

The Kiln upgrade project aims at guaranteeing reliable cement production and availability to our customers.



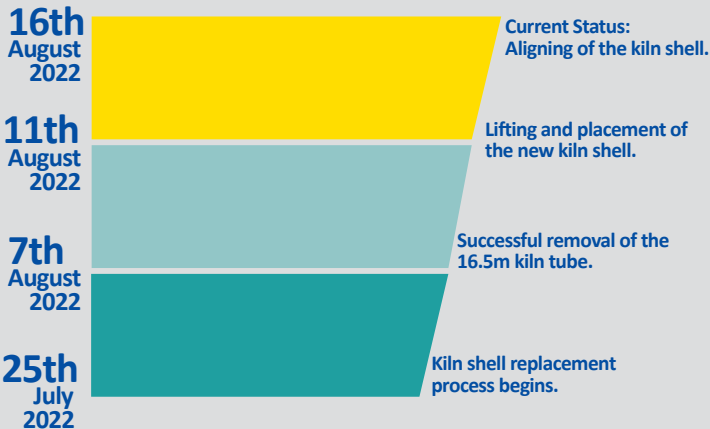
# PORTLAND NEWS DESK



Official Newsletter of the East African Portland Cement PLC

ISSUE 002-AUGUST 2022

## KILN SHELL REPLACEMENT PROGRESS



## ROARING BACK

**THE HIGHLY ANTICIPATED 16.5M SHELL** replacement on EAPC-PLC 54 metre-long Kiln is ongoing ticking down the 45 day countdown. So far the entire 16.5 meters tube has been successfully cut and replaced with currently alignment of the replaced kiln ongoing. Over the last three weeks, we have seen EAPC-PLC engineers and the contracted partners burning the midnight oil to ensure that the kiln is back to tip top shape in line with the scheduled timelines.

The cutting began with 2 meters section weighing 36 tons with diameter of 3.7 metres being successfully extracted in the presence of jubilant employees led by Managing Director, Oliver Kirubai and the Excom team, as Head of Plant Operations, Eng. Stanley Irungu exuded confidence that the project, expected to last 45 days is on schedule.

The ongoing Kiln Shell Replacement project aims at increasing reliability of Blue Triangle Cement Production that has been going on since 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and has gained proportional momentum with much of the initial preparatory works complete.

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East African Portland Cement PLC

*— Holding Life Together —*

# We aim at increasing profitability, higher revenues and customer centrisism

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Other overhaul undertaken alongside the Kiln Shell replacement include: Atox Mill Overhaul, Great Cooler repairs and Preheater – Shell and Refractory repairs and routine maintenance of other support equipment. Most of the Coal Plant jobs have been done.

This include replacement of Roller and Table Segments; servicing of accumulators, replacement of Hydraulic Pump, servicing of Hydraulic System, replacement of Coal Weigher Belt etc. In the Bag house, replacement of Filter Bags has also been done to minimize

emissions. In addition Replacement of the Girth Gear bolts has been completed. The Girth Gear which is a set of gears mounted on the Kiln Tube whose role is to rotate the Kiln at the required speed.



**Eng. Oliver Kirubai - Managing Director**

According to the Mechanical Engineering Manager Mr. Francis King'ola, the replacement process has been seamless with the help from Internal and Contracted Experts on the ground.

**- By Kelvin Gitonga – Corporate Communications Officer**

**“THE ONGOING KILN SHELL REPLACEMENT PROJECT AIMS AT INCREASING RELIABILITY OF BLUE TRIANGLE CEMENT PRODUCTION.” - Oliver Kirubai - MD**



*From left: Nicholas Mutune, Yasmin Haroub, Raphael Mwambengele, Mark Salbei & Derrick Oleo, EAPC-PLC Engineering & Corporate Affairs teams on site during the kiln shell replacement.*



*On site Eng. Thomas Kibet (left) and Eng. Yousefi Firouz discussing the progress of the project.*



*EAPC-PLC Managing Director Eng. Oliver Kirubai (right) and the Excom team take a tour inside the Blue Triangle Cement kiln.*



*From left: Engineers Mark Salbei, Afired Mkala, Yousefi Firouz, and Raphael Mwambengele on site.*

# Kiln Shell Replacement Project in Pictures



The power faces behind our kiln upgrade project.



Alignment of the Blue Triangle Cement kiln shell.

