**PRESS RELEASE**

New QC facility guarantees quality standards for B2K branded bearings

***11 March, 2014:*** *Leading bearings and power transmission components distributor Bearings 2000 recently opened a quality control (QC) facility in China to ensure that its imported B2K branded products are of the highest standards of quality.*

Bearings 2000 sales manager **Michael Stamatiadis** notes that the company established the QC facility in Chengdu City in October 2013, in order to conduct more extensive quality checks over-and-above the standard checks that form part of the manufacturing process of the Bearings 2000 range of in-house B2K branded products.

“Our B2K products are manufactured by a number of different factories, each with their own QC facilities and testing procedures. The reason for having an independent QC facility is that the factories do not always carry out accurate controlling at their facilities. The Bearings 2000 QC laboratory in China conducts thorough inspections of our in-house B2K brand prior to shipment to South Africa, thereby ensuring that they are of the highest standards,” he explains.

During the quality checks, a number of tests are conducted. Firstly, the bearings and packaging are visually inspected for defects. Once this has been completed, QC tests such as material composition, noise and vibration tests are conducted on a sample of the bearings, in addition to dimensional checks. What's more, noise and vibration tests are conducted to ensure that the bearing is running within the specified noise and vibration parameters, while a material test is conducted to ensure that the correct steel grade is used on all components of the bearing.

Stamatiadis believes that by establishing the QC facility, the local market will recognise the standard of products offered by the B2K brand. "There is a variety of different quality bearings produced in China, and certainty of quality is not always guaranteed. In some cases, purchasers may only realise that they have been supplied with an inferior product after the bearings have been fitted and have failed. We decided that we could not take that risk with our customers.”

According to Stamatiadis, the QC facility offers numerous advantages for Bearings 2000 clients. “The QC facility ensures that all B2K bearings shipped to South Africa have passed the strictest quality tests and checks. By conducting QC checks on our products, we ensure complete peace of mind throughout the entire supply chain,” he continues.

There were challenges faced during the establishment of the QC facility with regards to staffing, but Stamatiadis notes that these were overcome by Bearings 2000. “When we began this process we had to ensure the integrity of the laboratory equipment, in addition to finding suitably experienced staff to operate the facility, which proved challenging. However, we succeed in finding the right staff for the laboratory and all our equipment meets the necessary specifications,” he concludes.

***Ends***

**Notes to the Editor**There are numerous photographs specific to this press release. Please visit <http://media.ngage.co.za> and click the Bearings 2000 link.

**About Bearings 2000**Bearings 2000 is dedicated to giving its customers the very best in service and value. With an inventory of over 10,000 product lines and a stock value in excess of R22 million, Bearings 2000 is able to provide clients with a comprehensive supply solution for all bearing and power transmission component needs.

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