



PRESS RELEASE

2015 Manufacturing Indaba draws near as manufacturing revitalisation gets underway in Ekurhuleni

1 March 2015 - Premier David Makhura said in his recent State of the Province Address that the Gauteng provincial government, together with the Ekurhuleni Metro and national government, would undertake 29 industrial initiatives (under the banner of the "Aerotropolis") to revitalise manufacturing industries linked to the OR Tambo International Airport. This will dramatically transform the current industrial structure of the economy of Ekurhuleni.

The City of Ekurhuleni is the host city of the second annual **Manufacturing Indaba**, which will take place on the 29th and 30th June 2015 at Emperors Palace in Ekurhuleni.

City of Ekurhuleni has taken a deliberate trajectory towards the development of an Aerotropolis, a first of its kind in Africa. The Aerotropolis planning lies at the heart of the City's next phase of globalisation and development, with the manufacturing sector playing an important part in this development.

Delegates at the Manufacturing Indaba will have the opportunity to hear about the city's Aerotropolis project and network with the role players and manufacturers that are part of government's revitalisation and re-industrialisation plans for the region.

"A strong and innovative manufacturing base is one of the backbones of a flourishing economy that is creating jobs," says Liz Hart, Managing Director of the Manufacturing Indaba. "We believe we can leverage our powerful collaboration of strategic partners to promote prosperity through manufacturing, science and innovation."

In addition other strategic partners of the Manufacturing Indaba include **the dti**, the Manufacturing Circle, the Department Science and Technology, Productivity SA and the NCPC-SA.

The inaugural Manufacturing Indaba drew 240 delegates, with both the private and public sectors represented at the workshop and networking sessions around the growth of South Africa's manufacturing industries. Robust debate and discussion were held with delegates from government departments, the private sector, manufacturing industries and the broader African continent considering the role of government policy in boosting South Africa's manufacturing industries. Speakers included City of Ekurhuleni management, senior macro-economists, dti specialists, global mining managers and manufacturing business experts. The second annual event will build on the success of the inaugural event.

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

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