

KEY NOTE

Standards impact is estimated at 80% of world commodity trade, and they are an engine for sustainable development. In order to enable full participation in international trade, the government has the right to intervene in the market place to protect its citizens and environment against unsafe products and services; to ensure the quality of its exports and prevent consumers from deceptive practices. This is done especially using technical regulations and mandatory standards.

It is against that background that the Ministry of trade and Industry, in its instruction NO 21/2013 of 3/07/2013 has set a number of compulsory standards to be complied with by any product entering or manufactured on the territory of the Republic of Rwanda. The list is not exhaustive and has to be reviewed from time to time when need arises.

What is a Rwanda compulsory standard

“Compulsory Standard” means a National Standard which lays down product, service or process characteristics or their related processes and production methods with which compliance has been made mandatory throughout the Rwandan territory, in accordance with the ministerial instruction NO 21/2013 of 3/07/2013.

Compulsory Rwanda standards cover terminology, symbols, packaging, marking or labelling requirements as they apply to a product, process or production method.

Benefits of the Rwanda compulsory standards

- a) **For the Government:** They provide the scientific basis for development of health, safety and environmental **legislations** and create "**a level playing field**" for all competitors on Rwandan

markets. They also serve as a basis for inspection of imports entering Rwanda and hence limiting entry of low quality substandard or counterfeit products.

- b) **For Consumers:** compulsory standards constitute an assurance of their protection against unsafe products, services and limit the presence on the markets of misleading products which may confuse consumers. They form the basis for fair practices in trade.
- c) **For Industry:** They ensure efficiency and effectiveness in production and along the whole value chain. They contribute to increase productivity and therefore competitiveness on local and global markets.

Scope of mandatory standards

Compulsory standards to be launched are in the following broad areas:

- Environment, health and safety including water and air quality together with mining and quarrying; for the sake of preserving the environment and hence save lives.
- Civil and mechanical as well as electrical engineering to protect human health, to ensure safety of users of various products, workers at work place and safe infrastructure indeed.
- Foods and agriculture ranging from sugars and sugar products, cereals, pulses and derived products, fortified products, edible oils and fats, tea, coffee, milk, meat and meat products to infants foods, beverages and drinking waters, fertilizers and animal feeding stuffs.
- Chemistry and consumer products ranging from standards for cosmetic products, toiletries and surface active agents, to standards related to environment, health and safety which include standards for water and air quality.

1. ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY

Environmental standards are among the leading objective tools to assist policy makers in decisions related to regulations, product compliance to foster protection of water, air, soil, ecosystem, health and safety of human beings and these standards can help in

reducing environmental impacts. Offering business, government and society a complete portfolio of practical tools for tackling environmental challenges.

1.1 Water quality

Distilled water is widely traded and used in hospitals, schools, laboratories and cars. There is need to comply fully with its technical characteristics to protect human health. These standards set the tolerance limits of discharged wastewater from industries and domestic activities. They have also been referenced in the regulations on environmental protection.

-RS EAS 123: Distilled water — Specification

-RS 109: Water quality—Tolerance limits of discharged industrial wastewater

-RS 110: Water quality—Tolerance limits of discharged domestic wastewater

1.2 Air Quality

These standards aim at improving human health due to the abundance of fresh air, preserving the aesthetics of the area protecting the environment as well as reducing emissions in the atmosphere, hence reducing global warming.

-RS EAS 750: Air quality — Emissions to the by cement factories guidelines

-RS EAS 751: Air quality — Specification

-RS EAS 752: Air quality — Tolerance limits of emissions discharged to the air by factories

1.3 Mining

Mining is one of the sectors that earn income to Rwandans and forex too, hence the need to have this work follow standards.

-RS 117: Mining and quarrying — Code of practice

2 ENGINEERING COMPULSORY STANDARDS

Engineering standards are crucial for any country to achieve its development goal in that, today technology leads global direction, influences cultures and human behavior. Rwanda is among the African countries with high rate of growth in urbanizations which calls for quality compliance of engineering structures and products/materials used in putting up all infrastructures that in turn act as drives of national economy. Safety and sustainability of infrastructures is paramount for us to have a better future, therefore there is need to have in place not only Standards that set minimum requirements for quality and safety but also we should make sure that they are enforced and complied with by all.

2.1 Fire safety standards

Fire safety refers to precautions that are taken to prevent or reduce the likelihood of a fire that may result in death, injury, or property damage, alert those in a structure to the presence of an uncontrolled fire in the event one occurs, better enable those threatened by a fire to survive in and evacuate from affected areas, or to reduce the damage caused by a fire.

Fire safety measures include those that are planned during the construction of a building or implemented in structures that are already standing, and those that are taught to occupants of the building. The below standards are the right tools to make our properties safe when properly used right from the design stage of the building.

