

# Business

Cumulative raw gas production increased significantly by

**65%** the highest recorded half-year volume of gas produced since 2010.

Source: PIAC 2020 Semi-Annual Report

## Autochek Africa launches automotive app

By Lydia Naa Martey

**A**UTOCHEK Africa, an automotive technology company, has launched an automotive digital mobile app aimed at reinventing buying and selling of cars in Africa.

It gives customers easy access to buy and sell cars and also renders advice to potential customers who want to purchase cars but have no knowledge about automobiles.

### How it works

During the launch in Accra, the Head of Business Operations of Autochek, Ms Yvonne Ahlie, took the audience through the digital app which she said was convenient and reliable, did not require any payment after downloading and could be used at a customer's convenience.

**"In short, Autochek is in existence to give out permanent solutions to customers."**

"It is on the app that a potential customer registers to become part of the Autochek family. Before you are given a loan or if you want to buy a car online from the app, your bank details will be taken for verification," she said.

She said the company had various types of cars displayed on its app for sales and assured customers of the safety of their personal details because the app was programmed in a way that no intruder could hack the system.

"Well-trained mechanics are on the app and will be at your service in times of inconvenience. And if the mechanics are not available at that moment, the system can assist you by following the steps if it is a minor situation.

"In short, Autochek is in existence to give out permanent solutions to customers," she added.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Autochek, Mr Etop Ikpe, said Africa must be able to tap opportunities through the use of technology, adding that his utmost desire was to always meet consumer demands.

Giving a brief about his dreams and



• Mr Etop Ikpe (middle), Vice-President, Mrs Mayokun Fadeyibi (3rd left) and Yvonne Ahlie (3rd right) with other executive members

aspirations to empower and support the youth of Africa, he encouraged those in business to put their all in whatever they did to be able to succeed in life.

He advised Ghanaian businesses not to underestimate the country's economic potential and the opportunities that existed.

Present at the launch were various automotive companies, car dealers association, spare parts dealers association and invited individuals.

### Background

Autochek was established to build

digital solutions targeted at enhancing and enabling automotive markets across Africa. It is an already existing company in Nigeria and Ghana known as Cheki.

The Ghana Cheki has been in existence for over 10 years, re-inventing how cars are bought and sold in Africa and what the acquisition of the new technology means for the growth of the Autochek platform.

Earlier this month, Autochek secured a \$3.4 million pre-seed fund raised from TLcom Capital and 4DX ventures, with inclusion from Gold Palm Investments and Lateral Capital.

## Mrs Bou-Chedid heads Federation of African Engineering Organisation

### Business Desk Report

MRS Carlien Bou-Chedid, a female Ghanaian engineer, has been sworn-in as the President of the Federation of African Engineering Organisation (FAEO) at a ceremony in Accra.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the investiture was done via zoom meeting platform, where a sizeable number of engineers around the continent joined in to crown Mrs Bou-Chedid as the 5th President of the FAEO.

The investiture ceremony was hosted by the Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE) on Friday, January 29, 2021.

Among the top engineers who participated in the investiture were the Executive Vice President of the World Federation of Engineers, Mr M. B. Shehu; immediate past President of FAEO, Mr Martin Manuhwa; past presidents of FAEO, executive board members and regional heads of FAEO, representatives of the FAEO, AU, UNESCO, FEIAP and Women in Engineering (WiNE) of the World Federation of Engineering Organisations, presidents and chief executive officers of professional engineering institutions and engineering organisations as well as the President of GhIE, Mr Alexander Leslie Ayeh; Executive Director of GhIE, Mr Kwabena Agyei

Agyepong, and members of the Ghana Institution of Engineering.

### Handing over

Handing over the mantle of leadership to Mrs Bou-Chedid, the immediate past President of FAEO, Mr Manuhwa, expressed delight that his successor had become the first ever female President of the organisation.

He assured Mrs Bou-Chedid of his full support to be able to execute her mandate.

In her acceptance speech, Mrs Bou-Chedid said, "I appreciate the honour done to me, to Ghanaian engineering and to Women in Africa and around the world by placing me in this position. I am fortunate to have been surrounded throughout my life by many distinguished engineers who by their example

prepared the grounds for me to occupy this position."

### Tribute

She paid a glowing tribute to past executives of the organisation including her father, the late past president Mr EYS Engmann.

"I would like to also recognise my predecessors, who through their dedication, hard work and actions, have within a short space of time, brought FAEO to its current position of recognition. From its inception in 2012, president Martin Van Veelan of South Africa helped to nurture a fledgling organisation which had few resources. President Mustapha Shehu of Nigeria pursued international recognition for the organisation and succeeded in developing a partnership with the AU as outlined in an MoU," she said.

For Mr Martin Manuhwa, she added that "aside from continuing the work began by his predecessors, strategically developed partnerships with many international organisations, all designed to help FAEO achieve its objectives. In addition, he ensured that all five regions of FAEO became active and are now united by the common aim of helping to engineer Africa's development."



• Front left to right: Ing. Leslie Alexander Ayeh, President of GhIE; Ing. Mavis Allotey, Chair, LOC; Justice Anthony Oppong, Justice of the Court of Appeal; Ing. Mrs Carlien Bou-Chedid-President FAEO; Ing. Kwabena Agyei Agyepong, Executive Director of GhIE; Ing. Dr Anyonam Kpekpena, President of Women in Engineering Ghana; and Ing. Harold Esseku, Vice President of GhIE, after the zoom meeting of the Presidential Investiture in Accra.