PRESS RELEASE

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL ANNUAL QUALITY AWARDS COMPETITION AND CALL FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism (MoITT) in conjunction with the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) are pleased to announce the introduction of a National Annual Quality Awards Competition, whose aim is to recognize and appreciate organizations and individuals who are contributing to quality advancement in all sectors in Malawi.

Objectives of the national quality awards

- To recognize organizations that excel in continuous quality improvement;
- To motivate organizations to adhere to proper quality business norms;
- To encourage organizations to comply with local, regional and international quality standards;
- To encourage application by organizations of quality assurance, quality control and quality management practices;
- To enhance understanding of quality principles, business methods and national, regional and international standards that promote competitiveness; and
- To recognize individuals that excel in their contributions to the Standardization, Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Metrology (SQAM) quality drive.

Advantage of participating in the national quality awards

Winning a National Quality Award can mean national recognition, media exposure, qualification to compete at Southern Africa (SADC) level and enormous boost of pride for an entire organization.

Link to the SADC Annual Quality Awards

Winners of the national quality awards will automatically qualify to enter the SADC Annual Quality Awards.

Categories of the award

The National Annual Quality Awards Scheme has the following five categories of awards.

**Category 1: Company of the Year** – Two awards will be granted, one each to a Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) and a Large Enterprise (LE). This will be awarded to a
company or organization that has pro-actively and effectively implemented quality principles.

Category 2: Product of the year – Two awards will be granted, one each to a Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) and a Large Enterprise (LE). This will be awarded to a product that best reflects a commitment to quality.

Category 3: Service of the year – Two awards will be granted, one each to a Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) and a Large Enterprise (LE). This will be awarded to a locally-delivered service that best reflects a commitment to local production and quality.

Category 4: Exporter of the year – Two awards will be granted, one each to a Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) and a Large Enterprise (LE). This will be awarded to a company or organization that has made significant progress in commencing or expanding exports to new or wider markets by introducing quality in their company.

Category 5: Individual award for quality – This award will be given to an individual who has made significant input into national Standards, Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Metrology efforts.

Process for the national annual quality awards

- The National Awards submission of entries process starts from the date of this Press Release and will close on Friday, 18th October 2019.
- There shall be an adjudication by end of November 2019.
- A panel of persons shall be appointed to form the Judges Committee.
- There shall be determination of three entries in each category as winners of the respective category in positions one, two and three.
- The national awards shall be granted by the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism at a ceremony to be held at a date and time to be announced.
- The entry of the winner in position one in each category shall be forwarded to participate in the SADC Annual Quality Awards Competition.

Call for applications

Interested companies, organizations and/or individuals can obtain Guidelines for the National Quality Awards entries and application forms by contacting the MBS using the details below:

Mrs. M. Kaunda  
Tel: 01 870 259/0887 376 446  
Mobile Phone: 0888 302 175  
E-mail: mbs@mbsmw.org

Terms and conditions of entry

1. The closing date for entries is Friday, 18th October 2019 at 17h00.
2. Entries submitted after this deadline will not be accepted.

3. Companies/organizations may enter as many categories as they wish.

4. Only entries sent to the addresses stipulated in this form will be accepted for consideration.

5. All entries become and remain the property of the competition organizers, and will not be returned to the entrant.

6. Entrants should not disclose any confidential or price-sensitive information, as the confidentiality of such information cannot be guaranteed.

7. The decision of the adjudicating panel is final. The National Quality Awards Steering Committee through its appointed judges reserves the right to determine the winners at its sole discretion, and is not obliged to divulge entrants’ scores or any other judging information.

   Director General
   Malawi Bureau of Standards
   P O Box 946
   Blantyre