-term programmes and long-term programmes. The traditional long-term programmes we have been on since the institution's establishment have been certificate courses, diploma courses, advanced diploma courses, postgraduate and later Master programmes. These are the programmes the institute has been implementing for a very long time. Still, later, when I came in, we realised that we could do more, so we looked at the industry and international best practices. We identified new programmes which we had to run. We approached the National Board for Technical Education, requesting approval for these programmes and last year (2021), about five were approved under the National Innovation

Diploma Programme. This year (2022), additional six programmes have been approved under National and Higher National Diploma levels.

The NID Programme has started with about 80 students, and we plan to start the ND and HND programmes in January 2023. We have done the necessary administrative procedures, and we have gotten them listed under the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board, and we are waiting for January to commence the programmes.

**For Both ND and HND, do you have the necessary manpower for this?**

Yes, we built our capacity two years ago by increasing our faculty in various fields. We have added several resource persons, some with bachelor's degrees and some with master's degrees in various fields, so we have adequate capacity to run all of these programs.

**What challenges do you face?**

Finance is the main issue. The other problem is that we have been trying to improve our visibility in the industry. Getting the industry to realise that training is very important and engagement of







# FOCUS ON NITT



properly trained personnel is very important, so we have been trying to show our capacity and what we can do to impact the industry. Another challenge we have faced is some limitations that had to do with our enabling Act. The enabling Act we are operating on was made some 36 years ago, and since then, a lot has taken place, and we found that we needed to review it to make it in tune with current realities in the transport and logistics industry.

**I know that there was a bill at the National Assembly. What is the state of it now?**

The bill is still undergoing process at the National Assembly; it has undergone first and second readings in the House of Representatives. It has also gone through a public hearing; we are now at the stage of approval at the House of Representatives, after which it will go to the Senate for consideration. We thank our stakeholders for giving us maximum support in this process.

The level of support we received was unprecedented.

**NITT is building training centres; I saw one at Ekiti State. So apart from Ekiti, which other states do you have one and in what states are they located?**

We have two categories of centres. One, we have our outreach learning centres in Abuja, Lagos, Port Harcourt, Ebonyi, Gombe, Kano State and Katsina State. We are also building one in Makurdi, Benue State.

The second category is our driver development centres. We have initiated a programme of training and development centres in the six geopolitical zones. We have started one here in Zaria, one in Ilorin and the third in Ughelli, Delta State. Work is in progress in these centres. When we complete them and have them functional, we move to the next three.

**Talking about the driver's license centres, I think it is the responsibility of NITT to certify driving schools. You seem not to**

**be taking that responsibility and leaving it to FRSC; are you not supposed to be?**

There have been issues relating to driver training, licensing and development in the country. Not that we have not taken responsibility, but we are re-strategising to ensure that what Nigeria gets is actually the best and in accordance with International best practices. We looked at what is happening at the international level, which guided us to go into the development of the driver development and training centres. We have envisioned that there is a need for a lot of input to be put in place to enable our drivers to learn properly and imbibe the skills so that we will have a safe driving environment in the country. We are not doing this alone; we are working with the Federal Road Safety Corps, and Driving School Proprietors and Associations to achieve this.

**Recently, you had a working visit**



# FOCUS ON NITT

**to the Lagos State Government, and you were talking about Transport Data collation, how far have you gone?**

We have been very good partners with the Lagos State Government. We have always worked together to improve the transport system as it affects Lagos State. We have done a lot of training for the employees in LASTMA and LAMATA. Our recent visit to the Commissioner was to interact with him and the officials of the Ministry of Transport in the state to see how much more we can cooperate in enhancing transport in Lagos. We shared ideas, compared notes, and understood what efforts were needed to improve the system. Lagos state has achieved a lot. It is ahead of all other states in Nigeria in the deployment of modern systems for improving traffic. We have introduced our effort to achieve a National

Integrated Data System for the Nigeria Transport sector, and we understand what the state government needs to do and what NITT is doing.

**You talked about the National Integrated Data System. Is it live now?**

Yes, at our level, we have started. First of all, we are establishing the necessary infrastructure that will be able to get data on the operations of the system across all the modes of transport. Currently, we are setting gantries on some highways in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Works. Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, Abuja-Lokoja Highway, Kaduna City and Basawa road here. The gantries will be equipped with cameras to capture vehicle traffic movement in real-time and 24/7.

