

BESPOKE LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRY LEADERS TO ADDRESS THE MANUFACTURING INDABA IN JUNE 2017

Ekurhuleni - The two-day Manufacturing Indaba is the leading manufacturing event in Sub-Saharan Africa, showing impressive growth year on year, proving its value through initiating business connections and helping manufacturers to innovate and grow their potential. Bringing together South Africa's leading manufacturing stakeholders from both public and private sectors in the host City of Ekurhuleni, gives delegates the opportunity to network with the leaders, spearheading South Africa's manufacturing regeneration efforts.

Keynote addresses will include Mayor Mzwandile Masina from the City of Ekurhuleni, who, along with Andre de Ruyter from the Manufacturing Circle and Lionel October, Director General of **the dti**, will kick off the fourth annual **Manufacturing Indaba 2017**

The conference programme will include plenary sessions as well as breakaway debate sessions to unpack and encourage active participation at the event. **The dti** Deputy Director, Garth Strachan, who is responsible for the country's Industrial Development Policy, will moderate a key session, focusing on achieving success and the factors driving success, despite the challenging economic circumstances facing companies.

A panel will be dedicated to the value-added exports as a key driver of growth, sponsored by Standard Bank and will provide a platform to discuss the role exports have played in the South African economy. The importance of the mining and manufacturing interface to the re-industrialisation of South Africa will be a key area of focus in the conference programme.

The Manufacturing Indaba's theme is centred around building the manufacturing industry, has inspired a plenary discussion around capacity development, supplier development and skills growth. The Africa Strategy for our manufacturers will receive prominence with Nigel Gwynne-Evans, Chief Director for African Industrial Development at the dti, who will co-ordinate a session on Africa as an investment led trade and industrial integration. The deliberation on clusters and the building of an industrial financing and incentive ecosystem are key to the growth of manufacturers and will be debated as part of the conference programme.

The second day will include sessions on sustainable manufacturing, focussing on key sustainability methods that promote competitiveness and efficiency, sponsored by NCPC-SA, boasting speakers like Tasneem Essop from the National Planning Commission and Mike Mulcahy from Green Cape. Last but not least, the conference breakaway sessions will feature the implementation of Industry 4.0 and its implications for South African Manufacturers will be moderated by Beeuwen Gerrits from the Department of Science & Technology.

The final day will end off with exclusive keynote addresses from international speakers, including Peter Marsh, the renowned UK author of “The New Industrial Revolution: Consumers, Globalization and the End of Mass Production”, who will be providing delegates with global insights into ‘The New Industrial Revolution’. Vishal Agarwal, the Managing Director of GE Africa in Kenya, will address the delegates on the subject of Industrialisation in Africa. African speaker, Ally Angula, Director and joint founder of Leap Holdings Namibia, will join the panel of bespoke keynote address speakers.

The Manufacturing Indaba, hosted by the City of Ekurhuleni is hosted in partnership with the Department of Trade & Industry, the Department of Science & Technology, the Manufacturing Circle, the City of Ekurhuleni as the Host City and the NCPC-SA, providing a platform to highlight challenges and issues that are impacting the South African manufacturing industry currently, and will set out to seek innovative ideas to create local market attractiveness and move the industry forward over the next 5 years.

South Africa has developed an established and diversified manufacturing base that has shown its resilience and potential to compete in the global economy and drivers such as innovation, costs of labour and materials, supplier networks, economy and trade, infrastructure and government investments all play a role in increasing global competitiveness and the Manufacturing Indaba aims to encompass this manifesto for future growth.

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About the Manufacturing Indaba

The 4th annual Manufacturing Indaba will be hosted at Emperors Palace in the City of Ekurhuleni from the 27 – 28 June 2017. The event will comprise a two-day conference and exhibition. The event is hosted in partnership with the Department of Trade & Industry, the Department of Science & Technology, the Department of Public Enterprises, the Manufacturing Circle, the City of Ekurhuleni as the Host City and the NCPC-SA.

The aim of the Manufacturing Indaba is to focus on and boost the growth potential of key industry sectors within manufacturing, 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, or to register for the **Manufacturing Indaba** or **Small Business Indaba**, visit www.manufacturingindaba.co.za

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FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Issued by: Siyenza Management

For media enquiries contact: Thembisa Bambathi: Thembisa@siyenzaevents.co.za or 073 788 6044

Liz Hart: liz@manufacturingindaba.co.za or 011 463-9184

