Botswana Bureau of Standards

BOBS Overview

Mandate and Services

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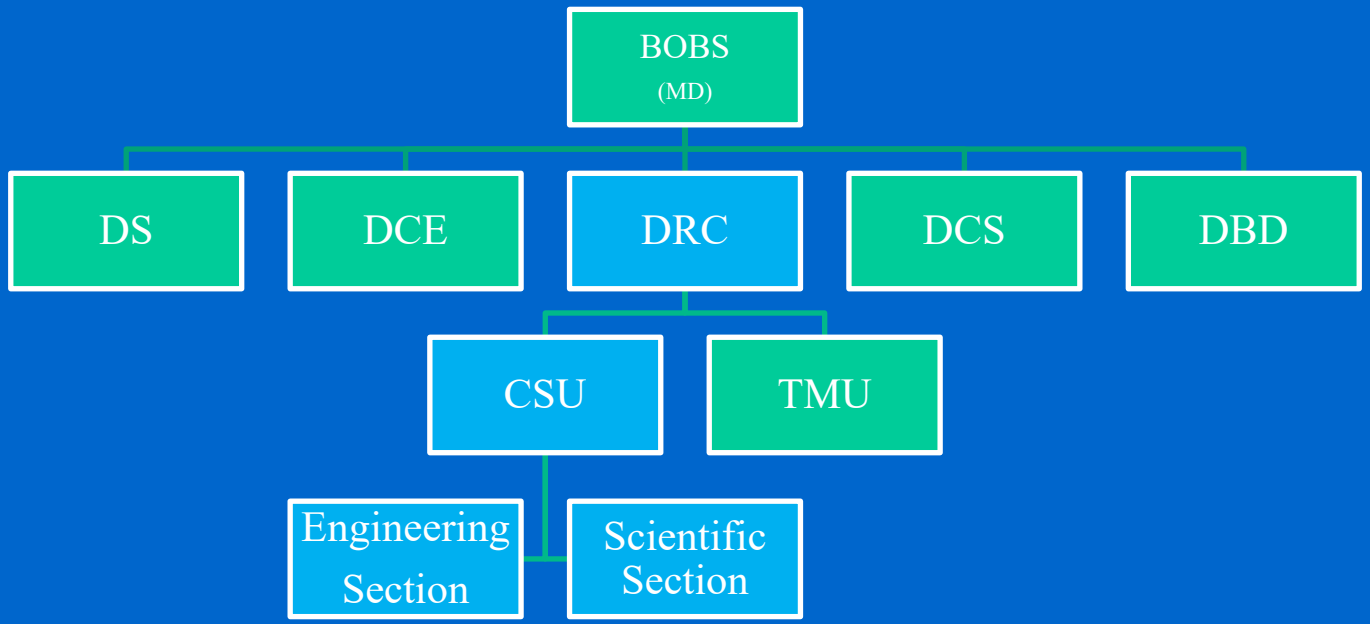
Background on BOBS

- Established by the Standards Act No. 16 of 1995
- Started operations in 1997
- Under the Ministry of Investment ,Trade & Industry
- Headed by a 12-member Standards Council
- Headquarters in Gaborone
- Branch in Francistown
- Member of the International Organization for standardization
- Inquiry point for the World Trade Organization

- BOBS Structure



BOBS Mandate

BOBS was established to carry out the following:

- develop national (Botswana) standards
- promote standardization and quality assurance activities in industry and commerce
- provide for testing and verification of products and services for conformity to stated standards
- provide industrial and trade metrology services
- promote quality, protection of the consumer and protection of the environment

Botswana Bureau of Standards

How does BOBS Support Animal Feed Industry?

BOBS Services

- Standards development
- Eight divisions covering different sectors of the economy:
  - Building and Construction;
  - Mechanical Engineering;
  - Textiles;
  - Environmental Management;
  - Electrical Engineering
  - Food and Agriculture
  - General purpose
  - Chemicals
- Standards are developed by Technical Committees (TCs) composed of representatives from the public and private sectors e.g. businesses (manufacturers and distributors), government, academic institutions, NGOs, regulatory authorities, etc.
- Membership is by invitation and is voluntary
- BOBS plays a coordination role in the development of standards and ensures that all the relevant process requirements are fulfilled

