

The dti Minister to address MANUFACTURING INDABA 2016

April 2016

Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr Rob Davies has confirmed that he will address the annual Manufacturing Indaba on 28th June 2016 at Emperors Palace, Ekurhuleni.

The 2-day conference and exhibition, hosted in Africa's largest manufacturing city, affirms government's strategic focus to revitalise and re-industrialise South Africa's manufacturing industries amidst intense challenges.

Minister Davies and his colleagues will address hundreds of manufacturing stakeholders and business leaders as well as members of the media at the Indaba, which brings together public and private interest groups from all faculties and sectors of manufacturing.

South Africa's manufacturing sector contributes about 15 % of gross domestic product and is vital for creating employment in an economy where on average, one in four people has been unable to find work for over a decade. Government is spending billions of rand over the next three years to help manufacturers affected by the global economic downturn upgrade their factories, improve products and train workers.

The Department of Trade & Industry (**the dti**) is a strategic partner to the Manufacturing Indaba as part of its strategic objective to facilitate transformation of the economy through the promotion of industrial development, investment, competitiveness and employment creation. The event's other strategic partners include the Manufacturing Circle and the host City of Ekurhuleni.

Other government policymakers, including **the dti** Deputy Director, Garth Strachan, who is responsible for the country's Industrial Development Policy, will also address delegates, focusing on the more technical details of the country's industrial policy.

Bringing together South Africa's manufacturing stakeholders from both public and private sectors in the host city of Ekurhuleni, delegates will have the opportunity to network with the leaders spearheading South Africa's manufacturing revitalisation efforts.

PRESS RELEASE ENDS

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MORE ABOUT THE MANUFACTURING INDABA

The success of the nation depends on a strong and innovative manufacturing base and we must continue to work together to promote prosperity through manufacturing, science and innovation.

South Africa's economy is under pressure on several fronts and business confidence is at a low. The nation's manufacturing industries continue to face tremendous challenges; increasing production and wage costs, a shrinking manufacturing base, supply chain challenges, steel dumping and the threat of other emerging economies which continue to threaten the growth of South African manufacturers.



The aim of the Manufacturing Indaba 2016, at Emperors Palace on the 28th and 29th 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.

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

