



Kusile School Mobile Science Laboratory

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Organisation Details: Kusile Labs & Technology,
www.kusilelabs.co.za

Type of Industry: Educational, Manufacturing, Technology

Technical Areas: Laboratory technology

Technology Maturity: Ready to commercialise

Intellectual Property: No

Desired Relationship: Investor/ Funding, Customers, Marketing

Summary Description

Kusile School Mobile Science Laboratory is a unique product that addresses the lack of science laboratories in South African and many African schools. The absence of laboratory equipment means that learners are not able to conduct practical experiments as required in the curriculum which adversely affects their overall performance and understanding of the subject matter. This affordable science laboratory is a self-contained, mobile unit that can be used in multiple classrooms.

Detailed Description

Kusile School Mobile Science Laboratory is a compact platform for educators and learners to demonstrate and conduct experiments. It has been designed to move from one classroom to another with convenience, and can be lifted easily and transported in a van to various places where learning is taking place. The majority of mobile labs are built into a trailer or van, and are therefore only accessible outside the classroom, are relatively expensive for South African schools, and are affected by the quality of roads in rural areas. These labs are also typically hired on an ad-hoc basis which creates a planning challenge for educators and limits access for students.

Kusile School Mobile Science Laboratory has been designed to be affordable as an outright purchase by the school. It is light-weight and on lockable caster wheels to ensure stability. It is fitted with an electricity point, gas burner, fire extinguisher and a writing board. It has two 20L containers for clean and waste water and it is fitted with a hand pumped water tap and sink.



Kusile School Mobile Science Laboratory

South Africa has more than 25 000 schools of which it is estimated that more than 85% are without a science laboratory^{1,2}. Furthermore, there are hundreds of thousands of schools in the African continent of which more than 90% are without laboratories, this creates even a bigger market. It is Kusile Labs & Technology's goal to venture into that market in the near future. Many learners are not likely to choose a science related subject due to lack of science learning resources in schools. The need for science laboratories is huge in South Africa as elsewhere in the world where it is recognised that "educational institutes that combine classroom or textbook teaching with science laboratory experiments are able to derive the best results for their students"³.

The School Mobile Science Laboratory is 1200mm long, 710mm wide and 950mm tall. It has two sides that fold upwards to extend the working surface on which learners conduct practical experiments. Kusile Labs & Technology has the capacity to produce and manufacture 1000 School Mobile Science Laboratories in a year. The School Mobile Science Laboratory is specifically for use inside the classroom and can cater for both primary and secondary schools. Potential customers include individual schools, education departments, corporate social investment divisions and foundations, and the general public who may want to buy and donate to schools.

Team and Related Experience

The team has a combined experience of 70 years with a mix of capabilities including sales, management, manufacturing, technical, laboratory technology, fibreglass technology and administration work.

Nkosi Maseko: Director, 12 years experience in sales and 5 years experience in manufacturing and technical laboratory technology.

Pamella Zibi: Director, 8 years experience in sales and 5 years experience in technical and laboratory technology.

Brian Maseko: Manager, 15 years experience in sales and 4 years experience in management.

Pelokazi Mkhize: Admin Clerk, 5 years experience in administration positions.

An additional 5 members of staff have a combined experience of 30 years in manufacturing and fibreglass technology.

1. www.sahrc.org.za/home/21/files/SAHRC%20Education%20Rights%20Charter_Part2.pdf

2. www.ipedr.com/vol47/001-ICER/2012-S00002.pdf

3. www.sciencefirst.com/advanced-science-laboratory-equipment

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