Certification Services

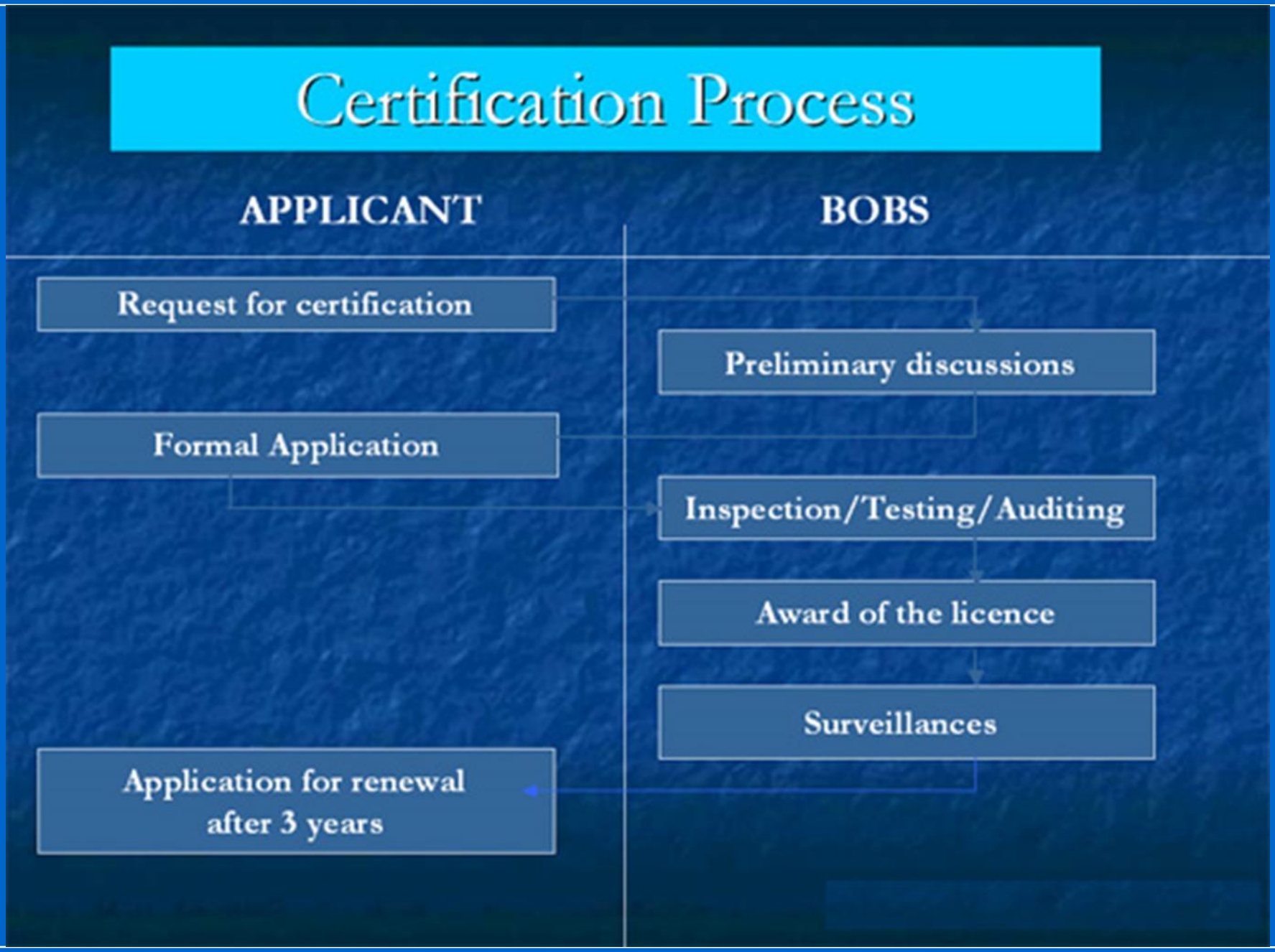
Certification is a process to verify that a product, process or service conforms to specified requirements.

- Certification gives assurance that:
  - A product/service complies with the relevant specification
  - The manufacturer maintains an effective Quality Control system

BOBS offers third-party certification schemes:

- Standards Mark Scheme
  - Covers products where relevant standards exist
  - Product certification verifies compliance of a product to a specific product standard.
- Quality Management System
  - Covers management systems – ISO 9001 standard
  - verifies compliance of a company's management system against the requirements of a Quality Management System standard

Certification Process



BOBS Marks of Quality - New

APPROVED

BOBS

RN XXX
BOS XXX

BOBS Regulated Products

CERTIFIED

BOBS

LN XXX | BOS XXX

BOBS Certified Products

BATCH CERTIFIED

BOBS

BN XXX | BOS XXX

BOBS Batch Certified Products

MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

BOBS

LN XXX | BOS XXX

BOBS Certified Management systems

Laboratory/Testing Services

Testing Services

- Examination and testing of commodities
- These are performed in BOBS testing laboratories in: Chemistry; Microbiology; Textile and Engineering (Electrical, Civil and Mechanical)
- External (competent) testing facilities are outsourced in cases where BOBS does not have the required testing capability

Laboratory Consultancy

- Implementation to achieve accreditation, conducting gap analysis, drafting quality manuals, for BOS ISO/IEC 17025