-RS ISO 11602 - 1, Fire protection — portable and wheeled fire extinguishers — Part 1: Selection and installation

-RS ISO 11602 - 2, Fire protection — portable and wheeled fire extinguishers — Part 2: Inspection and maintenance

-RS 186-1, Code of Practice for Fire Safety of Building — Part 1: General Principles of Fire Grading and Classification

-RS 186-2, Code of Practice for Fire Safety of Building — Part 2: Details of Construction

-RS 186-3, Code of Practice for Fire Safety of Building — Part 3: Part 3: Fire Safety in Hotels

-RS 186-4, Code of Practice for Fire Safety of Building — Part 4: Selection, installation and maintenance of automatic fire detection and alarm system

-RS 186-5, Code of Practice for Fire Safety of Building — Part 5: Exit requirements and personal hazard

2.2 Pipes and fittings

It is well known that Water is life; it is the reason why in the environment we live in today, Water has to be transported long distances to reach where it is needed and in most cases waste water also has to be evacuated to designated receptors so as to avoid contaminations. Plastic piping systems is the most preferred for water supply, drainage and sewerage evacuation. The standards below gives the quality of pipes as well as fittings used for water mains and services buried in the ground, conveyance of water above ground for both outside and inside buildings as well as buried and above ground drainage and sewerage under pressure.

-RS ISO 4427-1, Plastics piping systems — Polyethylene (PE) pipes and fittings for water supply — Part 1: General specifications

-RS ISO 1452-1, Plastics piping systems for water supply and for buried and above-ground drainage and sewerage under pressure — Unplasticized poly (vinyl chloride) (PVC-U) — Part 1: General

-RS ISO 1452-2, Plastics piping systems for water supply and for buried and above-ground drainage and sewerage under pressure — Unplasticized poly (vinyl chloride) (PVC-U) — Part 2: Pipes

-RS ISO 1452-3, Plastics piping systems for water supply and for buried and above-ground drainage and sewerage under pressure — Unplasticized poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC-U) — Part 3: Fittings

-RS ISO 1452-4, Plastics piping systems for water supply and for buried and above-ground drainage and sewerage under pressure — Unplasticized poly (vinyl chloride) (PVC-U) — Part 4: Valves

-RS ISO 1452-5, Plastics piping systems for water supply and for buried and above-ground drainage and sewerage under pressure — Unplasticized poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC-U) — Part 5: Fitness for purpose of the system

-RS ISO 559, Steel tubes for water and sewage

-RS ISO 2531, Ductile iron pipes, fittings, accessories and their joints for gas application

2.3 Steel sheets

Steel sheets are one of building materials as roofing material and play a vital role in the strength, safety and durability of a building. It is one of weather protection material for structure; it protects the building against rainfall, snow and undesired sunlight. A building

without roofing is not complete and it cannot assure the safety of users and even the durability of the structure. The below standards gives specifications of the roofing sheets that are of good quality to achieve the desired safety.

- RS EAS 196, Steel, carbon and high — strength, low — alloy hot — rolled sheet and cold — rolled sheet — General requirements
- RS EAS 415, Hot — rolled steel sheet of high yield stress structural quality
- RS EAS 11, Galvanized plain and corrugated steel sheets — Specification
- RS EAS 410, Hot — dip aluminium — zinc coated plain and corrugated steel sheets— Specification
- RS EAS 468, Pre — painted metal coated steel sheets and coils — Specification

- RS ISO 630- 2, Structural steels — Part 2: Technical delivery requirements for hollow finished sections
- RS ISO 4995, Hot rolled steel sheets of structural quality — Specification
- RS ISO 4998, Continuous hot dip zinc — Coated carbon steel sheets of structural quality
- RS ISO 5954, Cold reduced carbon steel sheet according to hardness requirements — Specification
- RS ISO 4997, Cold reduced steel sheets of structural quality

2.4 Liquefied petroleum gas

Global warming is real and affects heavily developing countries than developed. However it is obvious that given the rate of urbanization and growth of cities in Rwanda, we can no longer rely on charcoal as the common used cooking energy rather we have to shift to Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) which is ideal fuel for cooking and also being used in the motoring industry where it is known as Autogas. LPG is more environmentally friendly fuel option as it emits less carbon dioxide than other rural fuel hence greener fuel choice as we are running shortage of trees and becoming victims of global warming. The below standards provides the requirements for good quality LPG, guidelines for safe handling, the quality of cylinders and their accessories to ensure safety during usage as well as transportation.

- RS ISO 11625, Gas cylinders — Safe handling
- RS ISO 4706, Refillable welded steel gas cylinders
- RS 134, Low pressure liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) regulator — Specification

- RS 138, Unified valve for liquefied petroleum gas cylinders for domestic use — Specification
- RS 140, Liquefied petroleum gases (LPG) —Specification

2.5 Petroleum industry

Petroleum Industry is one of the sectors that have significant impact to the development of the country and also the most important source of pollutants that has negative effects to our health and environment if not properly controlled in terms of quality of fuel being imported, construction standards for Petrol station as well as fuel storage facilities. the below standards gives the requirements for the quality of fuel as well as guidelines in terms of Petrol Stations being built in order to avoid associated dangers and also prevent wrong practices that we currently observe such as petrol stations constructed in areas like residential, near the Banks, close into the roads, low standards in terms of construction and safety, unskilled personnel just to name few.

