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## EU organisations back green hydrogen funding in South Africa

*The Western Cape's Green Hydrogen roadmap, backed by EU organisations, is set to shape the sector in the province.*



European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa in Cape Town. Source: GCIS

By Larry Claasen

**T**HE European Union (EU) and its members are proving themselves to be reliable partners when it comes to funding South Africa's Green Hydrogen ambitions, which come with a hefty price tag.

Many European countries view Green Hydrogen, the process of creating hydrogen by using renewable electricity as a power source to electrolyse water, as a way to provide an environmentally friendly source of energy.

### EU organisations fund SA's R319 bn hydrogen plan with €4,7 bn boost

The South African government sees it as a major opportunity, and according to its Green Hydrogen Commercialisation Strategy (GHCS), it could add 3,6% to GDP by 2050 and create 370 000 jobs.

For this to happen, however, it will have to invest R319-billion into the emerging industry.

The good news for South Africa is that the EU has committed to financially supporting Green Hydrogen projects as part of the €4,7-billion (about R95,16-billion) Global Gateway Investment Package.

The announcement made by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa in Cape Town not only cements their economic partnership, but will eventually secure the EU's access to a carbon neutral energy supply.

### EU organisations cement EU-SA partnership & energy security

"With this package... we invest massively in projects that support the Just Energy Transition Partnership. For example, an investment platform that will boost Green Hydrogen, batteries, renewables – all strategic industries for the future. We know that others are withdrawing. So here, we want to be very clear with our message: We are doubling down with our support. We are here to stay."

This package consists of EU grants

(€303-million), leveraging loans from the European financial institutions (€4,4-billion) and South Africa's development banks to support the strategic value chain.

The investment will concentrate on supporting South Africa's Just Energy Transition (JET), strengthening connectivity infrastructure, and strengthening the domestic pharmaceutical industry.

### Financing framework: grants, loans & technical assistance

The funding will boost the Green Hydrogen sector by establishing financing facilities to leverage public and private sector investments, and also provide technical assistance for hydrogen projects.

This funding announcement follows the EU saying in September 2024 that it will provide financial support worth R628-million (R11,9-billion) to develop the Green Hydrogen value chain.

A €100-million loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB) and matched by the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) comes in addition to the €400-million (R7,9-billion) financing announced at COP27 in 2022.

### Diversified European support: SA-H2 Fund launch

The EU is not the only European entity supporting Green Hydrogen. In June 2023, the Netherlands, Denmark, and the South African government launched the SA-H2 Fund, which has the goal of providing a blended finance fund that will facilitate and accelerate the development of a Green Hydrogen sector and circular economy in South Africa.

The initial aim of the fund was to secure \$1-billion (R18,5-billion) in funding, to be raised directly in South Africa or indirectly via other channels.

The SA-H2 Fund is supported by Climate Fund Managers (CFM), Invest Inter-

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## Crusader Logistics opens 20 000 m<sup>2</sup> warehousing hub in Parow Industrial



**R**ESPONDING to growing demand for flexible, high-efficiency warehousing in the Western Cape, Crusader Logistics has opened a dedicated facility in Parow Industrial.

This well-positioned facility features 10 000 m<sup>2</sup> under roof and an additional 10 000 m<sup>2</sup> of yard space, with 40 dock doors around the entire perimeter. This layout allows for high-volume container unloads and efficient truck despatch operations.

Located in a secure business park, just 2 km from the Belcon Container Facility, Crusader Parow offers a significant logistical advantage for customers who rely on swift container unloads and fast delivery.

### Designed for high-performance logistics

The facility boasts full local Cape Town distribution ("last mile" delivery), national linehaul to all major cities from Cape Town, smaller loads for clients requiring flexible distribution solutions, and contracted cross-haul services from the Cape Town Port to the Crusader facility. The hub offers strong flexibility in handling both palletised and bulk cargo, making it ideal for general cargo clients. Security is a priority, with the warehouse protected by armed guards, access control, and 24/7 CCTV cameras supported by external monitoring.

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# Strategic co-location of IFAT Africa and analytica Lab Africa to boost cross-industry collaboration



IFAT Africa and analytica Lab Africa will be co-located at the Gallagher Convention Centre this year to optimise the synergies across the laboratories, science and innovation sectors and the water, sewage and waste treatment sectors.

IFAT Africa is the leading trade fair for water, sewage, refuse and recycling in Southern Africa and analytica Lab Africa is the only trade fair for laboratory technology, analysis, biotechnology and diagnostics in

South Africa. The co-location brings to Africa the full spectrum of laboratory technology, analysis, biotechnology and diagnostics solutions, water, sewage, refuse, recycling, water and waste management innovations, optimising synergies and bringing together hundreds of leading brands, alongside talks and industry workshops.

**Industry voices on co-location benefits**

By co-locating these events, organisers

Messe Muenchen India and Messe München GmbH will create a unique ecosystem integrating sectors that overlap in practice, like environmental technologies and laboratory diagnostics, pharmaceuticals, healthcare, mining, food and beverage, environmental management, chemicals, petrochemicals, energy, and biotechnology.

The trade shows and their peripheral events will ignite knowledge transfer across these broad and overlapping fields. For exhibitors, this means reaching a wider market and potentially also untapped new markets. For visitors, it offers access to an extended showcase of solutions.

James Morisse, spokesman at NuWater, exhibiting at IFAT Africa, says the co-lo-

cation is beneficial for his organisation, which spans both sectors: “Thorough and precise water analysis is fundamental to our NuWater designed water plant solutions provided to the industry, so we advocate for any progress in collaborative efforts between analytical services and engineered solutions.”

Lomo Senoamadi, CEO of BICS, an exhibitor of analytica Lab Africa agrees: “At BICS, we recognise the immense value of co-locating these two premier events.

The synergy between the laboratory and environmental technology sectors aligns perfectly with our commitment to serving diverse industries. The co-location creates a unique platform for fostering innovation, collaboration, and meaningful connections across sectors. This approach mirrors

how BICS bridges industries with adaptable and cutting-edge solutions.”

Zuma Nonkululeko, technical specialist NTE, says: “Connecting environmental management and laboratory analysis is an exciting opportunity that keys into NTE’s focus on sustainability and innovation. NTE is a strong believer in cross-pollinating ideas and expertise, and all attendees will benefit from a one-stop shop for exploring solutions across the entire value chain.”

IFAT Africa and analytica Lab Africa will be staged at Gallagher Convention Centre in Midrand from 8 to 10 July 2025. To register as a visitor, go to <https://67f2dcfb9faf3.site123.me/>

For further information visit <https://ifat-africa.com/en/> and <https://analytica-africa.com/en/>



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# The steel master plan has stalled - a new industrial compact is urgently needed



**By Elias Monage, the Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of South Africa (SEIFSA) President and Chairman of the Board**

SOUTH Africa's steel and engineering sector stands at a perilous crossroads. Once the bedrock of our industrial economy, the sector today faces a stark reality: years of deindustrialisation, declining production, job losses and a steady erosion of competitiveness. This decline is not the result of chance, but a culmination of systemic policy failures, a lack of coordinated action and inadequate implementation of recovery frameworks.

In 2021, the launch of the Steel and Metal Fabrication Master Plan (SMP) offered a glimmer of hope. It promised to reposition the steel industry at the heart of South Africa's reindustrialisation agenda. Yet, nearly four years later, we are confronted with an uncomfortable question: has the Master Plan delivered, or has it collapsed under the weight of unfulfilled promises?

The concept of the SMP remains sound. An inclusive, coordinated and well-resourced industrial policy is critical to saving strategic sectors. The problem lies in its execution. Instead of clarity and action, we have seen diffusion and inaction. With over 20 workstreams and 73 deliverables, the SMP lacked focus. As progress stalled, industry leadership began to withdraw, disillusioned by government's inability

to deliver on commitments.

Today, the signs of collapse are unmistakable. Steel production remains 18% below its 2007/8 peak and capacity utilisation across all sub-sectors has slipped below the 85% benchmark for efficiency. Per capita steel consumption has dropped by 37% since 2013, a sharp contrast to global trends where steel intensity continues to rise. These trends translate into factory closures, job losses and the loss of critical productive capacity.

If we are to reverse this trajectory, we have no choice but to fundamentally rethink South Africa's industrial policy. Government must acknowledge that past interventions, however well-intentioned, have not delivered the intended impact. This moment demands a bold shift — from fragmented policies and siloed departments to a unified national compact anchored in public-private collaboration.

What should this new approach entail? First, we must craft a Strategic Agreement for Impact between government and the steel and engineering sector that should bind both parties to a shared vision with clear accountability. Crucially, it must define a singular, measurable objective — for example, achieving 4 to 5% annual growth in metals and engineering output — against which all policy instruments and initiatives can be aligned. Without a clear north star, no policy can succeed.

Second, we need to streamline efforts into three focused workstreams: Industrial Policy, Demand Creation and Financing.

The Industrial Policy Workstream must aim to establish a coherent framework that balances competing interests across the value chain — from upstream primary producers to downstream manufacturers.

The Demand Creation Workstream must be tasked with unlocking catalytic projects that stimulate consumption of domestically produced steel and fabricated products. This includes leveraging state-led infrastructure initiatives, strategic procurement and facilitating partnerships that can turn project pipelines into real economic activity.

The Financing Workstream must address the chronic undercapitalisation of the sector. A reindustrialising economy cannot be built on weak balance sheets and ad-hoc funding. A structured financial framework is required — including public-private funding vehicles and targeted incentives — to finance industrial and infrastructure projects that have multiplier effects across the economy.

Third, we must reorient our approach to policy from punitive to incentive-based mechanisms. Businesses need predictability and support to invest and grow. Every policy instrument must undergo rigorous cost-benefit analysis. Those that don't work must be scrapped. Those that do must be scaled up. Industrial policy must become an iterative, evidence-based practice — not a once-off, static document.

Fourth, we need government to lead a national policy alignment drive. Energy security, rail logistics, port capacity and trade policy are all levers of industrial competitiveness. Right now, these levers pull

in different directions. Coordination and coherence across departments and spheres of government are essential. The private sector cannot be expected to invest in an economy where the left hand of government does not know what the right hand is doing.

