

**FACTORS AFFECTING THE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT IN PUBLIC
SECTOR: CASE STUDY OF KENYA POWER LIMITED-MATERIAL STORES**

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THE ABSTRACT

This research was conducted at Kenya Power stores. Kenya power stores are divided into, central, primary stores and secondary stores. The main are the central Stores where Kenya Power Stocks are kept from suppliers before they are distributed to primary and secondary stores set up in the regions. The main objective of this study was to examine the factors affecting the management of materials in public sector. The specific objectives of the study were to investigate how inventory control, quality, procurement methods and staff training affects the management of materials at Kenya Power Ltd.

Descriptive research design was adopted in the study. The respondents were selected using stratified and random sampling technique so as to be able to obtain representative from all different departments at Kenya power limited company. The questionnaire was used as major primary data collection instrument. The target population was 120 employees and a sample size of 70.8% which is 85 employees was derived.

The researcher then drew a conclusion that quality of materials, inventory control, staff training, and procurement procedures has great impact on material management in KPLC. Quality control systems produce long lasting electricity lines which are safe to users and economical to the company. Inventory control helps in purchase strategy formulation and reducing amount of company capital held inform of stock. Staff training builds confidence in employees thus increasing their effectiveness and efficiency while a well strategized procurement method enables timely provision of materials which allows quick customer connectivity hence meeting company's corporate goal of powering people for better lives, both in urban and rural areas thus increasing revenue for the firm.

Recommendations however were made that the level of quality should continuously be revised through changing specifications to match current technology. The company should be employing management information systems in inventory control. The researcher also commended on the need for the company to take its employees to continuous seminars and other educational functions to boost their competency and efficiency. Finally the procurement methods should also be modified to be highly responsive by adopting e-procurement and other methods example just-in-time (JIT) and also following the public procurement and disposal act 2005 and its regulation of 2006. This will enable Kenya Power meet requirements of vision 2030 of lighting entire Kenyan State.