- RS EAS 158, Gasoline (Petrol) unleaded - Specification
- RS EAS 177, Automotive diesel - Specification
- RS 141-1, Downstream petroleum industry – Part 1: The installations, modification and decommissioning of underground storage tanks,

- pumps/dispensers, pipe work at service stations and consumer installations
- RS 141-2, Downstream petroleum industry – Part 2: Storage and distribution of petroleum products in aboveground-bulk installations

-RS 141-3, Downstream petroleum industry – Part 3: Electrical and other installations at service stations and consumer facilities

2.6 Other standards related to safety

Safety is very important not only that of the products for direct consumption like food but also in the environment we live in like work places, industries, public buildings, other areas where there is potential for accidents and contaminations due to presence of hazardous material or their improper handling. It is also possibility to have a system failure such as car braking as a result of poor quality tyres. The below Standards give requirements for retreaded car tyres and safety signs that are internationally accepted as well as safety images that should be displayed on the containers of different kind of goods.

-RS EAS 53, Retreaded car and commercial vehicle tyres — specification
-RS ISO 7010, Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs — Safety signs used in workplaces and public areas

-RS ISO 780, Packaging — Pictorial marking for handling of goods
-RS ISO/IEC 11801, Information technology — Generic cabling for customer premises

2.7 Structural design standards

Eliminating hazards at the design or planning stage is often easier and cheaper to achieve than making changes later when the hazards become real risks in the workplace. Before the designers start designing, one of the factors they should identify is the needed standards and codes of practice so as to have a safe design. Safe design means the integration of control measures early in the design process to eliminate or, if this is not reasonable practicable, minimize risks to health and safety throughout the life of the structure being designed.

-RS 113, Geotechnical design- General rules
-RS 114-1, Structural design-Part 1: Actions on structures-Densities, Self-weight, imposed loads for buildings
-RS 114-2, Structural design-Part 1: Actions on structures-Wind actions
-RS 567, Design for concrete structures – Code of practice

-RS 115, Building construction- Design of facilities for people with disabilities-Code of Practice
-RS 583, Wastewater treatment systems - Design and construction of septic tanks and associated effluents disposal systems - Code of practice.

2.8 Construction materials

Most people take buildings and structures for granted. They overlook the fact that these structures are laid down and constructed one small piece at a time. It is actually these small solid pieces that make up structures ranging from simple buildings to mega structures. The common belief “cheaper is always better” is flawed when it comes to building materials. Hereon, we will discuss the benefits of construction materials standards to the manufacturers, suppliers and contractors.

-RS 62: 2005, precast reinforced box culverts-Specification
-RS EAS 179, precast concrete paving blocks-Specification
-RS EAS 54, Burnt building bricks-Specifications
-RS 144, Cement blocks and bricks-Specification
-RS EAS 489, Concrete poles for telephone, power and lighting purposes —Specification
-RS EAS 71, Clay roofing tiles –Specification
-RS EAS 94, Burnt clay building blocks-Specification

-RS EAS 180, Specification for aggregates from natural sources for use in concrete
-RS EAS 18-1, Cements -Part 1: Composition, specification and conformity criteria for common cements
-RS 448-1, Mortar for masonry–Part 1: Specification
-RS EAS 131-1, Concrete –Part 1: Specification, performance, production and conformity

-**RS ISO 404**, Steel and Steel Products — General Technical delivery requirements

-**RS ISO 6935-1**, Steel for the reinforcement of concrete — Part 1: Plain bars

-**RS ISO 6935-2**, Steel for the reinforcement of concrete — Part 2: Ribbed bars

-**RS ISO 6935-3**, Steel for the reinforcement of concrete — Part 3: Welded fabric.

2.9 Electrical compulsory standards

Safety is defined as being protected from-or unlikely to cause danger, risk or injury. Ensuring the safety of citizens is one of the most important priorities for Rwandan society. The value of safety cannot be over emphasized. Unsafe machines, infrastructure can kill or injure operators and result in costly lawsuits. The standards prevent unsafe consumer products from being designed, manufactured and sold, addressing all potential hazards. The standards provide guidance and practical tools to identify, assess, eliminate or to reduce potential safety risk, to eliminate them before the products are sold.

The Government of Rwanda through Rwanda Bureau of Standards to prevent all these crime from sub standards products and services in Electrical Engineering has published the following standards as compulsory standards.

2.9.1 Safe installation

The use of standards for safe design of any electrical installation in buildings or structures protect not only the people using those buildings structures, but the structures or buildings themselves by ensuring operational continuity.

-**RS 565-1** Electrical wiring of Premises — Part 1: Low-Voltage installations

-**RS IEC 60364 – 4 – 42** Electrical installations of buildings — Part 4-42: Protection for safety - Protection against thermal effects

-**RS IEC 60364 – 4 – 43** Electrical installations of buildings — Part 4-43: Protection for safety - Protection against overcurrent

-**RS IEC 60364-5-52** Electrical installations of buildings — Selection and erection of electrical equipment — Wiring system

-**RS IEC 60364-5-53** Electrical installations of buildings — Selection and erection of electrical equipment — Isolation, Switching and Control.