Finally, it is imperative that we reaffirm the strategic importance of the steel and engineering sector to South Africa's long-term economic prospects. No country can industrialise — or reindustrialise — without a resilient metals sector. Steel is the foundational input into mining, construction, transport, manufacturing, energy and agriculture. The erosion of this sector undermines every other sector's growth potential.

The SMP, in its current form, has not lived up to its potential. We must rescue its original intent — to galvanise industry and government behind a shared industrial vision — and breathe new life into its structure and implementation.

SEIFSA and its members remain ready to co-create a new compact for industrial growth. We call on government — particularly the departments of Trade, Industry and Competition; Finance; Public Enterprises; Infrastructure; and Transport — to urgently come together with industry leaders to forge a new path forward.

With every passing year of stagnation, the socio-economic consequences deepen — more job losses, more factory closures and a deeper erosion of South Africa's productive capacity.

Let us focus on a Strategic Agreement for Impact between government and the steel and engineering sector with a singular commitment: to reignite South Africa's industrial engine and build a future of inclusive, job-rich growth. The steel sector — and South Africa — depends on it.

# US tariffs 2025: 31% blow to South African exports

By Chris Hattingh

Over the course of the first five months of 2025, United States (US) President Donald Trump and his administration have worked — mostly using the threat of higher US tariffs on trading partners — to reform global trade. A 10% universal tariff baseline has been established; what remains are the various levels of reciprocal tariffs imposed on individual countries, with much dependent on those governments meeting with US officials to secure a (relatively) more favourable arrangement for their exports to the US.

## US tariffs 2025 hit South African exports hard

South Africa faces a 31% reciprocal tariff rate; the looming deadline for deals around the rate is 9 July, with Mr Trump indicating in mid-May that the US does not expect to meet with every trading partner before then. With the domestic agricultural, automotive, and mining sectors especially benefitting from South Africa's Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) preferential access to US markets before 2025, Mr Trump's repeated shocks to the global trading system have rocked the South African government and these sectors onto the backfoot.

Between January and April of 2025, the average effective US tariff rate rose from 2.5% to around 27%. From traditional US allies such as the United Kingdom and Canada to its main geopolitical rival, China, various tariff levels were imposed.

## US tariffs 2025 drive policy panic across markets

As a tool in his kit for negotiating new trade and investment terms with various countries, Mr Trump's administration will likely continue using tariffs throughout his second term.

The major impact of this radical attempted change to global trade is

the phenomenon of uncertainty. For importers and exporters, as well as businesses (from agriculture to manufacturing and everything in between), increased uncertainty dampens economic activity. Investments that were set may be delayed, or recalibrated and redirected entirely. For manufacturing and construction, delays of indeterminate timeliness of materials and components result. For consumers, higher costs and shortages are possible, at least in the short term. Overall, global economic activity is affected. In its April 2025 World Economic Outlook, the International Monetary Fund highlighted: "The global economic system under which most countries have operated for the last 80 years is being reset, pushing the world into a new era. Existing rules are challenged while new ones are yet to emerge."

## Global risk premiums shift investment priorities

With elevated uncertainty comes elevated risk; in 2025 even the US Dollar and US Treasuries are being questioned as relatively riskier than before. Those countries with a higher risk premium — where investors demand higher returns to buy assets and equities in those countries, and to invest more capital and fixed assets — will not be able to take advantage of this moment of accelerated global trade and investment changes. Should the Government of National Unity (GNU) dither on necessary logistics reforms that shake up vested interests, this exceedingly rare opportunity in global trade will pass South Africa by.

Changes to global trade rules, and goods and investment flows, will continue through the rest of President Trump's term and into the latter half of this decade. South Africa is geographically and geostrategically ideally placed to benefit. Its role as a major integrator of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area also



plays to its favour. However, should the GNU dither on fundamental reforms in the logistics space, the country will fall further behind peers' growth rates.

## US tariffs 2025 demand modern infrastructure for trade success

But to take advantage of any such shifts, the country's trade infrastructure must be modernised and fit for purpose; this infrastructure includes functional ports, railways, border posts, and roads. The associated systems and digital infrastructure require extensive investment and reform. Non-tariff barriers, such as high crime rates, must be tackled head on. On the trade policy side, never-ending subsidies and protections for local industry cannot continue; where such are implemented, they must be time-bound.

Those countries that build, and earn an international reputation for, reliable, safe domestic trade infrastructure and lower tariff barriers to trade and investment will benefit over the longer term from the various changes to global trade that are taking place in 2025.

It is unlikely that the US will return to the 145% tariff rate it imposed on China earlier this year; the potential damage to the US economy and bond yields was too great. Regardless, countries and businesses are unsure of the picture after 9 July. As such, the backbone of global trade, the shipping industry, is already shifting wherever possible to trade routes that are subject to relatively less politically motivated turbulence.

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# EU organisations back green hydrogen funding in South Africa

Continued from P1

national B.V. (II) of the Netherlands, Sanlam, the DBSA, and the Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa (IDC), in collaboration with other strategic partners.

### Blended finance boost: CI3 backing for SA-H2 Fund

In February 2025, CFM announced that it had secured initial capital commitments of €150-million from European donors, which will go into its Climate Investor Three Fund (CI3), which in turn supports the SA-H2 Fund.

Aside from the funding provided by the EU and other European institutions, Green Hydrogen is

also being supported by the Western Cape Green Hydrogen Strategy and Roadmap, which aims to see the province become a production hub.

The roadmap has laid out a way for the generation and supply of 15 GW required for Green Hydrogen production in the Western Cape.

### Western Cape export ambitions: 300 kt–420 kt green H<sub>2</sub> targets

The province sees Green Hydrogen as a major potential export driver and as it aims to export between 300kt and 420kt green hydrogen as pure hydrogen or in derivative forms, such as green ammonia,

methanol, or synthetic aviation fuel.

“The annual global demand for green hydrogen is estimated at 70 Mt to 154 Mt by 2030. Some forecasts project this increase to between 614 Mt and 660 Mt by 2050.”

The Western Cape hopes Green Hydrogen will add R57-billion to its economy, along with over 125 000 jobs in 2030.

### Building energy independence and reducing Eskom reliance

It also sees the establishment of a Green Hydrogen industry as a way to foster its energy independence and reduce its reliance on Eskom.

# Importance of US market for South African produce - PPECB

By Diane Silcock

AS the 9th of July United States (US) export tariff deadline looms, with the possible imposition on South Africa of a 30% tariff, up from the current 10%, the agricultural sector and supply chains have been bracing themselves.

“South Africa has done very well in the US over the past years with citrus being the leading product from our store of products that is exported to the US.”

Amid ongoing uncertainty, as South Africa awaits a decision, Cape Business News spoke to the Perishable Products Export Control Board (PPECB) about the importance

of the US market to producers of perishable products, and the impact an increased US export tariff is likely to have on the industry.

### Why is the US important for South African produce?

PPECB CEO Lucien Jansen shares his sentiments around the reciprocal tariff and its impact, should it be imposed. “Roughly 150 000 tonnes of perishable produce – of which more than 100 000 is citrus - is exported to the US at its peak every year, which represents about 3,6% of the 4,1 million tonnes of the perishable produce that South Africa exports globally.

“South Africa has done very well in the US over the past years with citrus being the leading product from our store of products that is exported to the US. The citrus harvest season has started quite well and we really don’t want that season to be disrupted by an increased tariff when we are in the middle of the season. Hopefully, the increase can be postponed or reviewed as it would be of great benefit to the fruit industry.”

### The ripple effect of a possible increased tariff

Increased tariffs would mean higher costs for South African produce in the US, which would need to be absorbed by someone—whether it is the South African exporter, the American importer, or the US consumer. The most immediate impact



would be a drop in demand for South African produce in the US.

“For South African producers,” says Jansen, “this means reduced revenue, flooding in the local market, unsold stock, and a desperate scramble to find alternative markets. Farmers would receive less revenue for their produce that they have invested in for that season and over many years. In turn, this will impact the number of people the farmer employs and the viability of their business.”

### Developing new markets for South African produce can take up to 12 years

In the PPECB’s experience, accessing new markets can take up to 12 years due to the complexities and technical processes that are required to be put in place. “We’ve seen this in regard to Thailand and other countries as new markets are not familiar with South African products, therefore they need to be developed, which takes time. And usually these newly developed markets come with very stringent export requirements,” Jansen says.

Nonetheless, it’s essential that new markets are opened up for

citrus in particular. It’s a collaborative effort between the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (DTIC), the Department of Agriculture and the stakeholders within the citrus industry. Jansen says the focus remains on the Asian markets and the PPECB plays a supporting role.

### PPECB’s critical role in South Africa’s export industry

The PPECB inspects around 190 different types of products annually valued at around R60-billion, which are exported to just over 100 countries. It has 31 offices across South Africa employing around 1 200 employees which includes contract and seasonal workers.

With the PPECB being volume driven, the net effect on their income that they earn from levies charged, would be drastic, should the full US tariff be imposed. Jansen is hopeful that the outcome from the talks with the US will be positive, to ensure that the PPECB can continue to provide the essential services they are renowned for and which they have been providing for almost 100 years.



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# Optimise water treatment with fit-for-purpose pumps - Join Verder Pumps SA's Free Lunch & Learn



UNTREATED wastewater significantly worsens global water scarcity, with around 80% released untreated, and just 8% treated in low-income countries. This leads to contamination, disease, declining biodiversity, and toxic algae blooms. However, effective wastewater treatment is achievable. Investing in innovative and fit-for-purpose pump solutions is essential for ensuring water security, driving sustainability, and supporting socioeconomic progress, while safeguarding our health and vital resources.

### Understanding the role of pumps in water treatment

Water treatment is a complex, multi-stage process that requires precision and efficiency at every step. From the removal of debris in pre-

liminary treatment to the final effluent discharge, each stage depends on carefully selected technologies to ensure optimal operation. One of the key components driving efficiency across these stages is the strategic use of fit-for-purpose pumping solutions.

### Addressing water treatment challenges

One of the biggest hurdles in water treatment is maintaining efficiency while reducing operational costs and downtime. Pump technology has advanced significantly, offering solutions that improve reliability and energy efficiency. Choosing the right pump type can optimise sludge handling, chemical dosing, and final effluent discharge.

Additionally, tertiary treatment and advanced sludge processing de-

mand precision in pump selection to prevent clogging, optimise flow rates, and enhance overall sustainability. With proper pump integration, water treatment plants not only meet regulatory standards but also maximise performance.