Our vision is that these facilities will

cover the whole country, and we will be able to adjust one location to monitor traffic across all Nigeria highways at every point in time. We are also discussing with the state governments how they can key into this by establishing traffic management centres in major urban areas in their states. The Traffic Management Centres (TMCs) will be equipped with state-of-the-art facilities with cameras that will work in real time, 24/7, to capture traffic movement and traffic volumes in major cities.

These TMCs will be linked to an intelligent transport centre we are establishing here in Zaria. So we will be able to know the performance of the transport industry at this centre. This is not just limited to road transport; it will also cover maritime and air transport, and we will extend it to pipeline transport.







# FOCUS ON NITT



**I noticed that your institute is unique in the sense that it covers all modes of transportation. It seems because of the presence of NCAT (Nigeria College of Aviation Technology), you don't touch so much on aviation. Is that the reason?**

You know NCAT is a centre where pilots and other air employees like cabin crew and other personnel who work in the industry are trained. On our part, we have limited our scope in air transport to the operation and management of the air transport sector in the country. We train a lot of staff from the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority, Nigeria Airspace Management Agency and the Federal Airport Authority of

Nigeria. We have delineated our responsibilities, and we collaborate with the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority and NCAT and share resources as the need arises.

**In a nutshell, what would you say is NITT's contribution to National Development?**

NITT has contributed significantly to developing the Nigerian transport sector. We have trained thousands of Nigerians in transport operations, engineering and management. Some of our trainees have become leaders in the industry, managing key transport organisations in all modes of transport. That is a significant contribution because NITT was the first institution in this country that

spearheaded transport education.

After we started, other institutions like universities and polytechnics started running transport programmes. Secondly, we have also contributed a lot to developing policies for the federal and state governments in the transport sector. We have also contributed to research in various areas of transport interests for the federal government, state governments and private sector.

**If you are not working, how do you relax?**

What I do to relax is watch programmes on TV, particularly watching sports and movies. That is how I relax.



# FOCUS ON NITT

## How NITT Is Adding Value To The Nigerian Economy

By Frank Kintum



The Transport and Logistics sector of any economy cannot be taken for granted because it is the bedrock on which all other economies stand on. Without Transportation and Logistics, it is difficult to imagine which other sector of the economy can survive, because aside assisting all other sectors to thrive and provide uncountable employment opportunities, it also plays an important role in facilitating and attracting foreign investments. Available statistics indicate that while the contribution of transport activities in Nigeria to Nominal GDP in Q2 2022 was 2.79 percent, it was greater than the 1.60 percent contribution in the first quarter of

2022 and up from the 2.09 percent reported in the same period of 2021. Aside infrastructure, human resource remains cardinal in developing a robust transport sector, and by extension, the economy. Just as continues research and evaluation is key in sustaining the sector, the significance of a manpower and research institute cannot be underplayed. Hence, an establishment like the Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT), Zaria, is key to the Nigerian economy.

The institute situated at the serene city of Zaria, with outlets in different parts of the country, offers both scheduled and customized

programmes in areas such as Management, Planning, Operations, Logistics & Supply Chain Management, ICT & Transport Technology, among others.

NITT is made up of different directorates such as Training, Transport Technology Centre, Consultancy Services, Transport Research & Intelligence, Library & Information Services and Transport School, as well as other supporting units.

The institute is equipped with quality facilities conducive for learning and research such as relevant transport laboratories and hostels for students and staff quarters.

With a well-equipped auditorium, NIIT also

has other facilities like a medical centre, fire service station, and a Transport Technology Centre fitted with welding and fabrication lab, mechatronics workshop, wind turbine, auto body shop, laser cutting machine etc.

Also available are driving simulators for cars and trucks, a data bank, civil and highway engineering lab, energy and environment engineering lab among others.

An Assistant Director in the Transport Technology Centre (TCC), Engr. Nduka Kanyine told Transport Day during a tour of the facility that the centre has trained a





# FOCUS ON NITT



lot of people who are currently contributing their quota to the Nigerian economy.