-**RS IEC 60364-5-54** Electrical installations of buildings — Selection and erection of electrical equipment — Earthing arrangement, protective conductors and protective bonding conductors.

-**RS IEC 60364 – 7 – 701** Low-voltage electrical installations — Part 7-701: Requirements for special installations or locations – Location containing a bath or shower

-**RS IEC 60364 – 7 – 704** Low-voltage electrical installations — Part 7-704: Requirements for special installations or locations – Construction and demolition site installations

-**RS IEC 60364 – 7 – 712** Electrical installations — Part 7- 712: Requirements for special installations or locations – Solar photovoltaic (PV) power supply systems

-**RS IEC 60670 – 22** Boxes and enclosures for electrical accessories for household and similar fixed electrical installations— Part 22: Particular requirements for connecting boxes and enclosures

-**RS ISO/IEC 11801**, Information technology — Generic cabling for customer premises

-**RS IEC60269-1** Low-voltage fuses — Part 1: General requirements

-**RS IEC 61643-11** Low-voltage surge protective devices- Part 11: Surge protective devices connected to low-voltage power distribution systems- Requirements and tests

2.9.2 Batteries

In the essence of environmental protection and product performance as well as sustainability and interchangeability, the standards for batteries need to be used for sustainability of Rwanda Society environment.

-**RS IEC 60086 – 1** Primary batteries — Part 1: General

-**RS IEC 60086 – 2** Primary batteries — Part 2: Physical and electrical specification

-RS IEC 61960 Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolytes — Secondary lithium cells and batteries for portable applications

2.9.3 Electrical appliances

Counterfeiting and piracy have grown into global business, electrical and electronic products now occupy second place after pharmaceutical products. From components such as fuses, cables and circuit breakers to household equipments nothing is safe from counterfeiting. While the appearance and packaging can be very convincing, the products themselves are often substandard and may represent a severe safety hazard, causing accidents and costing lives.

The standards addressing the performance and safety for household appliances help in reduce power consumption and maximize energy conservation as well as safety for consumers and infrastructures.

-RS IEC 62115 Electric toys — Safety

-RS IEC 60335 - 1 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety: General requirements

-RS IEC 60335 - 2 - 3 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety: Particular requirements for electric irons

-RS IEC 60335 - 2 - 7 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety — Part2 - 7: Particular requirements for washing machines

-RS IEC 60335 - 2 - 8 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety: Particular requirements for shaves, hair clippers and similar appliances.

-RS IEC 60335-2-9 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety — Part2 - 9: Particular requirements for grills, toasters and similar portable cooking appliances

-RS IEC 60335 - 2 - 13 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety: Particular requirements for deep fat fryers, frying pans and similar appliances

-RS IEC 60335 - 2 - 14 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety: Particular requirements for Kitchen machines

-RS IEC 60335 - 2 - 15 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety: Particular requirements for appliances for heating liquids

-RS IEC 60335 - 2 - 21 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety: Particular requirements for storage water heaters

-RS IEC 60335-2 -23 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety — Part2 - 23: Particular requirements for skin or hair care

-RS IEC 60335 - 2 - 24 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety: Particular requirements for refrigerating appliances and ice - cream appliances and ice - makers

-RS IEC 60335 - 2 - 25 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety – Part 25: Particular requirements for microwave ovens, including combination microwave ovens

-RS IEC 60335-2 -29 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety — Part2 - 29: Particular requirements for battery chargers

-RS IEC 60335 - 2 - 35 Household and similar electrical appliances — Safety: Particular requirements for instantaneous water heaters

2.9.4 Electrical Cables

When counterfeit electrical devices, components including cables and spare parts enter manufacturing supply chains, they can add fire, shock and explosion risks that may cost workers their lives, cause serious property damage and involve unpredictable financial liability. One fake component can void guarantees for entire systems and installations, resulting in severe financial losses and liabilities. To avoid all those issue, before using any cables make sure that comply with standards.

-RS IEC 60228 Conductors of insulated cables

-RS IEC 60227 - 1 Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750V — Part 1: General requirements.

-RS IEC 60227 - 3 Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750V — Part 3: Non - sheathed cables for fixed wiring.

-RS IEC 60227 -4 Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750V — Part 4: Sheathed cables for fixed wiring.

-RS IEC 60227 - 5 Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750V – Part 5: Flexible cables (cords)

-RS IEC 60227 - 6 Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750V — Part 6: Lift cables and cables for flexible connections fixed wiring.

-RS IEC 60227 - 7 Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750V — Part 7: Flexible cables screened and unscreened with two or more conductors.