### Lunch and Learn: Explore solutions for optimising water treatment with Verder Pumps South Africa

Verder Pumps South Africa will be hosting a free-to-attend industry learning session that will dive deep into the challenges faced in water treatment applications, as well as offer expert insights into pump technology selection criteria, operational improvements, and real-world applications that have transformed water treatment facilities.

Whether you're look-

ing to refine sludge handling, optimise aeration, or improve chemical dosing, this event will provide practical solutions tailored to industry needs.

If you're involved in wastewater management or potable water processing, this event is a must-attend. Learn how fit-for-purpose pumping solutions can enable progress within your operations and ensure long-term sustainability.

The information session will be followed by lunch and networking. Please note the below event details to secure your spot and be part of the conversation shaping the future of water treatment.

**Date:** Thursday, 26 June

**Time:** Arrival 09h30 for 10h00

**Venue:** One & Only Hotel, Cape Town  
Address: Dock Rd, Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Cape Town, 8001

**Format:** Discussion/presentation (approximately 2 hours)

**Lunch:** Lunch and socialising between 12h00 and 15h00

**Cost:** Free to attend  
**Register:** Email us at [info@verder.co.za](mailto:info@verder.co.za) for more information and to register to attend.

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FROM construction sites in Bellville to ship repairs at the Port of Cape Town, having the right tools and equipment on hand is essential to getting the job done efficiently.

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With over 36 years experience, as one of Cape Town's leading tool and equipment hire companies specialising in tool and equipment rentals, new sales, and expert servicing and repairs, Reynolds Hire support a wide range of industries with practical, cost-effective solutions that keep projects moving.

Reynolds Hire rental fleet is as versatile as the city they serve - offering everything from power tools like drills, breakers, and sanders, to lighting towers, forklifts, trailer-mounts, generators, cherry pickers, boom

lifts, builders' hoists, conveyors and more. Whether you're lighting up a late-night film shoot, powering a remote event, reaching tall walls for a painting job, or laying down commercial flooring,

their equipment is maintained to the highest standard and ready for immediate use.

Looking to invest long-term? Reynolds Hire range of new tools and equipment for sale includes trusted brands that deliver performance and durability across every trade - perfect for businesses looking to upgrade or expand.

Reynolds Hire value doesn't stop at supply. With a fully equipped in-house workshop, they offer servicing and repairs on a wide range of equipment - from power tools to generators to forklifts

and lifting gear. Their experienced technicians are quick to diagnose, repair and return your tools to working order, helping you minimise downtime and protect your bottom line.

What makes Reynolds Hire a trusted name across industries is their flexibility, technical know-how, and deep understanding of Cape Town's unique working environments - from warehouse floors to harbour docks and mountain film sets.

Whether you're building, painting, lifting, lighting, powering, or filming - Reynolds Hire, Sales & Repairs is ready to support your next project with the tools and equipment you can trust.

For more information: <https://reynoldshire.co.za/>

# Bajaj and Picup partner to accelerate last-mile delivery



IN a move to strengthen South Africa's booming last-mile delivery sector, Bajaj South Africa has partnered with Picup, a leading logistics platform known for its innovative delivery solutions. The partnership will see Picup's riders equipped with the rugged Bajaj Boxer 150, supporting the company's rapidly

expanding operations across the country.

This partnership is designed to improve uptime, reduce operating costs, and enhance driver safety and productivity - all while delivering a seamless experience to the end customer. Bajaj's robust, low-maintenance fleet perfectly complements Picup's commit-

ment to smart logistics and scalable delivery solutions.

"Picup is more than a logistics partner - it's a platform for opportunity," said Mikael Cloete, business head of Bajaj South Africa. "By connecting people, brands, and communities, they're redefining how last-mile delivery is done in South Africa. We're proud to support this mission with vehicles designed for real-world performance, fuel efficiency, and reliability."

As one of the most respected logistics technology brands, Picup is known for its reliability, innovation, and commitment to inclusive growth. Through its platform, thousands of South Africans have been given access to income generating work using smart, app-based tools that enhance efficiency and service delivery.

Picup founder Antonio Bruni says the key focus is enabling drivers with reliable vehicles. "Our primary goal is to offer a rent-to-own solution. We've done all the hard work to bring this programme to life, and now we're ready to launch it. In partnership with Bajaj, we'll also be rolling out electric vehicles (EVs) later this year - expanding beyond petrol bikes to include sustainable EV options."

With a client base that includes Pick n Pay, Dis-Chem, Nandos, and other household brands, Picup is not only trusted for its delivery reliability, but also celebrated for its contribution to South Africa's digital and economic transformation. This partnership will allow Picup to expand its footprint with even greater efficiency, backed by a fleet that's been proven across global markets.



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## Crusader Logistics opens 20 000m<sup>2</sup> warehousing hub in Parow Industrial



Crusader Logistics' new 20 000 m<sup>2</sup> warehousing hub in Parow Industrial.

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### Designed for high-performance logistics

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Cape Town Port to the Crusader facility. The hub offers strong flexibility in handling both palletised and bulk cargo, making it ideal for general cargo clients. Security is a priority, with the warehouse protected by armed guards, access control, and 24/7 CCTV cameras supported by external monitoring.

### A strategic step in a national expansion

Crusader Logistics' warehousing operations were evenly split between palletised cargo and bulk floor-stacked cargo, both in Johannesburg and Durban. "Operating in a highly competitive warehouse industry, it became clear that to lead the pack, we had to be different and we also had to be present in all three major cities to complete the national footprint for all our clients," says Myen Naidoo, national executive for warehousing and business development at Crusader Logistics.

### Crusader Logistics' differentiator

Having redefined the role of the ware-

houseman, Crusader Logistics has evolved into smart thinkers, delivering agility and flexibility as standard. In today's fast-paced supply chain environment, clients expect service providers who can think on their feet, pivot quickly, and make impactful decisions in real time to avoid costly delays.

Their advantage? A compact and agile Executive Committee (EXCO) that can come together quickly and make informed decisions, free from the drag of corporate red tape. This responsiveness helps to prevent disruption, reduce downtime, and minimise financial losses for their customers.

### A tailored solution for every link in the chain

Crusader Logistics states that their mission is simple: understand the client and then understand the client's client. Only then can they deliver tailored solutions that create measurable value throughout the supply chain. "While traditional warehouse KPIs like OTIF (On-

Time In-Full) are important, we ask a deeper question: Do they truly reflect the experience of your end customer? We continue to strive to look beyond the surface, to understand your business and your supply chain holistically. Because for us, a ticked KPI box isn't the end—it's just the beginning," says Naidoo.

### Crusader logistics deliverables

Crusader Logistics delivers excellence across every aspect of their warehousing and logistics operations. They maintain a stock inventory accuracy rate of 99,95% and consistently achieve 100% Primary OTIF (On-Time In-Full), while ensuring reliability and precision in every shipment.

The company's facilities are internationally accredited for food-grade storage, meeting the highest global standards. With world-class infrastructure, a national warehouse footprint, and a robust national transport network, Crusader Logistics offers seamless logistics solutions across South Africa. Their services also include comprehensive clearing and forwarding, along with efficient last mile distribution to meet the full spectrum of client needs.

"Choosing Crusader Logistics Cape Town provides our clientele with the full supply chain solution where flexibility meets foresight, and your business becomes our business," concludes Naidoo.

## Growthpoint's logistics portfolio is bolstered by completion of Arterial Industrial Estate, Cape Town



Arterial Industrial Estate in Cape Town

GROWTHPOINT Properties has reached another milestone in its ongoing strategy to improve the quality of its directly held South African portfolio with the completion of Phase 2 of the Arterial Industrial Estate in Cape Town.

Driving its domestic portfolio enhancement, Growthpoint has strategically grown its logistics and industrial assets from 15% to 20% of the total South African portfolio value in recent years.

At the same time, South Africa's leading REIT (real estate investment trust) has increased its exposure to modern logistics warehouses, the backbone of Growthpoint's long-term value creation approach in this sector. Modern logistics properties are and now represent approximately half of the portfolio's gross lettable area. It is also focusing its investment in better performing, higher demand areas of the country, specifically in the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal.

ranging from 2,945m<sup>2</sup> to 5,713m<sup>2</sup>, catering to a variety of business needs. Together, both phases of the development represent a nearly R400-million investment from Growthpoint.

folio, fuelled by high occupancy rates and a strategic focus on modern facilities. Our well-let logistics and industrial portfolio demonstrates the increasing demand for modern, strategically located fa-

Arterial Industrial Estate is strategically positioned in Blackheath, a popular industrial hub in Cape Town, offering exceptional access to key transportation routes, including the R300, N1, and N2 highways, as well as Cape Town International Airport and the region's seaports.

The estate is experiencing strong demand, with two of the six units in Phase 2 already snapped up supported by strong tenant interest, highlighting the need for high-quality industrial space in the region. Phase 1 of Arterial Industrial Estate spanning 19 741m<sup>2</sup>, is fully let to top names in national and international industry.

"The completion of Arterial Industrial Estate's Phase 2, and the good demand and take-up of available space it is experiencing, un-

cilities," says Errol Taylor, Growthpoint's head of asset management, logistics and industrial property.

Arterial Industrial Estate is strategically positioned in Blackheath, a popular industrial hub in Cape Town, offering exceptional access to key transportation routes, including the R300, N1, and N2 highways, as well as Cape Town International Airport and the region's seaports. This prime location allows businesses to efficiently connect with both local and global markets.

The estate offers 24-hour security, flexible warehouse and office space, and a commitment to sustainability, including solar panels and a four-star Green Star certification from the Green Building Council of South Africa.

"This project reflects a continued and deliberate pivot toward better-performing, future-fit logistics assets and aligns with Growthpoint's strategy of targeted investment and divestment, and development," adds Taylor.

"Growthpoint is reporting strong performance in its logistics and industrial portfolio, fuelled by high occupancy rates and a strategic focus on modern facilities."

