

WESTERN CAPE'S MANUFACTURING INDABA looks to expand growth potential of SA's green hub
27th October 2016

With its aspirations of becoming the green economy hub of Africa, the Western Cape and its manufacturers are looking forward to the second annual **Manufacturing Indaba Western Cape** on the 8th November at the Cape Town ICC, which will once again bring together the province's industrial movers and shakers.

Manufacturing is the second biggest sector in the Western Cape and contributes about 15% to the South African manufacturing sector output. The province's agro-processing sector has shown resilience during these tough economic times, and its renewables and green tech industries have received significant investments in the past five years.

Two thirds of South Africa's manufacturing investment in renewables is located in the province – that is, 8 out of the country's 12 manufacturers. In 2011, the vision was launched for Atlantis to become a centre of this green hub and it is now a designated Special Economic Zone (SEZ) for "Greentech". Working the City of Cape Town, the Western Cape Government and the Department of Trade & Industry (**the dti**), a portion of Atlantis is being established as a "green manufacturing hub", with incentives being offered. A further R1 billion is expected to be ploughed into this SEZ over the next five years, particularly in the renewable energy sector.

The proposed GreenTech SEZ supports the manufacturing sector to become suppliers and component manufacturers for clean technology, such as renewable energy components.

The West Coast Industrial Plan is also forging ahead. This is a partnership between the Department of Economic Development; Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning; and the Department of Public Works – together with the Saldanha Municipality, and Green Cape.

A sustainable growth trajectory for the province's manufacturers is being established through a focused collaborative effort by both government and business to strongly support the province's manufacturing sectors and to marshal domestic resources for increasing investment in the real economy.

With a notable delegation from the Department of Trade & Industry (**the dti**), the second **Manufacturing Indaba Western Cape** conference will introduce and update delegates on the latest incentive schemes, programmes and opportunities, and introduce them to national and provincial manufacturing executives and leading policymakers.

The event, on the 8th November at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, aims to bolster the province's manufacturing operations, unlock untapped potential and introduce delegates to new potential partners and suppliers.

Manufacturing Indaba Western Cape's strategic partners are the Department of Trade & Industry (**the dti**), the Manufacturing Circle, the Western Cape Government, Wesgro, the

Western Cape Tooling Initiative, Cape Chamber of Business & Industry, Greencape and the NCPC-SA.

www.manufacturingindaba.co.za/wc

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 face tremendous challenges; increasing production and wage costs, a shrinking manufacturing base, supply chain challenges, and the threat of other emerging economies. The success of the nation depends on a strong and innovative manufacturing base and South Africans 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 MEDIA ENQUIRIES OR TO ATTEND THE EVENT

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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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