Aside the manpower development programmes for the working class in both the public and private organisations, the institute recently held its first matriculation ceremony for full time students. The maiden matriculation ceremony was organised for National Innovation Diploma (NID) students.

Declaring the event open, Director General/Chief Executive of NITT, Dr. Bayero Salih Farah, said: “the introduction of NID programmes is to create opportunities for Nigerian youths to become self-employed and in turn employ others.”

At a recent visit to the institute by

the Hon. Minister of Transportation, Alhaji Muazu Jaji Sambo, the NITT DG told the newly appointed Minister and the NITT team is developing a National Intelligent Transport System, expected to provide real-time transport information and intelligence, as well as assist researchers and policy formulators.

According to the DG, “the Institute is building an Intelligent Transport System (ITS) Centre to be equipped with state-of-the-art equipment. At the moment, the databank project has commenced with the installation of equipment in some major highways namely: Abuja-Lokoja, Lagos-Ibadan Expressway and Kaduna-Zaria Highway.

“Traffic data generated by these

equipment will be transmitted in real time to the Data Centre in Zaria. Data from transport organisations are also being collated and inputted into the Databank System in the Institute”. The DG added that “the Institute is currently in talks with the National Gas Expansion Programme Committee aimed at providing the technical manpower for engineering the process of converting fossil fuel driven vehicles in Nigeria to using either Compressed National Gas (CNG) or Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as well as championing the call for local production of conversion kits in this regard”.



# FOCUS ON NITT



## *About NITT*

The Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT), Zaria is the apex management development Institute for transport and logistics in Nigeria and the West African Sub-region.

It is a career development and professional certification centre. NITT provides corporate leadership and strategic management, training, conducts research and advisory services, engages in transport Intelligence and monitoring activities as well as develops and

adapts transport technology to suit the country's needs.

It was established on 14th March, 1986 via Decree No.6 (now CAP 116, LFN, 2004) to among other things address mainly the problems of the transport sector such as inefficient and low productivity, fast depreciation of capital investments, deficient management and maintenance of infrastructure, low level of professionalism and high expenditure on overseas training, through the supply of professionally competent leaders,

managers, technologists and other specialists; and the provision of the expertise that will improve the industry's performance for efficiency and effectiveness

The Institute is mandated by its Enabling Act to specifically provide management training for personnel employed in all modes of transport. NITT serves as a Transport Intelligence Centre for monitoring transport and logistics systems and provides equipment and facilities for the encouragement, promotion, and conduct of applied research in all modes of transport.



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# AVIATION

## SAHCO Bags ISO 9001: 2015 Certification

**S**kyway Aviation Handling Company (SAHCO) Plc, has been awarded the International Organization for Standardization (ISO 9001:2015) certification for Quality Management system.

ISO 9001:2015 is the international standard that identifies requirements for quality management system (QMS) which organisations use to demonstrate the ability to consistently provide products and services that meet customers and regulatory requirements.

SAHCO was awarded the certificate of registration because it has been assessed and found to conform to the requirement of ISO 9001:2015 for the scope in



L-R: Chief Executive Officer, West Sealand International Nigeria (WSI), Ope Bashorun; Managing Director/CEO, Skyway Aviation Handling Company (SAHCO) PLC, Basil Agboarumi; Assistant General Manager, Safety & Quality Assurance, SAHCO, Christie Oseghale; Technical Director, WSI, Samuel Sawah at the presentation of the ISO certification to SAHCO

Passenger handling, Ramp Handling, Cargo Handling and Warehousing, Aviation Security, VIP Lounge Services, Crew

Administration, and other aviation related services.

The certificate which will expire in 2025 is also endorsed by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) which is a worldwide association that is interested in conformity assessment in the fields of management systems, products, processes, services, personnel, validation and verification and other similar programmes of conformity assessment.

During the presentation of the ISO certificate by West Sealand International Nigeria Limited (WSI), the Managing Director/CEO of SAHCO, Mr. Basil Agboarumi said SAHCO is used to undergoing audits for international certifications and that he is happy that the ISO 9001:2015 certification has become a reality. He went on to say that as an aviation ground handling company of repute, SAHCO has ensured that its IATA Safety Audit for Ground Operations (ISAGO) certification is always up-to-date and that SAHCO is RA 3 certified which is a requirement for all European bound freight handlers.