A notable stride in this direction is the recent completion of Phase 2 of the Arterial Industrial Estate in Cape Town, adding quality capacity to the sought-after location. With 21 831m<sup>2</sup> of additional lettable space, Phase 2 has added six more warehouse units,

underscores the value we provide to businesses seeking efficient and sustainable industrial real estate solutions," says Wouter de Vos, Growthpoint's regional head: Western Cape. "Growthpoint is reporting strong performance in its logistics and industrial port-

## Red Rocket enlists Bioseco in tech-powered initiative to protect birdlife on its wind farms

RED Rocket is proud to announce the implementation of a revolutionary system that ensures the protection of bird species on its wind farms, marking a first-of-its-kind innovation in South Africa. The monumental partnership with international avian monitoring leader, Bioseco, has resulted in the deployment of an automated detection system that ensures the mitigation of bird collisions with turbines, using advanced shutdown-on-demand functionality.

As a leading Independ-

ent Power Producer (IPP), Red Rocket continues to set the standard for sustainability and environmental stewardship in Africa's energy transition. The initiative aligns with the company's broader commitment to biodiversity conservation while delivering trusted renewable energy solutions.

The system is active at the 144MW Brandvalley and Rietkloof wind farms, which announced the commencement of commercial operations in April – the first two

projects under Round 5 of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) to achieve this milestone.

Targeting turbines located in bird-sensitive areas, the system uses detection technology to track bird

movements near the turbines. Upon detecting birds in close proximity, it activates visual and audiodeterrents, and if necessary, initiates a temporary turbine shutdown. This represents a huge leap forward over the

current traditional, manually operated methods.

Red Rocket CEO, Matteo Brambilla, said: "With this partnership, Red Rocket affirms its long-term vision that guides our decisions as we strive to operate sustainably for the benefit of our environment."

Bioseco commercial manager, Magda Bielawska, said: "This partnership with Red Rocket is a significant step forward, and we are proud to work on this project that has such a positive impact."

# Roadshow aims to support energy and water resilience for Western Cape businesses

Open call to Western Cape businesses to register for green economy support help desk in their district



IN achieving energy and water security and climate resilience, the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) seeks to highlight the importance of resource resilience for business competitiveness, job creation and economic growth.

To support this, the Department, which aims to strengthen green economy ecosystem businesses by facilitating the uptake

of green technologies (with a focus on energy and water), has partnered with GreenCape to host a series of information help desks in the form of a roadshow.

These help desks will be available in districts across the Western Cape for businesses across all sectors (agriculture, construction, manufacturing, food and beverage, textiles etc.), that seek support implementing renewable energy or water-saving technologies

to be more energy and water resilient.

Green economy sector desk experts will provide direct, in-person, one-on-one support to businesses on energy-related and water-related matters at these help desks.

**Western Cape businesses encouraged to register to access help desks in their district**

Businesses across the Western Cape are invited to [register](#) to access a series of support help desks that will be rolled out in various districts between mid-July and mid-October 2025. These help desks are free to attend but have limited capacity, so early registration is encouraged. Interested businesses are required to register to attend. For any inquiries, please contact [events@green-cape.co.za](mailto:events@green-cape.co.za).

The team will be vis-

iting each district, with venue details provided in the registration form. The confirmed dates and locations are as follows:

**15 July 2025** - Saldanha Bay, West Coast

**29 July 2025** - Beaufort West, Central Karoo

**31 July 2025** - Mossel Bay, Garden Route

**17 September 2025** - Cape Town City Centre

**7 October 2025** - Paarl, Cape Winelands

**9 October 2025** - Hermanus, Overberg

The help desk roadshow aims to provide direct support to businesses, SMMEs, and companies across the Western Cape province. Each help desk will provide access to:

- One-on-one consultations with green economy sector desk experts
- Resources that will assist businesses with investment de-

isions on building energy and/or water resilience

- Networking opportunities with other businesses.

**Going beyond reducing carbon emissions**

The Western Cape DEA&DP roadshow initiative is aimed at improving resource resilience, expanding markets enabling behaviour change, lowering costs, enabling market access, building climate change adaptive capacity, and contributing to climate change mitigation. Moving decisively towards a green and decarbonised pathway in the Western Cape goes beyond reducing carbon emissions; it is a resource-efficient, socially inclusive economy that creates decent jobs and sustainable infrastructure solutions for current and future generations.

## Discovery Green and Sasol launch a wheeling renewable energy product for SMEs



By Larry Claasen

DISCOVERY Green, a Discovery company, and global energy firm Sasol, launched a wheeling renewable energy product for small and medium size businesses.

Ampli Energy, a first-of-its-kind monthly renewable energy subscription platform is designed to give South African businesses immediate access to grid-delivered green power with no upfront costs or long-term commitments.

The platform allows businesses of all sizes to replace a significant portion of their grid electricity consumption with renewable energy sourced from wind and solar farms via the na-

tional grid – a process known as wheeling.

Key features include guaranteed monthly savings paid as cashback, no installation requirements, and penalty-free cancellation with 30 days' notice.

The product directly addresses barriers that have historically locked smaller businesses out of the renewable energy market. "While [renewable energy] has been beneficial, many businesses lack the capital and land space for on-site installations to meet most of their electricity consumption needs," said Andre Neppen, head of Discovery Green.

He explained that traditional wheeling required complex, long-term power purchase agreements (PPAs)

only feasible for large energy users like mines.

"Through simple, month-to-month membership, any business anywhere in the country can now replace the majority of its electricity with renewable energy... reducing carbon emissions without upfront capital requirements, installations or long-term contracts."

He emphasized the critical need for flexibility: "These businesses cannot commit to long-term purchasing agreements, so month-to-month flexibility is critical."

The partners have committed over 450MWh per annum of renewable energy generation capacity – representing a R1,8-billion to R2,5-billion investment – to Ampli Energy, to be delivered in tranches. The first tranche is already fully subscribed. Initial clients include Nando's, NetFlorist, Hatfield Motors, Sealand Gear, selected Sasol Garages, Reach for a Dream, and the Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital.

For Sasol, Ampli marks a strategic evo-

lution. "The launch of Ampli marks a strategic shift where Sasol moves beyond being a major energy consumer to an aggregator and trader of renewable electrons," said Sarushen Pillay, executive vice president of Sasol's Business Building, Strategy and Technology. Pillay highlighted Sasol's deep energy experience: "As Sasol, we bring a massive anchor demand for green electrons... and we have deep experience as the largest private generator and user of electricity in South Africa... we have been buying and selling electricity for decades."

Sasol president and CEO Simon Baloyi framed Ampli as foundational for broader renewable growth.

"Through Ampli Energy, businesses that previously lacked the capital or capacity... can now access clean energy through wheeling arrangements. This is how we grow South Africa's renewable capacity from the ground up... by making green electrons available to more users." He added,

"With significant shovel-ready renewable energy projects across the country, we have a real opportunity to unlock large-scale generation."

Discovery Group CEO Adrian Gore positioned the partnership as a catalyst for inclusive economic growth.

"The potential for job creation and direct capital investment that could be unlocked by enabling renewable energy wheeling for small and medium-sized businesses is astounding... By reducing energy costs and fostering innovation, it empowers these enterprises to thrive, creating jobs and stimulating local economies."

Minister of Electricity Kgosientsho Ramokgopa endorsed the model.

"Ampli Energy is revolutionary. It represents a sea change in green energy... We must ensure we unshackle the potential of the economy by addressing energy security, democratising access to green electrons and achieving environmental sustainability."



**Western Cape Government**  
**FOR YOU**



## Looking to build energy & water resilience for your business?

**REGISTER HERE TO ATTEND...**



...our help desk support in your district, hosted by **GreenCape.**

Access free green economy support for your business.





## Be sure to use original quality branded bolt securing products - BMG



BMG – the authorised distributor of a wide range of quality branded engineering consumables - is concerned about the proliferation of counterfeit merchandise and the dangers associated with using inferior goods.

“While visiting various plants, we have noticed that many engineers and foremen believed they were using genuine Nord-Lock washers. However, on closer inspection it was clear that in many cases, they were using inferior copies of Nord-Lock washers,” states Maryna Werner, BMG’s fasteners sales manager.

“Catastrophic failure of critical bolted joints is a risk when inferior copies are used, especially when the quality and origin is unknown or when no support or warranties are available.

“The Nord-Lock bolt securing system is based on advanced wedge-locking technology, designed to safely secure bolted joints that are exposed to severe vibration and dynamic loads in extreme conditions. This advanced system improves personal safety, reduces the risk of lost production or material damage due to bolt failure and also lowers maintenance requirements.

“Nord-Lock washers are rigorously tested

throughout the production process, with quality and safety approval from independent institutes and certification authorities. This gives our customers the assurance that they are using the market’s safest bolt securing elements. In fact, the Nord-Lock group is so confident in the quality, reliability and efficacy of its locking washers, that they offer a full life cycle warranty on their washers.

“Nord-Lock quality washers, which are supported nationally by BMG, are laser engraved with the dependable Nord-Lock brand and batch numbers to ensure identifiability and traceability. Data sheets and material certificates are available on request.

“We encourage consumers to take special care when sourcing products from non-authorised suppliers. There is no way of knowing whether counterfeit copies of original Nord-Lock washers have gone through proper testing or what materials they’re made of, which jeopardises their safety and reliability.

“Authentic Nord-Lock washers are a safe and reliable bolting solution, that also saves time and money due to less maintenance and reduced downtime.”

Nord-Lock has developed various measures to prevent

non-verified Nord-Lock washers from reaching end users. This initiative extends from educating the market about counterfeiting issues to original product design features.

The Nord-Lock range of securing washers, distributed and supported by BMG, is the only brand on the market that currently displays the CE quality mark of approval from leading global authorities. The prestigious CE marking is certification that these wedge-locking washers adhere to stringent safety and quality regulations required in many industries.

The BMG team encourages consumers to take special care when sourcing products from non-authorised suppliers. By choosing original Nord-Lock washers for a safe and reliable bolting solution, consumers have the assurance of compliance and safety. With a locking mechanism that uses tension instead of friction, Nord-Lock washers keep bolted connections tight and secure. Operators can rest assured that bolts will stay in place, even when subjected to severe vibrations, heat cycling and dynamic loads.

For more information: <https://bmgworld.net/bmg/en/ZAR/search/?text=nord>

## ACTOM highlighted local rail capabilities at Africa Rail 2025

AS South Africa accelerates its R158,54-billion infrastructure investment plan, the spotlight is once again on the country’s rail network – and the engineering expertise that keeps it running.

One of the companies at the forefront of this work, ACTOM, participated in Africa Rail 2025 in May at the Sandton Convention Centre.

