

MANUFACTURING INDABA & DTI MINISTER HEAD TO KWAZULU- NATAL TO ADDRESS PROVINCIAL MANUFACTURERS

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DURBAN - Following the recent success of the third national Manufacturing Indaba event which took place at Emperors Palace, Ekurhuleni, on the 28th & 29th June, and the launch of the Small Business Indaba alongside it, the KwaZulu-Natal roadshow of the Manufacturing Indaba will be hosted in Durban on Tuesday 16th August 2016.

The one-day KZN provincial manufacturing event, taking place at the ICC in Durban, will host the Minister of Trade & Industry, Dr Rob Davies, who will address the province's delegates, meet with the private sector manufacturers and discuss opportunities and challenges related to the province's manufacturing industries.

With high-level government and industry role players speaking at the conference, the programme is filled with content specifically tailored to meet the needs of the province's manufacturing businesses.

KwaZulu-Natal's manufacturing sector is the second largest in the country, following Gauteng Province. The sector is geared for exports, with nearly a third of South Africa's manufactured exports being produced in KwaZulu-Natal. The diversified nature of its exports is significant and the sector generates 20 percent of provincial employment. The largest manufacturing industries are the automobile and components sector, pulp & paper products, chemicals & petrochemicals, and food & beverages. The mining sector, which includes titanium dioxide, zircon along with iron, steel and ferroalloys, is particularly important.

There will be another two provincial Manufacturing Indabas taking place this year – the Manufacturing Indaba East Africa taking place in Nairobi, Kenya on the 8th September, the Eastern Cape event taking place in Port Elizabeth on the 18th October and the Western Cape Manufacturing Indaba taking place in Cape Town on the 8th November later this year.

For more information on the event, please visit: <http://manufacturingindaba.co.za/kzn/>

PRESS RELEASE ENDS

MORE ABOUT THE MANUFACTURING INDABA

South Africa's economy is under pressure on several fronts and business confidence is at a low. The nation's manufacturing industries continue to face tremendous challenges; increasing production and wage costs, a shrinking manufacturing base, global market volatility, and the threat of other emerging economies which continue to threaten the growth of South African manufacturers. The success of the

nation depends on a strong and innovative manufacturing base and we must continue to work together to promote prosperity through manufacturing, science and innovation.

The aim of the Manufacturing Indaba 2016 and its provincial roadshows is to focus on and boost the growth potential of key industry sectors, namely: automotive, construction, metals, forestry, paper & packaging, chemicals, aerospace & defence, industry products and services, and to provide a platform for informative and interactive sessions with the prime movers of the nation's manufacturing sectors.

For more information on the event, please visit: <http://manufacturingindaba.co.za/kzn/>

FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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Media registration: Prior to the event ONLY. Proof of IDENTIFICATION is compulsory at the event even if you have been approved for attendance.

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