

# Zambia adopts plastic currency

By Xavier Lugaga

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The Canadian Bank Note Company has signed an agreement with the Bank of Zambia for the printing of two denominations of Kwacha bank notes in polymer, a plastic material.

The venture marks the first polymer bank notes to be issued in Africa and an increasing global acceptance of the material as a new and advanced bank note technology.

"Polymer substrate is playing a new key role in shaping the future of bank notes. We have developed the necessary technology to include polymer in our product offering," Canadian Bank payments systems head, Hutch Holton, said.

Holton said the bank notes were ideal for the countries that need the highest level of security and whose life span is affected by climatic conditions.

Polymer bank note substrate is a uniquely manufactured and coated, thin, resilient plastic material that offers a significantly longer circulation for bank notes than traditional paper-based notes.

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