With more than 120 years of experience, ACTOM has built up a strong footprint in rail, supporting both modernisation and maintenance projects across South Africa. Its work with key clients like Transnet and PRASA reflects a broader effort to ensure continuity in rail services while adapting to new technologies and challenges.

### Balancing continuity and change

“In many ways, we’re helping to bridge South Africa’s rail past and its future,” says Nqobile Mthembu, business development manager at ACTOM. “Much of the country’s rail infrastructure still relies on older systems, but the pressure is on for South Africa to upgrade and automate. That transition needs to be managed carefully.”

In KwaZulu-Natal, ACTOM is assisting with the refurbishment

of legacy relay-based interlocking systems, a key part of the signalling infrastructure. Elsewhere, it is involved in modernising rail yard automation systems for Transnet, improving safety and operational efficiency.

ACTOM plays a critical role in supporting both in-house and third-party legacy technologies, drawing on its experience as an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM). This capability allows the company to service and maintain aging infrastructure while laying the groundwork for modernisation to ensure that older systems remain functional and safe as new technologies are phased in.

“We’re not just installing new equipment,” Mthembu notes. “Our cradle-to-grave operational model means that we stay involved throughout the system lifecycle, providing the support needed to keep things running and to ease the shift to more advanced technologies.”

### Cross-cutting industry expertise

ACTOM’s work in the rail sector brings together multiple business units, each contributing to different parts of the network: **Signalling systems (ACTOM Signalling):**



Nqobile Mthembu, business development manager at ACTOM

Currently focused on upgrading relay-based systems, particularly in PRASA’s KZN operations.

**High voltage equipment (HVE):** Produces components like disconnectors, circuit breakers, and instrument transformers.

**Smart technologies:** Offers substation automation, smart metering, and battery backup systems that help improve energy resilience – a growing concern given load shedding and cable theft.

**Rotating machinery and traction motors:** ACTOM subsidiaries LH Marthinusen and Reid & Mitchell support the repair and supply of key electromechanical components used across freight and passenger rail.

**Vibration management:** Arnot Vibration Solutions contributes technology that enhances locomotive reliability and passenger comfort.

### Local presence means faster response

Maintenance is a central focus for ACTOM, with its after-sales support and proactive service models helping rail clients achieve up to a 30% reduction in downtime. This in turn results in significant savings that lower the total cost of ownership while improving overall operational efficiency.

One of ACTOM’s key advantages is its local reach. With service hubs and factories across the country, the company is able to respond quickly to client needs – often dispatching technical support teams in less than two hours.

“Our nationwide footprint means we’re not flying in support from elsewhere,” says Mthembu. “We’re embedded in the areas we serve, and that’s essential when it comes to reducing downtime on critical infrastructure.”

## ifm’s new generation electronic manometer with LED display



THE new generation of PG type manometers are equipped with IO-Link and modern display units. Illuminated LED markings provide a quick overview of the current measured value. In addition to the various setting options for the display unit, IO-Link offers other advantages such as easy commissioning, quick sensor replacement and remote access options.

ifm has further de-

veloped its tried-and-tested generation of type PG pressure sensors with analogue displays, by focusing upon digitalising the sensors and expanding visualisation options.

The redesigned display unit now offers a quick overview of the previously defined measuring ranges and limit values through a ring of coloured LEDs. Instead of manually applying markings to the display housing,

the minimum, middle and maximum ranges can now be visualised using different coloured LEDs.

Thanks to IO-Link, the desired measuring ranges can be defined quickly and easily and adapted to each application. The bright LEDs enable the user to see from a distance whether the pointer is in the green area or already close to the limit.

Process values and additional information are continuously transmitted using IO-Link technology. Because data is transmitted in a purely digital form based on a 24 V signal, it is conversion and loss-free. The PG pressure sensors boast a measuring range from -1 to 400 bar. As with previous models in the PG product family, the sensors are equipped with a robust ceramic measuring cell. For

maximum safety in critical applications, the measuring cell has a diagnostic function that displays the cell’s status.

The electronic manometers are used in the food industry and other industrial environments. To meet the prevailing requirements, two device variants were developed with differing approvals and technical properties. For example, the device variant for food applications is permanently temperature-resistant up to 150°C and will compensate for the dynamic temperature jumps that can occur in cleaning cycles.

The sensors are supplied with different connection variants. For example, the sensors can be easily and safely mounted in containers or pipes using an Aseptoflex Vario connection.

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# Mastering measurement challenges in chemical storage - VEGA Controls

FROM corrosive acids to volatile hydrocarbons, VEGA's advanced instrumentation—VEGAPULS, VEGABAR, and VEGASWING—delivers reliable performance in even the toughest environments.

Chemical storage facilities, whether for raw materials, intermediates, or final products, pose significant measurement challenges due to the variety of stored substances.

Substances may range from corrosive acids and alkalis to volatile hydrocarbons and toxic chemicals, requiring specialised measuring solutions. VEGA's suite of instrumentation, including the VEGAPULS radar sensors, VEGABAR pressure transmitters, and the VEGASWING vibrating level switches, addresses challenges with precision and reliability, even in extreme conditions.

## Precision level measurement in chemical storage

Level measurement in chemical storage tanks is essential for inventory management, safety, and process control. One of the most advanced technologies employed in these applications is the radar-based level measurement.

The VEGAPULS 6X non-contact radar sensor stands out for its superior accuracy and reliability for level measurement in bulk liquids and solids, and it makes it suitable for chemical storage tanks. The 6X sensor is capable of tolerating substances like solvents, hydrocarbons, or other aggressive chemicals due to the non-contact radar technology. Employing chemically resistant materials, such as PTFE and PEEK, further enhances its durability in corrosive environments.

Its high-frequency radar technology allows for the detection of surface liquids with exceptional precision, regardless of tank geometry or obstructions, such as mixers or heating coils, often present in chemical storage vessels. The 80 GHz radar beam of the VEGAPULS 6X is advantageous for chemical storage applications as it produces a narrow beam angle, minimising interference from tank walls or internal fixtures.

## Reliable pressure measurement for safe storage

Pressure measurement is equally critical to ensuring safety and

operational control. Tanks storing volatile substances or pressurised chemicals require precise monitoring to prevent overpressure or vacuum conditions.

The VEGABAR series of pressure trans-

mitters provide highly accurate and dependable pressure measurements, even in harsh operating environments.

The VEGABAR 83 pressure transmitter, equipped with ceram-

ic-capacitive sensor technology, can operate under extreme pressure and is capable of pressure measurement of gases, vapours and liquids. The ceramic measuring cell offers high resistance to cor-

rosion and abrasion and is suitable for use in chemical storage tanks containing acids, alkalis, and other reactive substances.

For more information: [www.vega.com/en-za](http://www.vega.com/en-za)



# Light molecules, challenging measurements? We have the solutions!

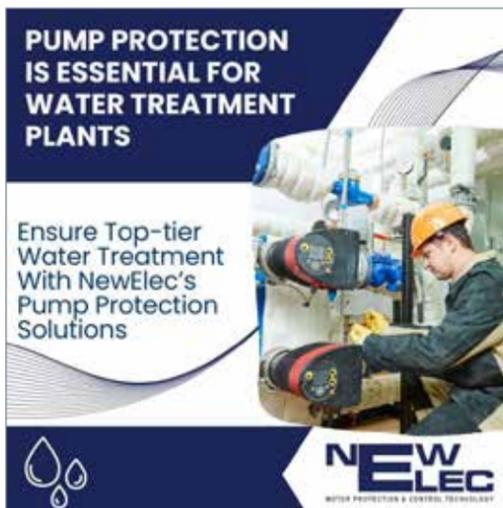
Whether for mobility, energy, chemicals or steel, Hydrogen is part of the future! To get there we need capacity, infrastructure and, of course, the right measurement technologies. Our level and pressure instrumentation will ensure your hydrogen processes and measurements are safe, efficient and simple.

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# Optimise water treatment efficiency with NewElec's advanced pump protection and control solutions



**PUMP PROTECTION IS ESSENTIAL FOR WATER TREATMENT PLANTS**

Ensure Top-tier Water Treatment With NewElec's Pump Protection Solutions



**NEW ELEC**  
MOTOR PROTECTION & CONTROL TECHNOLOGY

WATER is a critical resource, underpinning life, industry, and agriculture. For water treatment plants and pumping stations, maintaining uninterrupted and efficient operation is essential to both sustainability and service delivery.

NewElec offers specialised motor protection solutions tailored for the waterworks sector and demanding pumping environments. Its advanced relay technologies are engineered to safeguard vital equipment while enhancing opera-

tional efficiency across water treatment and distribution systems.

It recognises the challenges engineers face in water infrastructure — from impeller and pump failures to nuisance tripping and limited diagnostic visibility. NewElec's pump protection relays are designed to address these issues across a wide range of applications, including dewatering pumps, centrifugal and submersible pumps, positive displacement systems, and treatment plant centrifuges.

Whether for remote installations or large-scale facilities, our solutions protect both pump panels and individual pump motors against faults and operational wear. Built-in monitoring capabilities and complimentary front-end software provide real-time insights, allowing for proactive maintenance and improved system control.

From dewatering operations to municipal waterworks, NewElec's protection relays deliver the dependability required for long-term infrastructure planning and operational continuity. Our systems support scalable expansion while ensuring compliance with energy and asset management goals.

Renowned among industry professionals as a "Best Kept Secret" in the market, NewElec delivers trusted performance where it matters most—keeping your water infrastructure running reliably.

For more information: [info@newelec.co.za](mailto:info@newelec.co.za)

# Reagents dosing done right - Endress+Hauser

*The importance of using mass flowmeters in froth flotation cells and thickeners*

IN mining and mineral processing industry, the precise measurement and control of reagents such as collectors, frothing agents, pH additives, and flocculants are crucial for optimising the efficiency and effectiveness of froth flotation cells and thickeners, says Endress+Hauser.

Mass flowmeters, particularly Coriolis meters, play a vital role in ensuring these reagents are accurately measured and delivered, thereby enhancing process performance and reducing operational costs.

