

## Eastern Cape Manufacturing Indaba 2018 to Address Pressing Topics

Event to host proactive and collaborative discussions, unveiling insights that will see the Province as a major stakeholder in the South African manufacturing economy

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Eastern Cape, 18 September 2018;** There are two weeks to go before the annual **Eastern Cape Manufacturing Indaba**, to be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018 at the Boardwalk in Port Elizabeth, kicks off. It is a revered platform for assembling provincial manufacturers and businesses to explore growth opportunities, uncover the latest manufacturing incentives and trends, as well as to network and collaborate with relevant contacts vested in the sector.

The event will assemble provincial manufacturers and businesses to explore growth opportunities, discover the latest manufacturing incentives and trends, and provided a platform for networking and collaboration among the sector's key stakeholders.

The event has announced its agenda which includes a dynamic offering of engaging sessions discussing a range of thought-provoking topics, amongst which are the 4th Industrial Revolution, maximising the market for manufacturers and accessing new markets for manufacturers.

Well-versed industry leaders will impart their knowledge of opportunity development and management of threats whilst proactively implementing strategies to fortify competitive advantage and boost profits through the digitalisation of manufacturing operations. Panel discussions focused on this theme have been devised to educate both small and large manufacturers on the relevance that Industry 4.0 has to every company, thereby empowering manufacturing facilities to improve their innovation tactics and consequently their bottom-line.

A focussed session will delve into how industry players in the sector can thrive by maximising the manufacturing market making use of government grant incentives. Various tools are available to support industrialists in this endeavour and will be thoroughly unpacked, while a greater understanding of how government can contribute to the success of such firms through various incentives, investment opportunities and financial solutions will also be explored.

Moreover, forums have been set up to educate players of the manufacturing domain about the various financing opportunities available to them. These dialogues will explore funding options to encourage investment in South Africa's manufacturing facilities, assisting them to initiate and execute potential projects. Numerous conditions are required to be met by candidates in order for businesses to gain access to funding initiatives and these panels will serve as platforms to inform potential applicants thereof.

The Conference programme offers a stage for robust discussion and debate on the everchanging nature of the manufacturing landscape which deems acquiring constant access to emerging markets essential. Managing these changes requires a thorough understanding of economic trends that will have a significant impact on manufacturers. Furthermore, forums led by industry experts will unpack prevalent growth opportunities in the small business manufacturing environment and how these smaller enterprises ultimately enable the accelerated growth of larger, more established manufacturing units.

The productivity debate is a pertinent topic within the manufacturing industry. Adopting technology, cultivating talent across the generations and encouraging skills acquisition are fundamental factors to enhancing productivity rates within the sector. Implementation of such strategies will be explored in detail to encourage manufacturers to grow their establishments and create a competitive edge that will see them at the forefront of the industry.

The **Eastern Cape Manufacturing Indaba** is where industry players converge to discuss prevailing and future concerns whilst acquiring access to relevant networks, content and ideas that empower individuals and manufacturing units to prosper in this highly competitive sector. The event represents the ultimate marketplace for practical educational opportunities that help industry professionals discover what incentives are available from the Province and government to support Eastern Cape manufacturers in growing their businesses, thereby striving to contribute to South Africa's manufacturing economy in its entirety.

Press Release Ends

#### **MORE ABOUT THE MANUFACTURING INDABA**

The annual Eastern Cape Manufacturing Indaba will be hosted at Port Elizabeth Boardwalk, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018. The aim of the Manufacturing Indaba 2018 and its provincial roadshows 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 information on the event, please visit: <http://manufacturingindaba.co.za/mi-ec/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/manufacturingindaba/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/IndabaManufact>

Hashtag: #MFGIndaba

#### **FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

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