



Indwe 4IR LAB Launch



MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media

Attention:

News Editors
Education reporters and editors
Local or regional newspapers
Industry associations related to manufacturing and engineering
Educational institutions and their staff
Government officials and policymakers in the education and workforce development sectors
Professionals or organisations involved in skills development and training.
Community organisations and leaders

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Johannesburg, 26 February 2024

Ekurhuleni East TVET College Launches Indwe 4IR Lab in a Major Leap for Artisan and Skills Development

The Ekurhuleni East TVET College (EEC) is delighted to announce the opening of the state-of-the-art Indwe 4IR Lab at its Artisan and Skills Development Centre. This pioneering initiative is set to provide staff and students with cutting-edge skills pertinent to the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). The official inauguration of the lab is slated for **Tuesday, 12 March 2024, between 09:00 AM and 12:00 PM at the Ekurhuleni East TVET College** premises.

The establishment of the Indwe 4IR Lab is a direct result of a collaborative Private-Public Partnership involving the Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority (merSETA), Festo Didactic and the Ekurhuleni East TVET College. The strategic alliance aims to introduce comprehensive 4IR educational programs that will significantly boost the employability and productivity of the workforce, as well as enhance the capacity-building efforts for the staff at TVET colleges.

The Indwe 4IR Lab is poised to offer an innovative learning environment tailored to combat youth unemployment by transforming the current TVET education models. This transformation will empower students by equipping them with the necessary skills to excel in the digital era. Furthermore, the lab will serve as a catalyst for fostering creativity, innovation and problem-solving abilities among the youth.

The new lab is not just a win for students but also for educators. It will encourage lecturers to adapt and evolve their teaching methodologies, allowing for a more personalised and impactful learning experience. Educators will be able to focus on nurturing individual talents through creativity, innovation and enhanced problem-solving instruction.

Ekurhuleni East TVET College is committed to aligning with the dynamic demands of the global job market and ensuring that its graduates are well-prepared to enter a workforce that is increasingly being shaped by 4IR technologies.

The introduction of 4IR programmes to TVET Colleges initiative started at Maluti TVET College in the Free State province, with Ekurhuleni East TVET College being the second beneficiary. The initiative will roll out to a further seven TVETs nation-wide. These include Ehlanzeni – Mpumalanga; Lovedale Eastern Cape; Majuba - KwaZulu-Natal; Northern Cape Urban - Northern Cape; South West Gauteng– Gauteng; Waterberg – Limpopo; West Coast - Western Cape; and Taletso - North West province.

We cordially invite media representatives and stakeholders to join us for the launch of the Indwe 4IR Lab and witness a monumental step in skills development and education.

Join us as we embark on this transformative journey to shape the future of education and industry in South Africa.

Issued by the Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority (merSETA) in collaboration with Ekurhuleni East TVET College and Festo Didactic.

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About Ekurhuleni East TVET College

Ekurhuleni East TVET College is a renowned institution committed to providing high-quality education and training to equip students with the skills required to succeed in today's competitive job market. The college offers a range of vocational and occupational programs designed to meet the needs of various industries and sectors.



About merSETA

The Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services SETA is one of the 21 Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) established to promote skills development in South Africa. merSETA facilitates the development of skilled workers to meet the industry's demands and contribute to the country's economic growth.



About Festo Didactic

Festo Didactic is a leading international provider of equipment and solutions for technical education. The company designs and implements educational programs intended to simulate real-life work environments, providing students with hands-on experience and practical skills.