## Key benefits of mass flowmeters

- **Accurate measurement:** Coriolis mass flowmeters offer exceptional accuracy, typically around 0.05%. This high level of precision ensures that the exact amount of reagent is added to the process, preventing both under- and overdosing.
- **Early issue detection:** By monitoring the flow and viscosity of reagents, mass flowmeters can detect inconsistencies in reagent concentration. This early detection helps identify issues in the mixing and batching plants, such

as improperly mixed or diluted reagents, before they affect the process.

Mass flowmeters, particularly Coriolis meters, play a vital role in ensuring these reagents are accurately measured and delivered.

- **Cost efficiency:** Accurate dosing of reagents prevents overconsumption, which can be costly, especially for expensive reagents. It also ensures that the reagents are used effectively, improving the overall efficiency of the flotation and thickening processes.
- **Quality control:** Controlled reagent dosing helps maintain optimal water quality and enhances the recovery of precious minerals. Poorly mixed or diluted reagents can lead to

suboptimal flotation performance and reduced mineral recovery rates.

- **Process optimisation:** By providing real-time data on reagent flow and concentration, mass flowmeters enable operators to fine-tune the process parameters, leading to improved performance and reduced waste.

## How Coriolis mass flowmeters work

Coriolis mass flowmeters measure the mass flow rate of a fluid by detecting the Coriolis force exerted by the fluid as it flows through a vibrating tube. The key advantages of Coriolis meters include:

- **High accuracy:** With an accuracy of approximately 0,05%,
- **Coriolis meters**

ensure precise measurement of reagent flow rates.

- **Direct measurement:** They measure mass flow directly, eliminating the need for additional calculations or conversions.
- **Viscosity monitoring:** Changes in viscosity can be detected and converted into reagent concentration, providing valuable insights into the mixing quality and consistency of the reagents.

## Identifying and addressing issues

Mass flowmeters can identify issues such as:

- **Diluted reagents:** If the reagent concentration is lower than expected, it can indicate dilution, which can be corrected to avoid under-recovery and ensure optimal performance.
- **Incorrect mixing:** Variations in viscosity can signal improper mixing, allowing operators to adjust the mixing process to achieve the desired reagent consistency.
- **Flow disruptions:** Any irregularities in flow rates can be quickly identified and addressed, preventing potential disruptions in the flotation or thickening processes.

By leveraging the capabilities of Coriolis mass flowmeters, mining operations can achieve greater control over their reagent dosing processes, leading to improved efficiency, reduced costs, and enhanced recovery of valuable minerals. The early detection of issues and the ability to make real-time adjustments mean that the processes remain optimised and effective, ultimately contributing to the overall success of the operation.

Incorporating additional level devices in the reagent batching tanks can provide an extra layer of protection against process disruptions.



## Safeguard Your Water Infrastructure with NewElec's KD Series Relay

**NEW ELEC**  
MOTOR PROTECTION & CONTROL TECHNOLOGY



## ACT before South Africa needs a water-shedding APP

Maintaining the efficiency and reliability of water treatment facilities is paramount. NewElec's KD Series Relay offers comprehensive protection for essential components like pumps and compressors, minimizing downtime and safeguarding water resources.

# Dust suppression systems for mining - Monitor Engineering



MINING, an industry that has been the backbone of many economies, is not without its challenges. One such challenge, especially in the dry climates where many mines are located, is dust control. Not only is dust a nuisance, but it also poses serious health risks to workers and can erode equipment. This is where Monitor Engineering, sole agent in Southern Africa for Spraying Systems Co's world-leading dust control solutions, can help.

### Dust suppression systems: Addressing mining's dust challenge

In the mining sector, areas like stockpiles are particularly prone to dust. As material is piled up, fine particles become airborne with the slightest breeze, leading to dust clouds. Surface stabilisation, primarily achieved through regular watering and water spray techniques, becomes essential for dust control. Simply spraying

water isn't enough. The nozzles used play a pivotal role in ensuring the effectiveness of the dust suppression as droplet size is crucial to effective dust control.

### Dust suppression systems: Solutions for transfer points and chutes

Transfer points and chutes are also a big area of concern when it comes to dust generation. "Our offerings include spray nozzles for the various points requiring dust suppression, or complete "plug and spray" dust suppression kits consisting of strainers, tanks, piping, high pressure pumps, controls, and spray bars complete with nozzles," says Grant Orsmond, Monitor Engineering MD. "Our experienced sales engineers are available to conduct no charge site audits and work with customers to ensure the correct nozzles are selected to produce the desired droplet size to suppress dust."

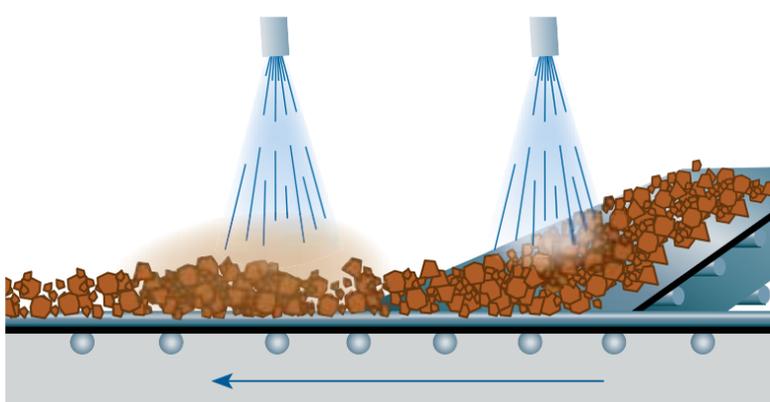
### Dust suppression systems: Customised mining solutions by Monitor Engineering

Monitor Engineering has 75 years of experience working with mines across the continent and has fabricated custom-designed solutions in its Johannesburg facility that have proven to work.

### Other products for the mining industry

Spraying Systems Co.'s spray bars, valve assemblies and brush headers have all been proven to help improve efficiency and safety outcomes in mines. Gas cooling and scrubbing lances and nozzles, evaporation solutions, foam and fire control nozzles, and other spray technology are available.

For more information on Monitor Engineering's dust control options, visit [www.monitorspray.co.za](http://www.monitorspray.co.za) or contact [grant@monitorspray.co.za](mailto:grant@monitorspray.co.za)



# The budget highlights why South Africa needs mining to thrive

THE Minerals Council South Africa (MCSA) notes the tabling of the third iteration of the 2025 National Budget which highlights why the economy needs a thriving mining industry.

The revised budget numbers reflect the double hit to government revenue and the debt ratio from not going ahead with the VAT hikes proposed in the March budget, as well as the downward adjustment to Treasury's nominal GDP forecast. The latter is a function of a weaker starting point after a soft fourth quarter 2024 GDP release and concerns about the adverse domestic spillovers from global trade wars.

A weaker real GDP growth outlook and lower inflation means that the Treasury's nominal GDP projection, the key driver of government revenue, was scaled back to 5,8% for 2025, from 6,9% projected before. Relative to the March budget, Treasury's estimate for government tax revenue is reduced by more than R60-billion between 2025 and 2027.

To partly fill the carry-through revenue gap because of not increasing the VAT rate by 0,5 percentage points in each of 2025 and 2026, the budget proposes the following counter measures to support revenue and the broader public finances:

- The previously announced (effective) personal tax increases in 2025 remain in place. This is due to the non-adjustment of the tax brackets for the impact of inflation.
- The removal of the additional zero-rated VAT items proposed in March to soften the blow of the VAT hike.
- An inflation-related adjustment to

the fuel levy. This amounts to 16c/litre for petrol and 15c/litre for diesel. In March, it was proposed that the fuel levy remain unchanged. With the oil price at a benign level and the rand trending stronger versus the US dollar in recent times, the near-term impact of the fuel levy increase should be neutralised.

- The potential for additional tax increases totalling R20-billion in 2026 and R21,3-billion in 2027. The details of these potential tax increases were not specified. Furthermore, they are contingent on whether the SA Revenue Service (SARS) can improve the efficiency of tax collections.
  - A reduction in some of the provisional expenditure allocations outlined in March. This includes a halving (to R5,5-billion) in the cost of an early retirement scheme for public sector employees and a reduced allocation to the Passenger Rail Agency (PRASA). Importantly, government remains committed to spending more on infrastructure over the medium term. If this materialises, it will support mining sector activity.
- Despite these measures, on account of the softer nominal GDP numbers (the denominator of the debt ratio), the gross debt to GDP ratio is now expected to peak at a higher level of 77,4% in the current (2025/26) fiscal year versus 76,2% outlined in the March budget. Relative to the expectation in the 2024 budget, the latest debt ratio estimate for 2025/26 is more than two percentage points higher.
- "The revised 2025



**MINERALS COUNCIL SOUTH AFRICA**

budget once again emphasised that in the absence of sustained higher levels of real GDP growth, South Africa's public finances remain particularly exposed to domestic and global shocks. The latest of these are increased global trade tensions," said Hugo Pienaar, chief economist at the Minerals Council.

Pienaar added that along with the ongoing structural reform programme guided by Operation Vulindlela, a profitable mining sector could be an important catalyst for improved government revenue, helping to prevent future tax increases.

"With that in mind, the Minerals Council is assessing the recently released Mineral Resources Development Bill, with a particular focus on whether the revised regulations will assist in driving improved mining sector growth," says Mr Pienaar.

On the logistics reform side, Treasury officials again reiterated that government is not considering any balance sheet assistance or debt relief for rail and port utility Transnet at this point. However, on top of the R47-billion provided in late-2023, another Transnet debt guarantee is being considered.

"The bulk mining sector, which is dependent on well-maintained Transnet infrastructure, supports any initiatives to assist reforms in the logistics sector. This includes improving Transnet's ability to borrow to

finance rail and port infrastructure maintenance and upgrades," says Mr Pienaar, adding this is essential to attract private sector operators to the rail network and port operations.

### Conclusion

To assist in preventing additional tax rises in coming years, the full potential of mining must be unlocked. The global scramble to secure critical minerals provides a golden opportunity for mining to increase its already sizeable contribution to the South African economy. However, to realise its full potential, amongst others, the mining sector requires:

- A stable and predictable mining policy environment that is fit-for-purpose.
- A stable supply of, and affordable, electricity.
- Further progress to improve rail and port performance and private sector participation.
- Improved infrastructure for better access to water resources.
- Enhanced local government efficiency.
- An uncompromising stance against crime and corruption.