Trade and industrial metrology

- **Industrial Metrology**
  Calibration and verification of instruments used for process control
- **Trade Metrology**
  Calibration and verification of Instruments used for trade – Enforcement of Weights and Measures Act of 2006



Fuel pumps



Pressure gauges



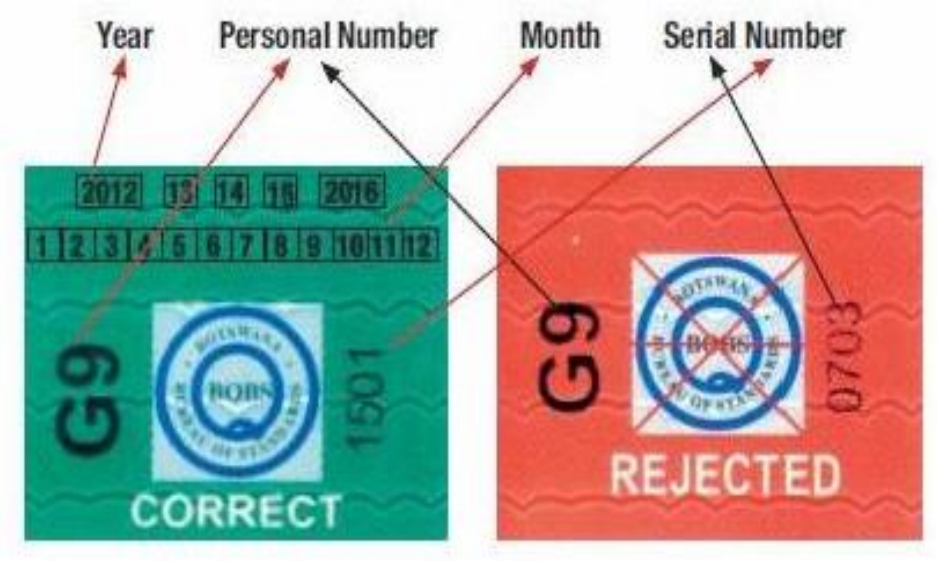
Scales



Weighbridge

Trade and industrial metrology

- Calibration is defined as the process of establishing and document the accuracy level of a measuring equipment through comparison with a measuring equipment (of the same principle) of higher accuracy (standard)
- Calibration stickers are placed on calibrated or verified weighing or measuring instruments as evidence that the accuracy of the instruments has been verified



Training

BOBS provides training in understanding, implementation documentation, and auditing, in the following standards:

- Quality management systems (BOS ISO 9001)
- Laboratory management systems (BOS ISO 17025)
- Environmental management systems (BOS ISO 14001)
- Occupational health and safety management systems (BOS ISO 45001)
- Root Cause Analysis
- Any tailor-made courses

Programmes are accredited by BQA



Regulatory Compliance

BOBS is responsible for the implementation of all compulsory standards and prescribed standards/products through:

- *Standards Act No. 16 of 1995 - Compulsory standards*
- *Standards (Compulsory Standards) Regulations* (SCSR) *2023*

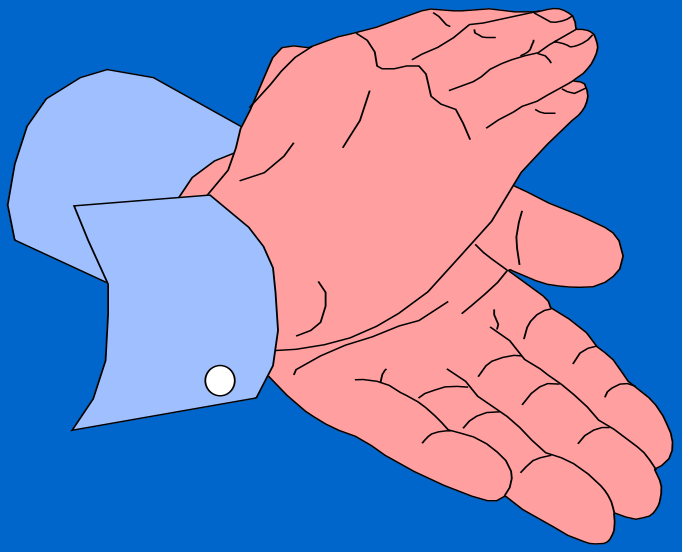
This is carried out by:

- Ensuring that products imported into Botswana meet minimum requirements as per prescribed standards
- Issuing notes of recognition of certification (if already certified in country of origin)
- Planned market/manufacturers inspections
- Random market inspections
- Random sampling of prescribed products
- Testing of samples
- Recall of non-compliant products

The use of standards

- Procurement
- Testing
- Certification
- Research
- Regulation
- Production

Thank you for your attention



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