## Immigration Service Battles With 100,000 Unclaimed Passports



**T**he Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) says it is making plans to ensure owners of over 100,000 passports collect them, by deploying senior officers to concerned formations to assist in that regard.

Comptroller General of Immigration, Isah Jere Idris, while announcing the deployment of top senior officers, said Lagos topped

the list of uncollected passports with about 40,000 produced passports yet to be collected by applicants.

He said other zones with higher numbers of uncollected passports where the ACGs were deployed were Benin and Port Harcourt Zonal Offices of Immigration to ramp up the collection of the produced passports.



# AVIATION

## Air Peace Lifts 55 Million Passengers In Eight Years



**N**igerian flag carrier, Air Peace, has hit the 55 million passenger traffic mark, a milestone in its eight years of operations. There are indications that the airline has lifted 55,821,258 passengers nationwide and internationally.

According to the Chief Operating Officer of the airline, Oluwatoyin Olajide, “When we launched in 2014 with a record fleet of seven aircraft, we had a future-proof blueprint, driven by the vision to reduce the air travel burden of

Nigerians through the provision of safe and world-class flight services. “To achieve this, we strategically invested in the right kind of aircraft, factoring business sustainability and customer experience while also hiring and training the best technical manpower to drive the process.

“Now, we have 38 aircraft and are still expecting eight brand new Embraer 195-E2s from our firm order in 2019 and additional 15 brand new Boeing 737 Max 8 and 10 Order, as we ramp up plans to

strengthen our operations to serve our esteemed customers better. We are also expecting some of our aircraft undergoing maintenance overseas and by the second quarter this year, they will start returning.

“We are extremely grateful to our customers and other critical stakeholders for their support and urge them to keep supporting Air Peace. We promise to further inter-connect more cities across Nigeria and beyond and improve in our service delivery.”

## Wizz Air Cuts Carbon Emissions By 15.4% In 2022

**W**izz Air, Europe's fastest growing and most environmentally sustainable airline globally, has reported that its average carbon

emissions for 2022 amounted to 55.2 grams per passenger/km, 15.4% lower than in 2021.

This represents its lowest ever annual carbon intensity result recorded in one calendar year.

Wizz Air operates the lowest carbon emissions per passenger/km amongst all competitor airlines and



is committed to further reducing its carbon emissions intensity by 25% by 2030. An integral element of Wizz Air's sustainability strategy is the renewal of its fleet. The airline has been continuously adding new Airbus A321neo aircraft to its fleet and replacing older aircraft, with 34 Airbus A321neo added to the fleet in 2022.

The share of new “neo” technology aircraft within Wizz Air's fleet is planned to surpass 50% by the end of this financial year. Currently, the airline operates a fleet of 177 Airbus aircraft with an average age of 4.6 years, well below the average age of its major competitors, which is around 10 years.

# AVIATION

## Nigerian Airlines Status 2022 - What Is Next In 2023?

By Prof. Tilmann Gabriel



Minister of Aviation, Senator Hadi Sirika

**F**or the last 70 years, Nigeria is aiming to develop a healthy airline industry, originally as a one national airline construct, as so many other nations, then leaning towards a minority share with reputable airlines, now focusing on a primarily private airline industry, as customary in most economies around the world.

The only successful airlines in Africa are currently all owned by the respective Governments: Ethiopian Airlines, Royal Air Maroc, Egypt Air. Most other national carriers owned by their Governments like Kenya Airlines, South African Airways, Air Mauritius etc are struggling to survive, only possible by significant annual subsidies from the Government. What is the truth then, looking at this airline business, specifically in Africa?

Business is an infinite game, never ending, with new rules and new

players all the time, frustrating for executives and employees to remain the number one, never sure if this is sustainable for the years to come. 'Too big to fail' is a book that describes the dilemma of executives who have to innovate a huge company to stay abreast with changing rules and aggressive new players. IBM, General Motors, Sears and others are such examples, and airlines like PanAm, TWA, Alitalia were considered too big to fail.

