

PRESS RELEASE

Excitement builds as Ekurhuleni's Manufacturing Indaba kicks off

The **Manufacturing Indaba**, kicking off on Monday the 29th June, has secured in excess of 400 delegate registrations, which will see a packed Emperors Palace hosting manufacturing experts and leaders from the public and private sector to debate the nation's industrial revitalisation plans.

South Africa's manufacturing sector contributes about 15 % of gross domestic product and is vital for creating employment in an economy that is flailing under the weight of dampening growth. Government, through its National Growth Path and Industrial Development Plans, has prioritised the revitalisation of the nation's manufacturing sector and plans to spend R5.8 billion over the next three years to help manufacturers affected by the global economic downturn to upgrade their factories, improve their product offering and train workers.

The **Manufacturing Indaba** is pleased to be hosting those from government who are responsible for the economic policies that are aimed at stimulating growth. Four international manufacturing speakers are flying in especially for the two-day event, as well as **the dti** Minister, Dr Rob Davies and **the dti** Deputy Minister, Mr Mzwandile Masina. **The dti** Director General Mr Lionel October will moderate a session with international speakers. As representatives of the host city of Ekurhuleni, the Mayor of the city, Cllr Mondli Gungubele will also address delegates. **The dti** Deputy Director, Mr Garth Strachan, who is responsible for the country's Industrial Development Policy, will also address delegates. Members of government from the Department of Science & Technology (DST) and the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) as well as industry CEOs and executives will be there in their dozens to take part in the high-level workshops and plenary sessions.

The **Manufacturing Indaba** programme was drawn up by a steering committee comprising of government, the private sector and industry experts and will address the most pressing issues facing manufacturing businesses such as financing, incentives, skills development and productivity.

The programme includes the following topics:

- **The Best of South African Manufacturing**
- **Advanced Manufacturing Partnerships for Innovation and Value Addition**
- **Industrial Financing, Incentives and Private Sector Investments**
- **Localisation for Supply Chain Development and Local Production**
- **Africa – The Opportunity for Manufacturers and the Value that Regional Integration Brings for Manufacturers**
- **Spatial Interventions for Industrial Development including Aerotropolis Development and Special Economic Zones (SEZ)**
- **Applying Manufacturing Intelligence to become an insight driven Organisation for improved competitiveness and readiness for Industry 4.0**
- **The Mining and Manufacturing Interface**
- **Energy Efficiency and Alternative Power for Manufacturing**

Brought to you by the South African Department of Trade & Industry (**the dti**), the Manufacturing Circle and the City of Ekurhuleni, alongside knowledge-partner Deloitte, the **Manufacturing Indaba** also has an exhibition, which is open for the public to visit and view.

The aim of the **Manufacturing Indaba** 2015, at Emperors Palace on the 29th and 30th June, 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.

PRESS RELEASE ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

Please visit www.manufacturingindaba.co.za to find out more about the programme, confirmed speakers, exhibitors and registering.



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