For further queries contact Allan Secombe, email: [asecombe@mineralscouncil.org.za](mailto:asecombe@mineralscouncil.org.za) or visit [www.mineralscouncil.org.za](http://www.mineralscouncil.org.za)



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# Combustion Technology: Powering the future with dual fuel industrial burner solutions



WITH South Africa's energy landscape facing unprecedented changes and uncertainty - particularly the looming 2028 end of Sasol's natural gas supply - businesses are under increasing pressure to future-proof their

operations. Combustion Technology, with decades of expertise in the supply of industrial burner combustion control and boiler systems, are uniquely positioned to help industries navigate these challenges through ad-

vanced tailored Dual Fuel Burner solutions.

Their extensive experience and technical knowledge have made them a preferred partner in the industrial burner space. More than just equipment suppliers, they pride themselves on delivering complete turnkey solutions.

From project management and detail engineering to post-installation support and maintenance, their commitment to customer satisfaction and long-term and consistent burner performance and unrivalled efficiency improvement sets them apart.

### Multifuel burners: adaptability meets efficiency

Traditionally known as Dual Fuel burners, Multifuel Burners offer the ability to utilise a multitude of different fuel sources depending on availability, cost or environment.

A typical scenario would be utilising gas

"Combustion Technology's Multifuel solutions deliver more than operational flexibility - they offer a strategic edge in an era of increasing energy change and uncertainty."

as the primary fuel and a liquid fuel such as diesel or paraffin as the secondary back-up fuel. However, Combustion Technology takes this capability several steps further.

Their modern systems allow seamless "Change on the Fly" (COF) switching between certain fuels, eliminating downtime and re-purging requirements, thereby conserving energy and operational continuity.

### Why should industries consider Multifuel Burners? Two reasons stand out:

#### 1. Operational resilience and energy security / de-risk

A boiler is often the heartbeat of an industrial operation. If fuel

supply falters, production grinds to a halt. Combustion Technology's Multifuel systems mitigate against this risk. For example, a burner primarily running on piped natural gas can instantly be switched to diesel should gas become unavailable. With reports surfacing about long-time gas suppliers in Gauteng possibly exiting the market, this kind of fuel flexibility is no longer a luxury - it's a necessity.

#### 2. Cleaner, sustainable fuel integration

Many clients are seeking to incorporate alternative fuels such as Biogas, repurposed oils, and even hydrogen. Their Multifuel Burners are not only compatible with these

more sustainable and often more cost-effective options, but they are designed to seamlessly integrate and to optimise combustion using their cutting-edge Exhaust Gas Analysis (EGA) to constantly and consistently compensate for varying fuel quality and calorific value.

### A real-world example: Biogas-Natural Gas Blending at a prominent brewery in Gauteng

One of the company's latest projects involves a bespoke Biogas Blending Skid for a major South African brewery. The system blends Biogas and Natural Gas, prioritising Biogas use to reduce emissions and fuel costs.

This engineered solution includes precision flow meters, gas analysers, and control systems to ensure a stable, high-efficiency output to meet their process needs.

In this case there

are three modes of operation - Natural Gas Only Mode, Blended Gas Mode, and Bypass Mode - allowing the system to adapt seamlessly to fluctuating Biogas supplies.

### Ready for the future

Combustion Technology's Multifuel solutions deliver more than operational flexibility - they offer a strategic edge in an era of increasing energy change and uncertainty. Their solutions, powered by Limsfield Industrial burners and Autoflame Controls, are backed by guaranteed savings, advanced burner management, and a proven track record of customer satisfaction.

They empower clients across industries to optimise energy use, cut costs, lower emissions, lower their carbon footprint and build long-term resilience.

For more information, visit [www.combustiontechnology.co.za](http://www.combustiontechnology.co.za).

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## The lube kitchen: Is your pour point depressing?



Technical manager for WearCheck, Steven Lumley, explains the benefits and functions of PPDs in this article.

DURING the ongoing journey through the world of additives with condition monitoring specialist company, WearCheck, one of the featured set of additives is those that affect the rheological behaviour of oils – pour point depressants (PPDs).

Technical manager for WearCheck, Steven Lumley, explains, “PPDs prevent conglomeration of the oil at low temperatures due to wax crystallisation by modifying the interface between the crystallised wax and the oil. Examples of PPDs include polymethacrylates (PMAs), alkylated wax naphthalene, and alkylated wax phenol.

“Medically, ‘depressant’ is synonymous with prescription drugs that sooth frayed nerves by lowering neurotransmission. However, in chemistry, a depressant is any agent capable of diminishing a specific property of a substance. A pour point depressant is therefore an additive that depresses the pour point of a lubricant.

“An oil’s pour point is the lowest temperature at which it remains fluid. Wax crystals that form in paraffinic mineral oils crystallise (solidify) at low temperatures. These solid crystals form a lattice network that inhibits the remaining liquid oil from flowing.

“In below-freezing

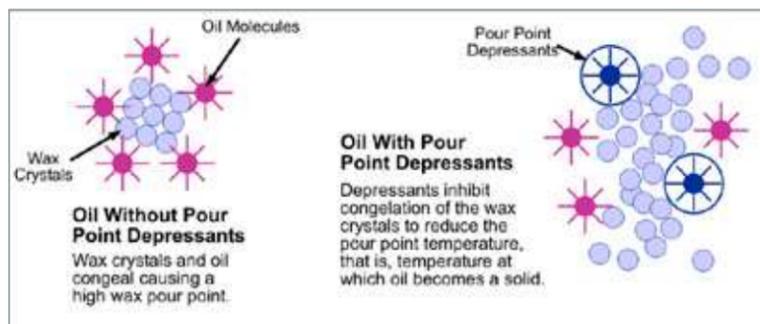
which an oil’s dissolved solids (e.g. paraffin wax) begin to form and separate from the oil), cause rapid increase in the oil’s viscosity, and the waxy molecules begin to crystallise.

The oil clouds, and ultimately these wax crystals can precipitate from the lubricant. PPDs slowly increase the oil’s velocity with decreasing temperature, as it does above the cloud point, but prevent the rapid increase in viscosity associated with waxy crystal formation.

“PPDs are polymeric materials made from many different polymer chemistries such as acrylates, styrenes, alpha olefins, vinyl acetates and others. These chemistries, when polymerised, form a linear backbone that can have side chains with varying long (waxy) and short (non-waxy) hydrocarbons. Imagine the polymers similar to a hair comb, but with long and short teeth. This structure inhibits the formation of wax crystals by virtue of the long-chain portions of the PPD partially co-crystallising with the wax and the short chains aiding in solubilising the lubricant’s complex.

“A dominant chemistry used for PPDs is the polymethylmethacrylates (PMAs), which have an inherent oxidative and thermal stability, making them ideal for engine oils. This meets requirements of automotive OEMs for low-temperature pumpability of used engine oils. In addition to concern about wax-crystal formation, there are the effects of oxidation on the oil forming polar molecular species that can also form gels and raise the used oil’s viscosity. Thus, PPDs are hardly depressing but are one more tool formulator that enhances lubricants’ performance in engines, transmissions, gears and hydraulics.”

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## New state oil company aims to rescue South Africa’s ‘Energy Crisis’

By Larry Claasen

SOUTH Africa launched the South African National Petroleum Company (SANPC), merging three state entities to tackle collapsing refinery capacity and soaring fuel imports.

Mineral Resources Minister Gwede Mantashe said at its launch in May that it was a “significant turning point” for energy security.

The new company was formed by combining Central Energy Fund (CEF) subsidiaries iGas, PetroSA, and the Strategic Fuel Fund (SFF).

### Refinery collapse drives crisis

Mantashe said the immediate goal of the SANPC was to increase the country’s refinery capacity, which has seen a sharp drop off over the past 15 years. This will see the reinstatement of PetroSA’s Gas-To-Liquids (GTL) refinery in Mosselbay and the rebuilding of the South African Petroleum Refinery (SAPREF) in Durban.

“Since 2009, South Africa has experienced a 11% year-on-year growth in imports of fuel relative to local

market production. This increase has largely been driven by a decline in local refinery capacity and the simultaneous increase in demand for refined products.”

He notes: “We cannot be complacent with a situation where local refining capacity accounted for about 80% of finished product consumed in 2010, compared to less than 35% in 2022.”

### Dealing with the ‘Gas Cliff’

Aside from producing refined oil, the looming “gas cliff” that will see South Africa not being able to meet its industrial gas needs in some time in 2028, is also something Mantashe hoped the new entity could tackle.

“With the ever-growing demand for natural gas, in addition to the supply constraints, as well as inadequate petroleum development due to pressure from lobby groups against oil and gas developments, our nation is set to experience a gas deficit in the coming years.”

He was looking to the iGas structure in SANPC to provide solutions to the gas crisis.

“Although iGas has historically been a suc-



cessful, yet inactive, custodian of South Africa’s gas infrastructure, the SANPC is expected to become an active participant in gas infrastructure.”

### Governance reforms

Mantashe might see SANPC as one of the solutions to the country’s energy challenges, merging the three entities was not hassle free. For example, out of the three merging entities, only iGas and SFF were financially viable to be merged into the new company, according to a government statement put out a year ago.

At the time, governance issues at PetroSA meant the only financially viable division to be merged into the new company was its trading supply and logistics operation.

To enable the entity to deliver on its mandate, Mantashe

said good governance had to be ensured, so as to reduce both the operational and financial risks. “Hence, we swiftly appointed the board of directors, an interim CEO, as well as the non-executive directors in April last year.”

Godfrey Moagi, the former CEO of the SFF, has taken over as SANPC CEO.

### Fossil fuel gambit vs climate goals

The SANPC’s mandate, however, of fostering fossil fuels clashes with global decarbonisation trends. Mantashe acknowledged the “shift to cleaner energy”, but he defended fossil fuels as critical for “industrial growth” and energy security. The entity will oversee offshore oil and gas exploration, despite environmental opposition and risks of stranded assets.

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## Holistic approach required for forklift safety - CFAO



FORKLIFTS play a pivotal role in logistics and material handling, particularly as South Africa's freight and logistics market is projected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 6,24% from 2024 to 2030.

While forklifts increase operational efficiency, they also pose significant safety risks if not handled properly. Inadequate safety measures can lead to accidents, causing damage to goods, injuries to people and, in severe cases, fatalities.

In South Africa, forklift operations are primarily governed by the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) (Act 85 of 1993) and associated regulations such as the General Machinery and Driven Machinery Regulations.