-RS IEC 60502 -1 Power cables with extruded insulation and their accessories for rated voltages from 1 kV ($U_m = 1,2$ kV) up to 30 kV ($U_m = 36$ kV) Part 1: Cables for rated voltages of 1 kV ($U_m = 1,2$ kV) and 3 kV ($U_m = 3,6$ kV)

2.9.5 Plugs and Sockets

While the appearance and packaging can be very convincing, the products themselves are often substandard and may represent a severe safety hazard, causing accidents and costing lives. Complying with standards for plugs and sockets reduce or remove all accidents including fire in the building caused by using non appropriate devices or overloading the devices.

-RS IEC 60884 - 1 Plugs, Socket –outlets for house hold and similar purposes — Part1: General requirements

-RS IEC 60884 - 2-1 Plugs, Socket –outlets for house hold and similar purposes — Part2-1: Particular requirements for fused plugs

-RS IEC 60884 -2 -2 Plugs, Socket –outlets for house hold and similar purposes — Part2-2: Particular requirements socket outlets for appliances

-RS IEC 60884 - 2 -3 Plugs, Socket –outlets for house hold and similar purposes — Part2-3: Particular requirements for switched socket outlets without interlock for fixed installations

-RS IEC 60884 - 2 - 4 Plugs, Socket –outlets for house hold and similar purposes — Part2 - 4: Particular requirements for plugs and socket outlets for SELV

-RS IEC 60309-1 Plugs, socket-outlets, and socket-outlets and couplers for industrial purposes -part1: General requirements

2.9.6 Luminaires

The standards increase performance and effectiveness to reduce energy consumption while ensuring an acceptable indoor environment. The standards will help in getting appropriate luminaires using in different place with proper lighting depending on specific activities in the given place

-RS IEC 60598 - 1 Luminaires — Part 1: General requirements and tests

-RS IEC 60598 -2 - 3 Luminaires — Part 2 - 3: Particular requirements — Luminaires for road and street lighting

-RS IEC 60598-2-18 Luminaires — Part2: Particular requirements-Section 18: Luminaires for swimming pools and similar applications

-RS IEC 60598-2-25 Luminaires — Part2: Particular requirements-Section 25: Luminaires for use in clinical areas of hospitals and health care building

3 FOOD AND AGRICULTURE COMPULSORY STANDARDS

3.1 General standards for labelling

Labelling of products is very important. Right and key information help the consumers identify the products they need and allow effective use of products. This category of standards applies; to the labelling of foods to be offered as such to the consumer; to food additives and processing aids and to Foods for Special Dietary Uses.

-RS CODEX STAN1, General standard for the labelling of Pre-Packaged Foods

-RS CODEX STAN 107, General standard for the labeling of Food Additives when sold as such

-RS CODEX STAN 146, General standard for the labeling and claims for prepackaged foods for special dietary uses

3.2 Codes of hygienic practices and principles of control for food production

International food trade, and foreign travel, is increasing and bringing important social and economic benefits. But this also makes the spread of illness around the world easier. Effective hygiene control, therefore, is vital to avoid the adverse human health and economic consequences of food borne illness, food borne injury and food spoilage.

The code of practice – General principles for food hygiene follows the food chain from primary production through to final consumption, highlighting the key hygiene controls at each stage while the HACCP describes the principles of control needed to ensure the supply of safe food to the consumer. The principles described in these standards are essential to ensure safe food products for the consumer.

-RS CAC/RCPI1, Code of practice –General Principle for Food Hygiene

-RS 184, Requirements for a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) system

3.3 Animal related products

Milk, Meat and fish have traditionally been viewed as a vehicle for a significant proportion of human food-borne diseases that need changing production and processing systems. The codes give technological guidelines and the essential requirements of hygiene in the production of products that are safe for human consumption. The product standards specify quality and safety requirements that specific products shall comply with before they are put up for sale. These standards may assist all those who are engaged in the handling and processing of milk, meat and fish and milk, meat and fishery products in attaining safe and wholesome products.

3.3.1 Milk and milk products

- RS 35** Unprocessed Whole Milk — Specification
- RS 36** Pasteurized Liquid Milk — Specification
- RS 37** Fermented (Cultured) Milks — Specification
- RS 38** UHT Milk — Specification
- RS 39** Milk powders and Cream powders — Specification

- RS 49** Yoghurt — Specification
- RS 51** Butter — Specification
- RS 50- 1** Cheese — Part1: General Requirements
- RS 50 - 2** Specification for cheese — Part2: Gouda Cheese
- RS 50 - 3** Cheese part 3: Specification for creamy cheese

3.3.2 Meat and meat products including fish

- RS 185** Code of Hygienic Practice for Meat
- RS 81** Code of hygienic practice for processed meat products
- RS 44-1** Sausage — Part1: Fresh, Cooked and Smoked Pork and Sausages, pork and Beef Sausage meat-Specification
- RS 45** Canned Corned Beef — Specification
- RS 46** Code of Practice for Handling, processing and Distribution of fish

- RS 47** Dressed poultry (Chicken) — Specification
- RS 48-1** Fresh Fin Fish — Part1: Fresh whole fish —Specification
- RS 48 - 2** Fresh Fin Fish — Part2: Fresh fish fillet — Specification
- RS 55-1** Canned Fish in Tomato Sauce — Part1: Specification

3.4 Sugar and sugar products

Sugar and sugar products are among the most traded commodities around the world. Therefore, if care is not taken, they can have a negative impact on health of people as well as on the quality and safety of the final product in which they are used as ingredient. These standards specifies the requirements, methods of sampling and testing for the products described therein.