In Nigeria, the largest African nation by people (220 million, going towards 400 million in the next 30 years), all initiatives to launch a sustainable National Carrier were doomed to fail. Nigeria Airways, founded in 1958, was the longest symbol of Nigerian national pride. The author counted some 130 AOC (Air Operator's Certificate) holders in Nigeria, which went under in those 70 years

of Nigerian airline industry, assuming this is a world record. Many of these 130 airlines were only flying for a few years, after spending lots of money (an airline launch costs at least 150M USD today), energy and disappointed hopes. Nigeria Airways was the longest existing airline so far, shut down in 2003, after 45 years in the domestic, regional and international skies.

Key reason for the demise of Nigerian Airways was the involvement of the Nigerian Government, dictating fares, rules, and free tickets for many. No airline can survive such intervention in the revenue creation. Sucking the lifeblood out of an airline, which has critical costs in the US dollar (aircraft leases, fuel, foreign fees), is a sure recipe for failure. Eventually, the then Government was no longer able to substitute such failure. What happened with



# AVIATION

the next hope of a successful Nigerian airline project, Virgin Nigeria? An agreement for Virgin Nigeria, to use the same terminal for domestic and international operation in Lagos, was no longer honoured by the new Government elected in 2007. Eventually, the 51% Government majority share in Virgin Nigeria was left with the pull-out of Virgin's 49%, and with it the loss of the international relations and the Virgin supplied aircraft. Successor Air Nigeria was not able to survive without the Virgin assets and expertise.

Why is Ethiopian Airlines successful then as a 100% Government owned airline. Not a short story. Over 70 years it grew mainly organically, slowly and with realistic budgets and expectations. The main difference was that the Management, still led today by the highly regarded Girma Wake as Chairman, was never directed by the Government and by the inevitable changes of Governments in a democracy. Today, Ethiopian is the leading African Airline, with a 20% profit margin and a strategic plan to double its fleet of 130 aircraft by 2035. Vision, strategy, and a highly competent management governed by a Board of experts is the key for success. Disruptive innovations, adjusting to the fast changes in aviation (for example ET's new cargo focus during the years of Covid), lean cost structures and as a reliable contractual partner with its lenders and aircraft lease companies, have made Ethiopian a valuable African airline, winning awards, and global recognition.

Is this possible in Nigeria as well? The Buhari Government, early on in its 8 years of ruling, agreed on an aviation roadmap with a National Airline, a leasing company, a maintenance company, and an



Tilmann Gabriel

Aviation University as its key components. Under the Minister of Aviation Hadi Sirika, all these roadmap projects are well under way, proof of a successful strategic political direction of this Government of the last eight years. It is important that the next elected Government continues this direction and present a stable aviation industry in Nigeria to the world, based on international aviation laws and supportive political governance.

The Private Public Partnership (PPP) concept which governs all these aviation projects, ensure that it is not the Government and taxpayers' money, which the success of these aviation companies

is based on, but a consortium of industrial investors, carefully selected by the independent Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC) governed privatisation process. This way the Government has initiated its political strategy to create a profitable aviation industry in Nigeria but sustain from political influence and the reliance on taxpayers' money.

***Prof. Tilmann Gabriel lives in Abuja and researches and works on African aviation projects.***

***Read Full Text online - <https://transportday.com.ng/nigerian-airlines-status-2022-what-is-next-in-2023/>***

# DESTINATION

## Reiz Continental Offers Good Value At A Mid-Price Point

By Chido Nwakama



Abuja's Reiz Continental Hotel stands out in offering vegetarian and diabetic cuisine. Even as it hides this offering in the last section of the menu in the room, it is a pleasant departure from what obtains everywhere else. The menu at Reitz Continental is a unique selling proposition.

Offering a menu that respects and recognises the changing taste and health conditions of many patrons shows environmental consciousness. Many hotels in Nigeria offer the standard "rice or swallow" without discrimination on health and lifestyle.

The menu features well also at breakfast. Because it is complimentary, breakfast is the primary offering in most hotel restaurants across Nigeria. I experienced a hotel that discriminated against and denied some guests their complimentary breakfast. Breakfast is a watering hole in this hotel. I ran into a Federal School mate, a director with WAEC in the restaurant, and other folks.

