

Press Release

Napamboumbou, December 13, 2007

Cotecna finances construction of school in Burkina Faso

Napamboumbou: December 13, 2007; Cotecna, one of the world's leading trade inspection, security and certification companies, today inaugurated a primary school, in Napamboumbou, department of Ziniaré, Burkina Faso.

The construction of the school was financed by Cotecna who also closely followed the building of the establishment. Many village residents attended the ceremony that took place under the patronage of the Minister for Basic Teaching and Elimination of Illiteracy, (Ministre des Enseignements de Base et de l'Alphabétisation). Also present was Mr Robert Massey, Cotecna's Chief Executive Officer, Mr François Compaore, special advisor to the President, members of the Burkinabe administration, local chieftans, and diplomatic representatives.

The school, in the village of Napamboumbou, has six fully equipped classrooms, teachers' lodgings as well as a canteen and sanitary facilities. Cotecna also financed the drilling of a well to ensure water supply to the school.

Building started in February 2007 and was completed in time for the start of the new school year in October 2007. The first class, with a total of 76 children, opened this year. The other classes will become operational over the next few years to bring the total to six classes.

Wishing to contribute to Burkina Faso's national educational objective of increasing the number of children who attend school, and in line with Cotecna's Corporate Social Responsibility policy of contributing to the health and education of communities in countries where the company operates, Cotecna financed the building of the primary school in the rural department of Ziniaré. This was made possible through a partnership with ADDZ, the Association for the Development of the Department of Ziniaré, and the collaboration of the local authorities and local population.

Since its agreement with the Burkinabe government signed on July 13, 2004, and the start of its activities in Burkina Faso on August 9, 2004, Cotecna has regularly contributed to the education and well being of Burkina Faso communities through donations of school equipment and supplies, sports equipment and contributions to various social and health associations.

Cotecna's operations in Burkina Faso include Pre-Shipment Inspection and Destination Inspection programs as well as quality certification, verification of conformity, hydrocarbon inspection, cargo tracking and various supply chain security services.

Robert Massey, Chief Executive Officer, said, "It is an honour for Cotecna to have been able to participate in Burkina Faso's important programme aiming at improving the level of education of its children by financing the building of this school in Napamboumbou".



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