-RS EAS 749 Brown sugar – Specification

-RS EAS 5 Refined white sugar — Specification

-RS EAS 16 Plantation (mill) White Sugar — Specification

-RS 43 Dextrose Monohydrate (Glucose Powder) — Specification

-RS 65-1 Sugar Confectionary — Part1: High Boiled Sweets

-RS 65-2 Sugar Confectionary — Part 2: Caramel, toffees and Fudge

-RS 65-3 Sugar Confectionary — Part3: Chewing Gum and Bubble Gum

-RS 66 Glucose Syrup — Specification

3.5 Cereals and pulses and related products

The level of cereals and pulses consumption is ranked among the highest in Rwanda. Cereals and pulses and their derived products are easily contaminated by mycotoxins, which are carcinogenic in nature. These standards require farmers, processors and handlers to follow good practices that reduce the level of contaminants at acceptable level and that allow produce sound and safe product to the consumer.

-RS EAS 128 Milled Rice — Specification

-RS 24 Whole maize meal — Specification

-RS EAS 2 Maize Grains — Specification

-RS EAS 44 Milled maize products — Specification

-RS 25 Edible Maize starch — Specification

-RS EAS 51 Wheat and Durum Wheat Grains — Specification

-RS 26 Whole Wheat Flour — Specification

-RS EAS 1 Wheat flour — Specification

-RS EAS 89 Millet flour — Specification

-RS EAS 43 Bread — Specification

-RS EAS 782 Composite Flour-Specification

-RS EAS 757 Sorghum Grains — Specification

-RS EAS 46 Dry beans — Specification

-RS EAS 95 Sorghum flour — Specification

-RS 56 Soya Bean — Specification

-RS 151 Edible Full Fat Soybean Flour-Specification

-RS EAS 781 Biscuit-Specification

-RS EAS 173 Pasta Products — Specification

3.6 Fortified products

Sometimes the staple foods of a region can lack particular nutrients, due to the soil of a region, or because of the inherent inadequacy of the normal diet. Addition of micronutrients to staples and condiments can prevent large-scale deficiency diseases in these cases. Therefore, these standards for fortified staple foods and condiments will argue producers and processors of mentioned fortified staple foods to meet the micronutrient levels and safety requirements.

-RS EAS 768 Fortified Milled Maize (Corn) Products-Specification

-RS EAS 35 Fortified Salt-Specification

-RS EAS 769 Fortified Edible Oils and Fats

-RS EAS 770 Fortified Sugar-Specification

-RS EAS 767 Fortified Wheat Flour-Specification

-RS EAS 768 Fortified Milled Maize (Corn) Products-Specification

-RS EAS 35 Fortified Salt-Specification

-RS EAS 769 Fortified Edible Oils and Fats

-RS EAS 770 Fortified Sugar-Specification

-RS EAS 767 Fortified Wheat Flour-Specification

3.7 Processed products

Processed products undergo certain transformational processes which make them storable for long time. The quality of raw materials, ingredients, processing equipment, hygiene and packaging material used are very important in ensuring safe and quality final products. These standards for processed foods argue producers of raw material and processors to follow appropriate processing techniques which ensure safety and quality of important products described therein.

-RS 78 Cakes— Specification

-RS 101 Cookies— Specification

-RS 80 Fruit Jams, Jellies and Marmalades— Specification

-RS 119 Peanut Butter—Specification

-RS 123 Chilli Sauce —Specification

-RS 124 Ground cassava leaves (ISOMBE) —Specification

-RS 125 Fresh Tofu-Specification

-RS 149 Cooked Packaged Beans-Specification

-RS 150 Cooked Packaged Maize-Specification

-RS 171 Roasted macadamia-specification

3.8 Edible oils and fats

Fats and oils are used in processing of other food products and for cooking purposes. The processing, hygiene, storage conditions and packaging material determine the quality of the products. The standard for fats and oils specifies requirements for different types of oils and fats, depending on the raw material, they should fulfil to be deemed fit for human consumption.

-RS CODEX STAN 19 Edible fats and Oils — Specification

-RS CODEX 211 Named Animal fats-Specification

-RS EAS 301 Edible palm Oil

-RS CODEX STAN 210 Named vegetable oils

-RS 40 Margarine — Specification

-RS 41 Named Vegetable Oils — Specification

3.9 Tea and coffee

Rwanda tea and coffee is gaining enormous global acceptability because of its quality. One of the factors contributing to its quality is the compliance with national and international quality standards. Therefore, these standards on Coffee and Tea products specify quality and safety requirements, sampling and test methods for qualitative and safety parameters with which the compliance may make our products top rated on international market.