The saying, To whom we give much, we expect even more applies to Reiz Hotel. Reiz offers many attractions and positives.

The location is right in the heart of the Abuja city centre. The movement to and from the hotel is

thus very convenient.

The rooms are elegant, spacious, and well-equipped. My room on this trip offered a king-sized bed, two chairs, a pill box, and a workstation. Reiz Continental offered desktops in the past.

The table includes standard tea offerings. They provide a small pack of beverages and accessories, a charging point and Internet connections.

Reiz Continental now has over 209 rooms following an expansion from its beginning in 2006. It claims a Top Three Abuja Hotel standing, but the many new hotels in the Conference City of West Africa give it a run.



## DESTINATION



I pay attention to the small room in hotels. It goes beyond wag's test of civilisation which posits that you can tell a people's level of refinement by how they treat the small but essential details of managing human disposables.

The small room tells the story of attention to detail by a hospitality place. Reitz offers three towels and an extra for the floor. However,

Reiz still has the old bathtub that both homes and hotels are phasing

“  
*Reiz meets the grading requirements of a four-star facility in the range of services. There are bookshops, boutiques, mini-marts, a business centre and a gym.*  
 ”

out because of accident risks. Missing are oral care facilities of toothbrush and paste. Moreover,

Reiz offers the same low-spec soap as hotels of lower standard and pricing but puts it in a pack. They can do better.

Reiz meets the grading requirements of a four-star facility in the range of services. There are bookshops, boutiques, mini-marts, a business centre and a gym.

Reiz Hotel is a significant player in the Abuja Meetings and Conferencing ecosystem. It offers eight halls of varying sizes for meetings, seminars, and workshops. The Media Workshop of the Nigerian Content Development & Management Board brought me this time.

Reiz Continental appeals on several fronts. I look forward to repeating the experience.

*Chido Nwakama shared his recent experience on his Facebook page.*

# RAILWAY

## FG To Involve Host Communities In Securing Rail Infrastructure

**A**midst kidnapping, attacks, and vandalism of railway infrastructures, the federal government has disclosed plans to establish Nigerian Railways and host community's security committee to curb the incidence of armed attacks on railway infrastructure and passengers in the country.



The Minister of State for Transportation, Ademola Adegoye, stated this during a visit to Tom Ikimi train station in Igueben Local Government Area of Edo State recently attacked by gunmen recently.

The Minister of State who sympathized with the victims of the unfortunate attack lamented that the intention of the perpetrators of the attack was to sabotage the efforts of

President Muhammadu Buhari towards the resuscitation of the rail transport service.

He stated that the government will take proactive measures to forestall train station attacks in the country and ensure the safety of passengers and facilities.

He said one of such steps would be the establishment of a collaborative initiative between the Nigerian

Railway Corporation and the host communities to ensure that security is beefed up at the railway stations.

Also speaking, the Managing Director, of Nigeria Railway Corporation, Engr Fidet Okhiria said train services on the Warri-Itakpe corridor has not been halted, noting however that the train would not be making a stop at the Tom Ikimi Train Station in the meantime.

## 1,100 Railway Slippers Recovered From Vandals In Kaduna

**T**he Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Kaduna State Command, has said its operatives recovered 1,100 railway slippers from vandals in 2022 in the state.

The command's Public Relations Officer, DSC Habeeb Badamasi,

said four suspects were apprehended in connection with the railway slippers while five others were arrested for vandalising electricity armoured cables.

He said that the command had opened more area and divisional offices across the 23 Local

governments to enhance its activities in the state.

He added, "It has also trained several officers on weapons handling, and deployed officers and men to strategic places and ensured 24-hour patrol across the state within the period under review."



## RAILWAY

### GIBB-Nexant prove Competence with Lagos Blue, Red Rail Lines



(L-R) Wimpie Oosthuizen, Aneline Mulder, both of Gibb and an unidentified train enthusiast

MD, Nexant Consulting Ltd, Toks Akingbade

The much-awaited Lagos Rail Mass Transit Blue line has come alive with the launching of the completion of infrastructure works and the eventual test run.

