

After resounding success in Gauteng, Manufacturing Indaba set to wow Kwa-Zulu Natal manufacturers

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Following the recent success of the national Manufacturing Indaba event which took place at Emperors Palace, Ekurhuleni, on the 29th and 30th June, the KwaZulu-Natal road show of the Manufacturing Indaba will be hosted in Durban next week.

The two-day KZN provincial manufacturing event, taking place at the ICC in Durban on the 21st and 22nd July, has already secured over 350 registrations. With high-level government and industry role players including the dti Chief Director, Dr Tebogo Makube, Tourism & Environmental Affairs Mr Mike Mabuyakhulu and NCPC-SA Director Mr Ndivhuho Raphulu, as well as private sector executives such as the Manufacturing Circle's Coenraad Bezuidenhout; the programme is filled with weighty content specifically tailored to meet the needs of the province's manufacturing businesses.

Although only the national event's second instalment; the 2015 Manufacturing Indaba in Ekurhuleni surpassed all expectations and doubled its delegate numbers. The Gauteng Indaba hosted 486 conference delegates, 68 conference speakers, 74 exhibitors, 1 216 exhibition visitors, 38 media houses and achieved a total AVE value across all media platforms in excess of R10 million.

According to Liz Hart, Managing Director of the Manufacturing Indaba, the roll out of provincial road shows has been made possible due to the success of the national event. "The provincial road shows of the Manufacturing Indaba speak to the unique challenges and opportunities manufacturers are facing at a provincial level and bring the high level speakers and conference programme to them. This is pivotal in developing the manufacturers and industries in each of the nation's major provinces," says Hart.

Brought to you by the Manufacturing Indaba in conjunction with the NCPC-SA, the Manufacturing Indaba KwaZulu-Natal programme has a strong focus on energy efficiency as this issue is pertinent to South Africa's manufacturing businesses.

KwaZulu-Natal is home to several big manufacturers, including Unilever, who opened its R1.4 billion Indonsa plant in the province last year - one of the multinational's largest investments anywhere in the world.

The province's manufacturing sector is the second largest in the country, after Gauteng Province. The manufacturing sector is geared for export, with nearly a third of South Africa's manufactured exports being produced in KwaZulu-Natal. Its diversified nature is significant in the KwaZulu-Natal's economic growth rate, and generates 20 percent of provincial employment.

The largest manufacturing industries in the province are the automobile and component sector, pulp and paper products, chemicals and petrochemicals, and food and beverages. The mining sector, which includes titanium dioxide, zircon along with iron, steel and ferro-alloys is also important.

There will be another two provincial Manufacturing Indabas taking place this year - the Eastern Cape event takes place in October and the Western Cape Manufacturing Indaba in November later this year.

www.manufacturingindaba.co.za

PRESS RELEASE ENDS

More about the NCPC-SA

The NCPC-SA is a programme of the dti hosted by the CSIR. The NCPC-SA is mandated to enhance manufacturing industry competitiveness through water, materials and energy efficiency, waste management, and renewable energy. It works to enhance value addition, and is leading industrial efficiency reform through the IEE Project and Industrial Symbiosis



Programmes across South Africa. The IEE Project is implemented by the NCPC-SA in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation. It is funded by the South African government through the Departments of Trade and Industry and Energy and international donors, the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs and the UK Department for International Development. For more information, go to: www.ncpc.co.za

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