-RS 31 Black tea — Specification

-RS 33 Roasted Coffee Beans and Roasted Ground Coffee — Specification

-RS 34 Instant (soluble) Coffee —Specification

-RS 97 Green coffee — Specification

-RS 118 Green Tea — specification

4.9 Honey and beekeeping

The good management of apiary is very important for the quality and the safety of honey. The code of practice provides management operations of apiary while the standard for honey provides key quality and safety parameters the products shall comply with in order to be regarded as safe and fit for human consumption.

-RS 152 Code of practice for apiary management, handling and processing of bee-products

-RS 164 Honey-Specification

4.10 Beverages and drinking waters

The production and consumption of alcoholic and non alcoholic beverages has increased significantly in Rwanda. These beverages could have effect on the health of consumers if raw material, processing, and packaging are not done in accordance with recommended good manufacturing practices. Thus the need to protect the consumers by controlling the quality of beverages, through the implementation of standards that specify the requirements which if fulfilled the products are fit for consumption.

-RS 1 Containerized mineral water —Specification

-RS 2 Potable Water — Specification

-RS 18 Concentrated Passion fruit juice preserved exclusively by physical means — Specification

-RS 167 Fruits nectars-Specification

-RS 122 Fruits squashes — Specification

-RS 79 Fruit flavoured Drinks — Specification

-RS 168 Fruits flavoured drink in solid form

-RS 16-1 Fruit-based soft drinks-specification — Part 1: Soft drinks with Fruit Juice

-RS 16-2 Fruit-based soft drinks-specification — Part 2: Comminuted fruit based soft drinks

-RS 120-1 Health drinks— Specification —Part 1: Vitamin C-based health drinks

-RS 121-1 Energy Drinks — Specification —Part 1: Ready-to-drink Energy drinks

-RS 15 Glucose based energy drink — Specification

-RS 83 Soft Drinks — Specification

-RS 14 Carbonated and Non – carbonated beverages — Specification

-RS 152 Soybean Milk and Drinks-Specification

-RS 4 Neutral Spirits for manufacture of alcoholic beverages — Specification

-RS 104 Fruit Wines— Specification

-RS 5 Gin — Specification

-RS 6 Brandy — Specification

-RS 7 Whisky — Specification

-RS 8 Rum — Specification

-RS 9 Vodka —Specification

-RS 10 Still table wines — Specification

-RS 11 Sparkling Wines — Specification

-RS12 Fortified Wines — Specification

-RS 13 Beer — Specification

4.11 Infant foods

It is recognized internationally that breast milk is the best source of nutrition for infants. However, there are instances where it may be insufficient or not available and thus and may need to be supplemented or replaced by specifically formulated foods with appropriate nutritional quality. In addition infants and young children are particularly vulnerable to food borne illness because their immune systems are not developed enough to fight off infections. The standards below provide hygienic guidelines in the infant food production and nutritional and safety requirements of the mentioned products

-RS CAC/RCP 66 Code of hygienic practice for powdered formulae for infants and young children

-RS 57 Processed Cereals based Foods for Infants and Children — Specification

-RS 58-2 Breakfast Cereals-Specification — Part2: Flaked breakfast Cereals

-RS 75 Infant food formula — Specification

4.12 Roots and tubers

Cassava and potatoes are both staple food and cash crop in Rwanda. The major constraints to the use of cassava and potato are the perishability of the fresh roots and tubers and the presence of cyanogenic compounds in cassava roots. These encourage the production of safer, durable and of high value products through processing.

These standards specify quality requirements, sampling and test methods of key parameters of flours, chips, crisps and starch obtained from cassava and potato chips and crisps.

- RS EAS 779 High Quality Cassava flour — Specification
- RS EAS 739 Dried cassava chips — Specification
- RS EAS 740 Cassava flour — Specification
- RS EAS 741 Cassava wheat composite flour — Specification
- RS EAS 742 Food grade cassava starch — Specification

- RS EAS 743 Cassava crisps— Specification
- RS EAS 747 Potato crisps — Specification
- RS EAS 748 Frozen potato chips— Specification
- RS EAS 744 Fried potato chips — Specification

4.13 Fertilizers and pesticides

Some of the pest control products used in the formulation of spray insecticides and household aerosols have been found to have toxic effect on human beings and the environment. For the fertilizer, the concern about the entry of various heavy metals into the human food through fertilizer has been increased and ineffectiveness of low quality fertilizer reported. These standards were designed to help manufacturer, regulators and users in their concerns of produce, control and use of safe and effective products by providing quality requirements, sampling and test methods for the mentioned insecticides and fertilizes.