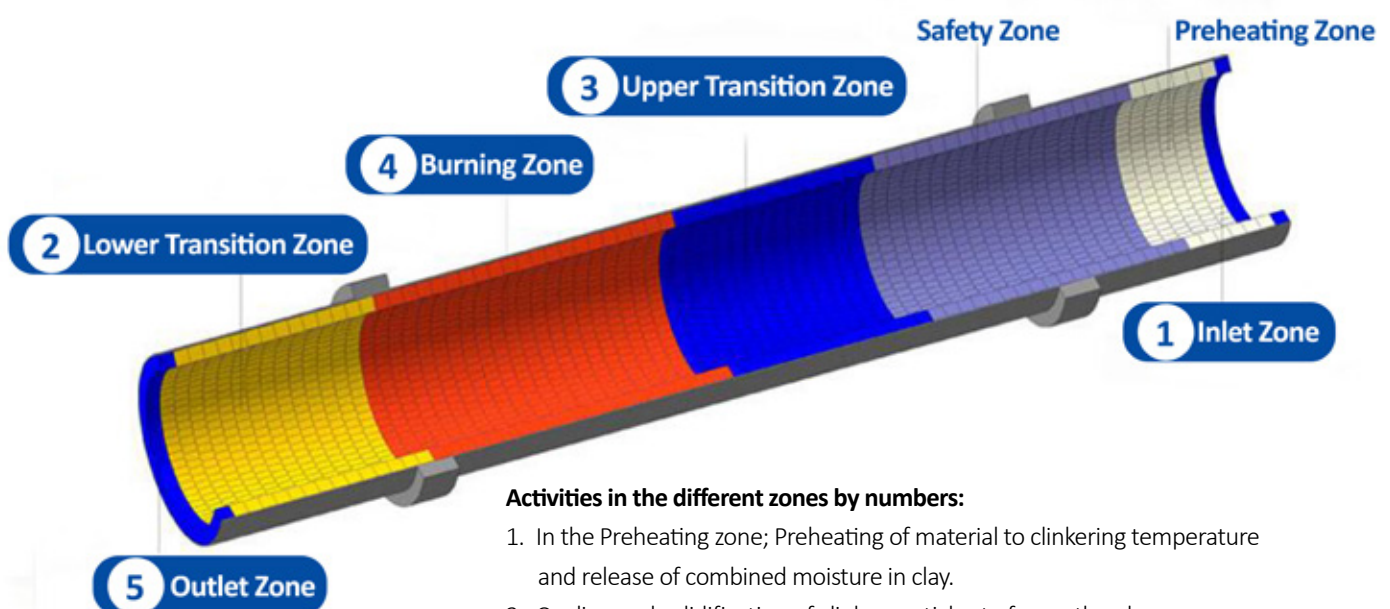


Cutting of the damaged kiln shell portion.



An aerial view of the highly damaged section of the burning zone to be replaced.

## Parts of the Rotary Kiln used in cement production



### Activities in the different zones by numbers:

1. In the Preheating zone; Preheating of material to clinkering temperature and release of combined moisture in clay.
2. Cooling and solidification of clinker particles to freeze the phases.
3. Dissociation of calcium carbonate/completion of calcination.
4. Formation of clinker minerals.
5. Lastly is cooling.

## ON THE SPOT

# Nicholas Mutune: Mechanical Supervisor, The Face Behind the Kiln Upgrade Project



### ONE AMONG MANY OF THE POWER

faces who are behind the Kiln Shell Replacement project is Mechanical Supervisor Nicholas Mutune with over 25 years of experience in the cement manufacturing Company.

He joined East African Portland Cement-PLC as an apprentice in 1985 to 1988 through a sponsorship program by EAPC-PLC. He holds a Diploma in Mechanical Engineering from Mombasa Polytechnic.

He has attended professional training including, Cement milling training in South Africa and EAPC-PLC sponsored training on cement milling among others.

The news desk team salutes the engineering team for their commitment, dedication and determination in making this project a success.

**- Yasmin. H. Haroub- Newsdesk Editor**

## BRIEFLY.....

# The Latest from EAPC-PLC

### **Machakos County Commissioner Pays a Courtesy Call to Managing Director**

The Managing Director Eng. Oliver Kirubai met and held talks with Machakos County Commissioner Ms. Rhoda Onyancha who paid a courtesy call on him in his office on 16th August 2022.

The meeting, also attended by Board Director Mr. Kung'u Gatabaki, Head of Corporate Affairs and Strategy Mr. Gordon Mutugi and Head of Finance Mr. Mohammed Adan was aimed at discussing and strengthening the relationship between the Company and its host county Machakos. The MD thanked the County Commissioner for

taking time off her busy schedule to visit the Company noting that she and her office were critical stakeholders to EAPC – PLC operations especially when it comes to security matters. On her side, Ms. Onyancha promised that since it falls under her jurisdiction, company can expect nothing but complete and continuous support from her office.

### **Management Targets Resumption of Normalcy by 4th September**

Management has expressed optimism that we will be back to full operations by the targeted date of 4th September 2022. This is attributed to the fact that the ongoing maintenance is on schedule and

that everyone is working round the clock to ensure that all timelines are met. The Sales and Distribution Manager Mr. David Kilonzo has noted that the Commercial Team is on standby, ready to hit the market hard, this time with enough confidence to take as many orders as possible since after the maintenance, the issue of product unavailability and delayed orders will be a thing of the past.

“Frequent failures resulting to insufficient product was a key issue affecting customer confidence in us, now that this loophole will be sealed once and for all, the market will be ours”, said Mr. Kilonzo.

**- By Kelvin Gitonga**



From left: Managing Director Eng. Oliver Kirubai, Board Director Mr. Kung'u Gatabaki and Machakos County Commissioner Ms. Rhoda Onyancha during their meeting in the M.D's office.



Service Delivery Advisor Ms. Margaret Mathenge (right) with potential customers during a recent market visit.