So, after the Lagos State governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu and his entourage launched the completion of infrastructure works on Wednesday, December 21, the Gibb and Nexant Consulting Limited teams hosted an event the next day and gave some Lagosians a first-hand train ride from National Theatre Station to Marina Station.

This train ride between National Theatre Station and Marina Station is known to be one of the most beautiful and scenic train trips in Nigeria as it overlooks Lagos harbour and parts of Lagos city.

The Marina Station has changed the skyline of Lagos forever.

Some of those who undertook the train ride told Transport Day they were excited because of its smoothness and comfort.

Lagos is the most populous city in Nigeria and the second-largest city in Africa. Lagos is also the financial and economic hub of Lagos State

and greater Nigeria.

It is home to one of the busiest and largest seaports on the continent, with the fourth-highest GDP in Africa.

Lagos is by no means a city to be ignored, as it is one of the fastest-growing cities in the world.

With a growing population, the infrastructure often cannot keep up with the growing population and its demands.

Hence, one of the biggest challenges in Lagos is traffic congestion. Lagos traffic is known to be one of the worst in the world. It regularly happens that drivers and their passengers would be stuck in traffic for hours with no apparent reason other than that there are just too many cars on the road.

Many solutions, such as the BRT, have been implemented to help resolve this traffic problem. The most sustainable solution is to improve the railway system in Lagos to move people from the road into trains. The Lagos Rail Mass Transit (LRMT) project would not only help with the traffic problem but also prepare Lagos for even more growth.

Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority (LAMATA) has managed to secure long-awaited sponsorship from the Lagos State Government (LSG) to complete a railway project and expand the existing railway system.

The first two lines of the urban light rail project are the Red Line and the Blue line.

The Red Line, consisting of four overpasses and eight stations, a maintenance depot, and new railway infrastructure, will be 30km long and will run between Marina and Agbado. Agbado to Oyingbo is nearing completion.

The 27km long Blue Line has a sea-crossing bridge, 11 stations, and a maintenance depot connecting Okokomaiko to Marina. Mile 2 to Marina has been completed.

GIBB-Nexant says, “we are proud of our team who has worked tirelessly in assisting LAMATA to reach their goal. We are proud to have worked with some of the best contractors in the industry. And we are proud to be a part of making life easier for every Lagosian who work hard to provide for their family”.

# ENERGY

## Important Qualities Of Good Engine Lubricant



**L**ubrication is required to reduce the frictional losses between metal to metal rubbing or sliding parts.

When two or more metal parts rub on each other, it creates friction in motion. A proper quality lubricant is essential in engineering practice.

The quality of lubrication is depending upon the quality of the Lubricant.

### **Flash Point & Fire Point**

The Flashpoint of oil is the minimum temperature at which it gives off enough vapor to form a momentary flash when the naked flame is brought near its surface, while the fire point is the lowest temperature of the lubrication oil, where it burns continuously.

To avoid the possibility of fire, the flashpoint of oil must be higher than

the temperatures likely to be developed on the rubbing surfaces.

The fire point is generally higher than the flashpoint and the difference between the flash point and fire point must be 18-degree centigrade on the higher side.

### **Oiliness**

It is the property of lubrication oil to spread and attach itself firmly to the lubricating surfaces.

When mating surfaces are subjected to high intensity of pressure, it is recommended to particularly high oiliness; so that the metal is protected by a layer of oil and the wear is reduced.

### **Volatility**

Lubrication oil losses a certain weight due to evaporation when it is subjected to high temperatures for

long hours. This loss is known as “loss by evaporation”.

The consumption of oil is considerably increased with high volatility at normal working temperatures which is why low volatility is always suggested for lubricants.

### **Stability & Insoluble Residue**

The stability of the oil is to resist oxidation that would yield acids and sludge. Good lubrication oil must have high stability.

Free carbon or hydrocarbons decomposing into carbon at high temperatures is called the insoluble residue.

Good quality lubrication oil should not have any insoluble residue.

*Courtesy of*

<https://engihub.com/lubrication-qualities-of-lubricant/>



## ENERGY

### 'Why Petrol Subsidy Is No Longer Sustainable'

**M**inister of Finance, Budget and National Planning, Mrs. Zainab Ahmed, has said the humongous amount of money being borrowed by the federal government for petrol subsidy, has practically made it totally unsustainable.

