

Bespoke international speakers to address 2015 Manufacturing Indaba

The **Manufacturing Indaba 2015** is pleased to confirm attendance of three leading international manufacturing experts who will address delegates on the 30th June at Emperors Palace, Ekurhuleni.

Richard Sellschop from McKinsey & Company (USA), Maurizio Gattiglio from Prima Industrie S.p.A. and Chairman of the European Factories of the Future Research Association (Italy), and Dr. Charles Wessner from Georgetown University (USA), are all world-renowned manufacturing experts with global influence. This is a not-to-be missed opportunity for role players in the public and private sectors to hear their tailor-made addresses and insights on the state of South Africa's manufacturing sector and the country's re-industrialisation efforts within the context of prevailing global megatrends. The speakers are expected to add an objective, big picture and outsider perspective into South Africa's manufacturing conundrums.

Participation by the three international manufacturing experts is made possible through support from the Department of Science and Technology (DST) as part of a three-year partnership agreement recently concluded between the DST and the Manufacturing Indaba organisers. These three experts were identified based on the unique insights and perspectives they are able to share with manufacturers and policy makers to make smart and informed decisions to improve manufacturing competitiveness and grow South Africa's industrial base.

The DST is committed to the objective of helping to transform South Africa from a resource-based economy to a knowledge-based economy. According to Beeuwen Gerrys, Chief Director for Technology Localisation, Beneficiation and Advanced Manufacturing at the DST, advanced manufacturing is recognised globally as important to reverse de-industrialisation and to create decent, well-paying jobs. "Combinations of new and old knowledge and technologies (elements of advanced manufacturing) are seen as additional factors of production to compliment traditional factors (e.g. land, labour, materials, capital equipment and energy) in the manufacturing sector. There is no doubt that talent-driven innovation and advanced technologies are the primary drivers of manufacturing competitiveness into the future," maintains Gerrys.

McKinsey Partner Richard Sellschop will present a perspective of what determines manufacturing growth in modern economies globally, and how this can influence re-industrialising South Africa. Sellschop will present a framework developed by McKinsey Global Institute that identifies key drivers for the location of new manufacturing operations including the role of innovation, demand, market access and cost. Productivity as a driver for growth will be discussed, and examples shared from other countries. A preliminary analysis of high-potential manufacturing sectors will be shared with Manufacturing Indaba delegates, as well as the challenges and opportunities to successfully grow the manufacturing sector.



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Maurizio Gattiglio, Chairman of the European Factories of the Future Research Association (EFFRA), will take delegates through Europe's collaborative manufacturing research and innovation programmes as well as global manufacturing megatrends. Megatrends have a considerable impact on almost all manufacturing sectors and drive structural trends in these sectors. Most of Europe's manufacturing is done by SMEs and there is a drive on the continent towards resource-efficient and green manufacturing in Europe's manufacturing cities. Europe's manufacturing sectors thrive through collaboration and their economies and societies are structured to seamlessly support manufacturing activities right from the education level through to the highest levels of innovation. Gattiglio will show delegates what Europe is doing to ensure their factories of tomorrow are robust, cutting edge and at the top of their game and how to contextualise this success for South African manufacturers.

Dr Charles Wessner served for over a decade as the Director of the U.S. National Academies of Science Program on Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship and is currently with Georgetown University where he specialises in global innovation policy. He will speak about various models of public-private partnerships, unpacking examples of where these have worked well in a global manufacturing context. Dr Wessner will discuss the importance of a supportive policy framework to help small firms grow, develop and create jobs. He will focus on a program used in the U.S. with great success called the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. The SBIR programme entails the provision of grants and contracts to small companies in order to develop new products and new solutions to societal needs. He will explore the possibilities of applying the SBIR model in the South African context.

The speakers' topics are as follows:

- *Richard Sellschop: Re-industrialising South Africa: Next-shoring - a New Perspective on Global Manufacturing*
- *Maurizio Gattiglio: Global Megatrends and Factories of the Future: Will South African Manufacturing be left behind?*
- *Charles Wessner: Crossing the 'Valley of Death': Is the USA's Small Business Innovation Research Program the Answer for SME Development in SA?*

For more info on this event, visit www.manufacturingindaba.co.za

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