

# Zambian boiler project leads way

VICTOR MOOLMAN | CREAMER MEDIA REPORTER

**B**oiler supplier and specialist installer Steam Generation has been contracted to supply, install and commission a Cochran Coalmaster 8 000 kg/h steam boiler on Lake Kariba, in Zambia, for the Aller Aqua Zambia project, which will be one of the largest fish farms in Africa.

Steam Generation MD **John Rundle** explains that the boiler system is scheduled for completion in July and will be used in the making of feed for the expansion of an existing fish farm on the lake, which will be completed at the same time.

Steam Generation is the only supplier of Cochran boilers in Southern Africa and will ensure that, once the boiler has been installed, services, inspections, repairs and replacement parts can be easily sourced by a company using the boiler.

Rundle explains that Steam Generation's partnership with UK-based industrial boiler specialist Cochran ensures that it can develop and adapt to the changing marketplace that boiler manufacturers and installers face.

He points out that, in the future, the industry will increasingly focus on heat-recovery boiler systems as energy costs keep increasing.



**FISH FARM LAKE**  
On Lake Kariba, in Zambia, Steam Generation will install a boiler to be used in a process to feed a fish farm

Through Cochran, the company can rely on an existing network of heat-recovery boilers that are designed to operate with a wide variety of heat-generating equipment.

"Cochran has developed a standard range of single-pass heat-recovery boilers, which can be matched to most commercially available gas engines, ranging from 400 kW to 4 300 kW," Rundle points out.

Activity in the local boilers and burners industry has been fluctuating, as it was influenced by the uncertainty of political activities during 2016, which caused sales of new boilers to slow down, Rundle explains.

However, he adds that, after the municipal

elections, the industry saw an increase in tenders from government and the private sector, new boiler enquiries, services, installations, pipework upgrades and repairs.

Other projects that Steam Generation will complete this year include the building of numerous containerised boiler houses in the first quarter of this year for a mining operation that will produce steam for energy generation.

Rundle notes that the company has been well received in Southern African markets, owing to the company offering high-quality products, turnkey steam installation and after-sales maintenance and support.

He adds that larger companies are the only ones looking to spend on new expansions this year, while Cochran UK is supporting the South African boilers market by keeping prices for new equipment competitive "despite the rand:pound exchange rate not being in Steam

Generation's favour".

Rundle concludes that the company has been working on projects across the region, having completed projects in Rwanda, Mozambique, Botswana and Zambia. 

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## Boilers market will grow significantly by 2026

THE global industrial boilers market is projected to grow to \$17.77-billion by 2026, says market research company Markets & Markets.

Last year, the industrial boilers market was estimated to be \$10.92-billion and the projection implies growth at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 5.0% between 2016 and 2026.

The company explains that aspects such as increasing demand for clean energy sources, an increasing number of natural power plants and government initiatives to promote clean energy and reduce

dependence on fossil fuels are key factors expected to boost the growth of the industrial boilers market.

Further, the company points out that the natural gas and biomass segment is expected to record its highest growth from 2016 to 2026.

"Based on fuel type, the natural gas and biomass segment leads the industrial boilers market, as end-use industries, such as chemicals, primary metals and the food industry, use natural gas as their primary fuel," the company explains.

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