



merSETA

MANUFACTURING, ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES SETA

MerSETA: Press Release

Attention: Business Editors; Education and Training Editors; Labour Editors

Manufacturing SETA (MerSETA) Closing the Automotive Industry Skills Gap

For immediate release,

A group of 251 learners have graduated in the Eastern Cape, proving that the partnership between Volkswagen South Africa (VWSA) and the Manufacturing, Engineering and related services Sector Education and Training Authority (Merseta) is playing off –especially in the field of artisan training. Volkswagen SA is an accredited Merseta training provider, and its multipurpose centre not only trains VWSA learners, but also trains learners from other institutions such as the Automotive Industry Development Centre (AIDC), the Coega project , Continental and General Motors. Merseta has put the system and framework in place, while VWSA has provided the platform and resource. With the shortage of technical skills a national concern, it is hoped the new graduates will make a difference in their workplaces. A total of 17 artisans received Automobile Manufacturing Industry (AMIC) certificates; ABET (adult basic education) produced a total of 70 graduates at different levels , and 53 group leaders received their NQF level 5 certificates. Speaking at the graduates ceremony, Merseta CEO Dr Raymond Patel quoted Anthony Robbins on success “Success is not an accident; it is not some random roll of the dice,” he said. “There are consistent, logical patterns of action, specific pathways to excellence that are within reach of us all; we simply must learn how to turn on and use our minds and bodies in the most powerful and advantageous ways by triggering these seven basic success mechanisms”. Patel urged young people to take their personal training and development seriously so that they can contribute to the mainstream economy. Many learners, especially those who had not previously had a chance to further their education, struggled to hold back tears of joy as they ascended the podium to receive certificate. Mzimkulu Wellman Vazi and Mzwandile Richard Nelani, who graduated on ABET level 5, couldn’t conceal their jubilation. Having started at VWSA in 1987 as a forklift driver, Nelani graduated as a paint shop operator.” I feel great for having come this far “he said. “This is my biggest achievement thus far, and I will treasure it for the rest of my life” .For more information on merseta Training initiative visit www.merseta.org.za.

HEAD OFFICE

PO Box 61826
Marshalltown 2107
Phone 011 551 5202
Fax 011 484-9320
info@merseta.org.za

EASTERN CAPE

PO Box 34733; Newton
Park; Port Elizabeth; 6055
Phone 041 363 0117
Fax 041 363 0144
zngayeka@merseta.org.za

FREE STATE & NORTHERN CAPE

PO Box 6848
Bloemfontein 9300
Phone 051 430 1263
Fax 051 447 8873
gslabbert@merseta.org.za

GAUTENG & NORTH WEST

PO Box 62297
Marshalltown 2107
Phone 011 551 5200
Fax 011 484 5499
tmurathi@merseta.org.za

KWAZULU NATAL

PO Box 10279
Marine Parade 4056
Phone 031 208 4600-02
Fax 031 208 4624
mmtshali@merseta.org.za

MPUMALANGA & LIMPOPO

PO Box 13660
Leraatsfontein 1038
Phone 013 656 4762
Fax 013 692 4629
sbuthlezi@merseta.org.za

WESTERN CAPE

PO Box 2383
Bellville 7535
Phone 021 914 8130
Fax 021 914 8131
babrahams@merseta.org.za



Issued by: Sibongiseni Ziinjiva Ka-Mnguni; Marketing & Communications Office
8 Hillside Road, Parktown, 2193. PO Box 61826, Marshalltown, 2107
Tel: 011 551 5202 Fax: 086 673 0004, Cell 084 6462 049
E-mail: smnguni@merseta.org.za

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