Speaking in Abuja during the public presentation of details of the 2023 budget in Abuja, she said "remain up to mid-2023 based on the 18-month extension announced early 2022. In this regard, only N3.36 trillion has been provided for the PMS subsidy."

Party members and some government officials were said to have convinced President Muhammadu Buhari to delay removal of the subsidy until after the 2023 general elections.

The minister also said the reconciliation between the ministry and the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited, NNPC, is still ongoing to determine crude oil revenues and what should accrue to the federation account.



President Muhammadu Buhari

## NEMSA Certifies 10,692 Projects

**T**he Nigerian Electricity Management Services Agency (NEMSA) has stressed the need for adherence to standards and safety in the country's electricity sector, noting that about 10,692 electricity projects have been certified by the agency. The organisation, which said misuse of electricity remained dangerous to property and human life, disclosed that since inception,

15,931 projects have been inspected across the country.

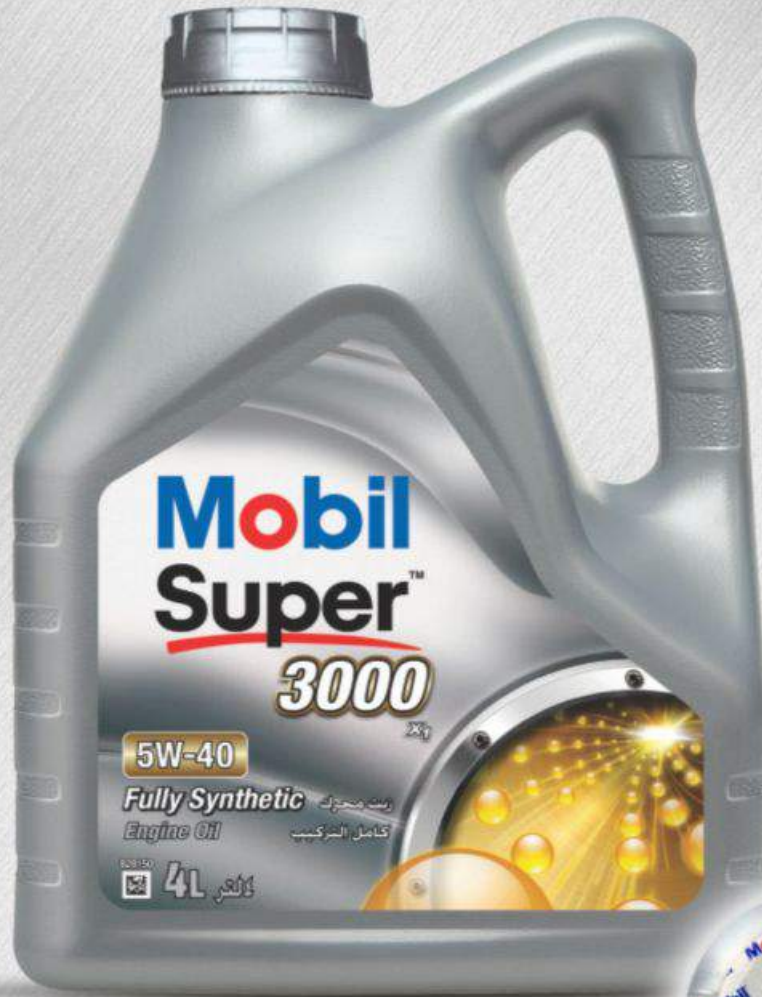
Managing Director of NEMSA, Aliyu Tahir, said the certification of projects became necessary to mitigate electricity related hazards. Tahir, who disclosed this in Abuja said: "We have monitored 12,114 existing networks and power systems nationwide which is part of the agency's mandate. Over 3,255 electrical installations at factories,

hazardous installations have been inspected by NEMSA.

"There has been a significant increase in the total number of manufacturers of electric concrete poles certified in Nigeria. It has risen from 21 in 2016 to 143 in 2021."

He said designed technical standards, regulations and codes have ensured reliable and safe electricity supply in the country".

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