



**GUIDE TO
MAINTENANCE PRACTICES
FOR
DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS IN THE
DISTRIBUTION SECTOR
OF
THE NAMIBIAN ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY**

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Organisation	Member
Electricity Control Board	Mr Rojas Manyame
Electricity Control Board	Dr Maxwell Muyambo
Electricity Control Board	Mrs Charity Nsofu
NORED Electricity	Mr Andreas Jeremiah
CENORED Electricity	Mr Ralph !Gaoseb
ERONGO RED	Mr Nico Niemand
NamPower	Mr Johann Stadler
Hardap Regional Council	Mr Andreas lileka
Ministry of Mines and Energy	Mr Eino Kaitungwa
Ministry of Works and Transport	Mr S. Emvula
City of Windhoek	Mr Edward Kawesha

Assisted by:

Hans Hamukoto

Uli von Seydlitz

Anton Koekemoer

Dawid Pavaza

Ndangi lileka

From

EMCON Consulting Group

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Distribution Sector of the Namibian Electricity Supply Industry has seen significant infrastructure expansion over the past 5 years. Technical standards regarding the operation and installation of new and existing equipment have been developed and are currently being implemented by the various licensees. However, no guides or standards have been developed regarding maintenance of these infrastructures.

A lack of sound maintenance practices leads to damaged equipment, decreased asset lives, power system technical losses, inefficiency and reduced productivity amongst others. It is thus imperative for the ESI to have sound maintenance practices in place.

It is in this light that the ECB has embarked on a consultative process to develop this document, *Guide to Maintenance practices for Distribution Networks in the Distribution Sector of the Namibian ESI*. The consultant team who compiled this document was spearheaded by a Steering Committee consisting of ESI stakeholders. The guide covers all distribution networks of 33kV and below.

The key objective of the process was to involve stakeholders to draw from their experiences with the maintenance of such networks. The process also looked at existing international standards and practices.

This approach supports the strengthening of regulatory co-operation within Southern Africa and works towards the goal of regional standards. This guide uses the newest editions of regional standards (NRS, SANS) as well as international standards (IEC, ANSI, BS, IEEE) as reference and these should be consulted when applying the guidelines stipulated in this document.