- RS 70 Calcium ammonium nitrate — Specification
- RS 71 Solid compound fertilizer — Specification
- RS 72 Granulated Superphosphate fertilizers — Specification

- RS 73 Urea fertilizer grade — Specification
- RS 172 Pyrethrins based insecticides spray application-Specification
- RS 173 Household insecticidal aerosols-Specification

4.14 Animal feeds

The impact of animal feed in the animal husbandry and in the production of safe food is recognized worldwide. The use of unsafe animal feeds may result in production of contaminated milk, meat and eggs, which the consumption may constitute a hazard to the consumer. These standards specify requirements manufacturers of cattle and compounded poultry feeds shall comply with before the products are put on the market.

- RS 99 Specification for compounded poultry feeds

- RS 100 Specification for cattle feeds

5 CHEMISTRY AND CONSUMER PRODUCTS

Standards for chemicals and chemical products which were declared in the official gazette are summarized below in categories of cosmetics and cosmetic products, surface active agents and consumer products.

5.1 Cosmetics

Cosmetics are among the most consumer products that are varied in nature and their action. From lotion, cream gels, hair relaxers, soaps, skin powders to toothpastes and depilatories. The only commonality they have is that they are all utilized to cleanse, beautify, hide, condition the human skin; thus the possibility of their composition entering into the human body is real.

Due to the variety and the ease with which anyone can manufacture, sell, purchase and use cosmetics, their uses are the sources of

many dangers such as health injury, irritation, allergenic reactions and even intoxication. Also, many dubious ingredients are put into modern cosmetics, some of them are carcinogenic such as coal tar, colors, phenylenediamine, benzene and even formaldehyde may be found in common shampoo and cream.

Adverse effects of cosmetics can build up over years of use for example; hormone-disrupting chemicals found in cosmetics could lower immunity to disease and cause neurological and reproductive damage over long time of use.

In view of the above therefore, standardizing the cosmetic sector is key to ensuring the safety of users and the trade of genuine products. Mandatory standards for cosmetics and cosmetic products have been developed to offer the following benefits to local manufacturer, importers and the public users.

- Provide specifications of the cosmetics products such that industries across the sector can manufacture cosmetics with similar, comparable and acceptable quality, efficiency and safety.
- Provide a benchmark tool for certifiable cosmetic products.
- Provide assurance to the consumer of the quality and safety of the cosmetics he uses through specifying labeling and other performance related requirements and restricting or banning harmful ingredients.

-RS EAS 346 Labeling of Cosmetic products

-RS 60 -2 Cosmetic raw materials and adjuncts — Classification — Part2: List of substances which shall not form part of the composition of cosmetic products

-RS 60 -3 Cosmetic raw materials and adjuncts— Classification — Part 3: List of substances which cosmetic products shall not contain except subject to the stipulated restrictions and conditions

-RS EAS 187 Toothpaste — Specification

-RS 54 Cosmetic creams, lotions and gels for skin care-Specification

-RS EAS25-1 Skin powders — Specification — Part1: Body and face powders

-RS EAS 425-2 Skin Powders — Specification — Part 2: baby Powders

-RS 68 Body oils — Specification

-RS 89 Baby soaps — Specification

-RS EAS 186 Toilet soap — Specification

-RS 148 Carbolic toilet soap-specification

-RS EAS 766-1 Antibacterial solid toilet soap —Specification

-RS 85 Hair oils — Specification

-RS EAS 461 Formulated powder hair dyes, Aryl Diamine based — Specification

-RS 69 Chemical hair relaxers and hair waving products — Specification

-RS EAS 336 Chemical depilatories — Specification

-RS EAS 337 Henna powder — Specification

-RS EAS 335 Cologne— Specification

-RS EAS 342 Pomades and Solid Brilliantines — Specification

-RS EAS 341 Nail polish removers — Specification

-RS EAS 340 Nail polish — specification

5.2 Surface active agents

Soaps, detergents whether in liquid or solid form are Surface active agents used in surface cleaning and machine or hand washing in household or industrial setting. Users want to buy products which will provide the optimum cleaning/washing efficiency at affordable cost. Yet, regulatory authorities want cleaning products which will not be harmful to the environment especially aquatic environment.

These mandatory Standards have been developed to provide specifications to manufacturers of soaps and detergents that meet the above criteria of users and regulators yet, be able to compete on local and regional/international markets.

-RS 88 Washing bars — Specification

-RS EAS 127 Synthetic laundry detergents for household use — Specification

-RS 82 Detergent for industrial dishwashing equipment — Specification

-RS EAS 296 Liquid household hand dishwashing detergent — Specification

5.3 Consumer products

RBS has also developed standards for consumers' products i.e. these product which are commonly and frequently consumed by the general public. Consumer products are most traded and are potential candidates to counterfeiting; therefore both the importer and the consumer need the protection of standards.

-RS EAS 96 Sanitary towels — Specification

-RS EAS 154 Baby napkins — Specification

-RS 90-1 Polishes — Specification — Part1: Shoe wax solvent paste type

-RS EAS 355 Toilet paper — Specification

CONCLUSION

These compulsory standards, once referred to within your business, would play a key role in the remarkable economic growth of yourself and our country as well. RBS respects and welcomes you to work hand in hand for better future of our beloved nation.