



COMPANY HIGHLIGHT

HIGHLIGHTS

Twenty-Six Years at KVTC

by Leslie Mascarenhas

Tanwat & DPSO

I joined Tanganyika Wattle Company Limited (TANWAT) in 1974 at the Dar es Salaam office. My father had joined TANWAT in 1973 and opened the TANWAT office in Dar es Salaam and I later joined him at the Dar Project Support Office ('DPSO').

During the time, container vessels did not exist. Bags had to be physically loaded on to trucks and sent to the port for shipment. Communication with our clients was by telegram service and all documentation was done with a type writer.

KVTC Standing on its own feet

In 1992 when CDC started investing in KVTC the company was supported through DPSO so this meant that I now looked after two companies, KVTC and TANWAT.

In 2008 KVTC had grown into a commercial business and I joined KVTC exclusively to support the growth of this business.

A few thousand containers

In 2009, KVTC started exporting teak processed in its own sawmill. Over the years, we have exported about 80,000 m3 of timber from KVTC all loaded in containers (>3,000

20's and 40's!!) and all documents prepared on computer and relayed to our clients via email.

It has been a fascinating journey to witness the change and how technology has made our lives easier but at the same time it has created more pressure and increased demands from clients and service providers.

Retirement & Handing Over

After Forty-Four years, of which Twenty-Six with KVTC, supporting export orientated forestry businesses the time has come to prepare for life after KVTC and at the end of this year I will be retiring.

KVTC is currently preparing for the transition and my departure and we have recruited a new team member, Arlene Gomes, to take over from me in December of this year.

What's next?

I look forward for the future and to spend time with my family and visiting relatives in India and Canada but it will be strange not to have to go to the office in the morning every day. It has been a pleasure working with KVTC and I wish the company all the best in the future.



Woodmizer & KVTC

KVTC's sawmill is a Multisaw Titan Line made by Woodmizer. During a recent visit to review the line Woodmizer made a small video

The mill cut 265,000m3 since 2009 and continues to go strong. Watch it here on our [LinkedIn](#) feed.



Zuri in Zanzibar

KVTC has been one of the key suppliers of sustainable plantation teak to the new Zuri Hotel in Zanzibar www.zurizanzibar.com Zuri is scheduled to open mid-2018 and with around 650m3 of KVTC teak gone into this project it will be a great show piece for KVTC Teak.

From Hans' desk

by Hans Lemm

As the rains are starting to subside we can look back at a fantastic season with first rains arriving end of October and at the time of writing we received well over 1,300mm of rain and there will still be a few more mm added to that.

This year we (re-)planted about 340ha on our own land as well as 250ha of new planting with outgrowers bringing the total area under the Outgrower Support Program to 1,250ha with about 400 farmers receiving inputs, financial support and extension services.

We scheduled a shutdown from mid-April to mid-May during the peak rainy season, but we

will be back in full operation before the end of the month.

The theme of this newsletter is clear and it is about old and new. Every year we have people joining us and sometimes we have to say goodbye to people who have been with us from the beginning (well before I joined the business). One of those people is Leslie Mascarenhas who has shared some of his journey with you and has seen and been part of the evolution of KVTC from day one.

We are also blessed to be able to attract young and talented people from all over the world and we are happy that Vlad joined us. Vlad brings along new ideas and exposure to some fascinating businesses. As a company we have to continuously learn, evolve and experiment and people's skills and experiences are key to this.



KVTC participated in the PFP Forestry Fair held from 19-23 March in Mafinga.

Six Months at KVTC

by Vladislav Vejnovic

My Background

My name is Vlad and I became a member of the KVTC family early December ago when I joined the company as a Research and Planning Manager taking over from Wessel Snyman.

Before joining KVTC I worked in different parts of Europe and Africa on various international projects all related to forestry and natural resources. I am passionate about forest management and planning, small-scale forestry in Africa, forest governance and international timber trade.

First Impressions

After half a year in Mavimba - I am full of impressions! For instance, I am fascinated with the complexity and variety of forestry operations in the field. This is one of the reasons why, in my opinion, the level of forest management at KVTC is exceptionally high. Moreover, I was impressed when I realized that KVTC is also planting with small scale farmers and helping them grow excellent Teak plantations and gain indispensable income.

Learning Curve

Living and working in Mavimba is very different from everything I have experienced before. I enjoy the day to day challenges both in the office and in the field. Due to the fact that I am coming from Europe - where forestry is very different from forestry in Africa - the first six months have been a great learning experience for me.

Making a Contribution

In the months to come, I look forward to getting more acquainted with commercial forestry at KVTC as well as in Tanzania. Together with the forestry team at KVTC I look forward tackling the challenges we are dealing with at our plantation and to improve productivity of our teak stands.

UPDATE KVTC BIOMASS CHALLENGE

A total of 12 applications were received for the Biomass Challenge and the KVTC and PFP Teams are busy vetting the proposals. We hope to be able to present the winner in our next newsletter

DID YOU KNOW?

The rotations for teak plantations can vary from 20 to 80 years, depending on the schedule developed by the managers and the financial expectations of the investors

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RADIO MITIKI

On Radio Pambazuko at 89.5FM

Every Friday at 07.30pm and every Saturday at 07.30am

CONTACT US

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