These guidelines are designed to safeguard the health and safety of workers involved in material handling operations by reducing risks and preventing accidents associated with improper forklift use.

At Toyota Material Handling, a division of CFAO Equipment, forklift safety is more than just a matter of compliance – it is a core commitment to

protecting both employees and operational continuity.

### How technology enhances forklift safety

Jenna Botterill, Toyota Material Handling Corporate sales executive, says while traditional safety measures such as operator training and wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) are important, technology has significantly enhanced forklift safety.

"One of the most ground-breaking innovations in this field is Toyota's System of Active Stability™ (SAS), which is instrumental in preventing accidents such as forklift tip-overs, one of the most common causes of major injury in forklift accidents."

The patented SAS technology actively monitors and controls a forklift's stability using advanced sensors and an on-board controller. This system, which is featured on all Toyota material handling equipment, significantly improves load-handling performance and prevents accidents by intervening when a forklift is at risk of becoming unstable.

What sets the SAS

(System of Active Stability) apart are its two core safety features: the Active Control Rear Stabiliser and the Active Mast Function Controller. Working in tandem, these systems enhance lateral stability during turns and help prevent tip-overs, particularly when handling heavy or unbalanced loads.

For example, the Active Control Rear Stabiliser detects when the forklift's rear axle is swinging too far to one side during a turn. If a dangerous situation is detected, the system locks the rear axle to stabilise the forklift, thereby preventing a tip-over.

Another key safety feature of SAS is the Active Mast Function Controller. This system ensures that the mast angle adjusts automatically to match the lift height and load weight, preventing dangerous forward or backward tipping. Additionally, the system controls mast tilt speed to avoid load spills during operation, further enhancing the stability of the forklift.

### Overcome human error with operator training

While advanced safety technology plays a significant role in forklift safety, human error also contributes significantly to forklift-related accidents, making thorough operator training essential. Training should cover not only the technical aspects of operating a forklift, but also the safe practices required to reduce the risk of accidents.

Botterill says CFAO Equipment has be-

come a trusted partner for operator training nationally, establishing an accredited Training Academy with fully equipped training facilities in each major region across South Africa.

"We conduct theoretical classroom-based training, practical workshop training, instructor-led virtual training sessions and e-learning to ensure the operators can handle forklifts safely and efficiently."

Operators are also supported by forklift safety features such as the Operator Presence Sensing System (OPS). The system ensures that the forklift cannot operate unless the operator is properly seated at the controls. If the operator leaves the seat, the system automatically disables the forklift's ability to lower forks or tilt the mast, preventing unintentional movements that could cause injury or damage.

Another invaluable safety feature is the Blue Light, which projects a blue beam of light onto the ground to alert pedestrians of a forklift's presence. This simple yet effective system helps prevent accidents by making forklift movements more visible to those around the machine.

As South Africa's logistics market continues to expand, the need for safe material handling practices will only increase. "Investing in the latest technology and appropriate training bodes well for the wellbeing of workers, the longevity of the equipment and the overall success of the business," concludes Botterill.

## This year's retail season gets a major boost as mega cranes arrive at DCT Pier 2



THE Durban Container Terminal (DCT) Pier 2 has received components for the first two of four ship-to-shore cranes, ensuring their readiness to efficiently handle increased container volumes during this year's Christmas season.

maintenance of terminal equipment.

Managing executive at the Durban Terminals, Earle Peters said, "The South quay has been under immense pressure due to the limitations of our ageing crane fleet. The arrival of these Lieb-

twinn-lift capacity, with a seaside rail outreach of 65m to the centre of the spreader.

The lifting height above the quayside is an impressive 43m. Additionally, the cranes have been engineered with an offset landside bogie, allowing for adaptability from the current 28,5m rail gauge to a 30,48m rail gauge, facilitating possible relocation to other berths in the future.

DCT Pier 2 recently took delivery of 20 straddle carriers, 40 haulers, 22 forklifts, 26 trailers, and two reach stackers, some of which have been handed over to support ongoing operations and improve cargo handling capacity.

Over the last 18 months, a total investment of approximately R1,5-billion has been spent in equipment replacements at the country's biggest and largest container facility in a bid to unlock trade and ensure South Africa's competitiveness globally.

"The new cranes will replace the old cranes that have been in operation for over two decades, with the first two ship-to-shore cranes planned to be operational in October 2025 and the other two in November 2025."

The ship-to-shore cranes load and offload containers on calling vessels and are the single most expensive piece of equipment in terminal operations – valued at R242-million each.

DCT Pier 2 has been renewing its fleet with state-of-the-art cargo handling equipment to ensure an improved service for its customers, with long-term contracts in place for the purchasing and

herr cranes marks a major step forward in restoring reliability, boosting productivity, and ensuring we meet the evolving demands of global trade."

The new cranes will replace the old cranes that have been in operation for over two decades, with the first two ship-to-shore cranes planned to be operational in October 2025 and the other two in November 2025. Each crane boasts a 65-ton



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# Condra's Africa orders escalate with innovative crane solutions



Condra hoists and overhead crane.

AUTHORISED agents in sub-Saharan Africa are delivering a string of orders to overhead crane and hoist manufacturer Condra, among them an unpack-and-go machine whose shipping containers will become the crane's gantry.

### Container-based crane innovation: Lynx Supply and Services

The design of this 5-ton double-girder crane, a one-off currently under manufacture for mine maintenance, makes use of the two 12-metre delivery containers as gantry supports. After hoist, crab, girders, end-carriages and other components have been unpacked for assembly, an installation team will position the containers exactly 9,8 metres apart, then bolt rails to their tops to form the gantry. A roof will weather-proof the resulting 120 m<sup>2</sup> workshop.

The company behind this container crane is Lynx Supply and Services, Condra's authorised agent in Tanzania.

Lynx recently placed additional orders on Condra for wheel blocks, miscellaneous spare parts and a separate 10-ton, 10-metre-span single-girder gantry crane for an unnamed mining house. Lynx will carry out installation and commissioning of both overhead cranes.

### Ghana portal crane overcomes load challenges with smart design

Other recent orders from sub-Saharan Africa include a 10-ton portal crane for a maintenance application in Ghana. The design of this crane overcomes

floor loading limitations by spreading the machine mass across multiple nylon-treaded wheels at the base of the portal's supporting legs.

The Ghanaian portal machine is linked to two further crane orders from the same customer, one of them for installation in Saudi Arabia. There are also enquiries from Chile and Peru, where Condra is reestablishing agency relationships adversely affected by the Coronavirus pandemic.

### Condra looks to further expand its sub-Saharan agent network

Besides Lynx Supply and Services, Condra's sub-Saharan agent network includes Integrated Engineering Services in Zambia, Integrated Engineering Services in the DRC, Namcranes in Namibia and KL Cranes in Botswana. Management is identifying additional potential agents in Ghana, Mozambique and Kenya.

### Reliable after-sales support with rapid response minimises crane downtime

A Condra spokesman claimed that, while many crane companies offer aggressive pricing into Africa, none can match Condra's level of technical service and after-sales support. The spokesman was emphatic that service support is vital to machine up-time.

"Service proximity and availability must be carefully considered alongside purchase price if losses due to downtime are not to negate and even exceed the initial savings of an

attractive price," said the spokesman.

"Condra has long and strong relationships with agents across sub-Saharan Africa to deliver the necessary rapid response time on service calls.

"Our Johannesburg spares division will deliver parts anywhere in Africa in five days or less, minimising production losses due to crane downtime.

"In South Africa we deliver in a maximum of 48 hours." The spokesman emphasised that it is production downtime that costs the customer money, not the crane's purchase price.

"You can save money by buying a crane at a more competitive price, but the savings on the day of purchase will be lost many times over in downtime if a spare part has to come from overseas."

### Condra's robust cranes withstand harsh environments

The spokesman explained that a second factor related to costly downtime is the degree to which the crane may be described as robust, which is important because of the heavy-handed nature of many operators, and the harsh operating environments often found in Africa.

Condra claims a design philosophy focused on robust strength and durability, the success of which is reflected in a solid reputation for mechanical reliability under corrosive and abrasive environments, and under wide extremes of temperature, humidity and altitude.

Visit Condra's website: [www.condra.co.za](http://www.condra.co.za)

# Unlocking the power of versatility with truck-mounted cranes - CFAO

THE truck-mounted crane market in South Africa is expanding rapidly, driven by the demand for durable, versatile equipment capable of performing in challenging environments.

Recognising this trend, 600SA, a division of CFAO Equipment, recently secured exclusive distribution rights for the PESCI® COPMA® range of truck-mounted cranes in South Africa and sub-Saharan Africa. This strategic move addresses a growing customer need and enhances 600SA's crane offerings.

Sonia Pretorius, national sales manager for 600SA, says truck-mounted cranes are revolutionising the industry. "These cranes offer the perfect solution for almost any application, whether customers are investing in new or pre-owned equipment."

One of the key benefits of truck-mounted cranes is their ability to streamline operations by combining transport and lifting capabilities. This eliminates the need for separate lifting equipment at both ends, especially in remote locations where such resources are unavailable.

Speed and efficiency are also major advantages. These cranes feature quick setup and deployment, significantly reducing downtime and accelerating project timelines. Their versatility allows them to handle a wide range of tasks, from lifting and transporting, to operating with additional components such as jibs, remote controls and work platforms.

Truck-mounted cranes serve diverse industries, including construction, mining, logistics, infrastructure,



agriculture, rigging and emergency services. "For instance, lifting heavy bathtubs into high-rise buildings is possible thanks to cranes with a reach of 15m to 27m, or more with a jib," says Pretorius.

Their on-demand functionality ensures operations can proceed without delay, whether it comes to felling trees, moving concrete or loading containers. This immediate availability is especially valuable where loading bays are absent.

Pretorius adds that PESCI-COPMA's knuckle-boom feature

enhances flexibility in tight spaces or when working close to the truck. "600SA provides pre-purchase consultations, truck-to-crane stability assessments and comprehensive operator training to ensure safety and optimal performance." Ultimately, truck-mounted cranes from 600SA are more than just equipment, they're a powerful, all-in-one investment that allows businesses to expand their capabilities, generate additional revenue and maintain a competitive edge in the marketplace.

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# Liebherr marks 25 years of RTGs with enhanced product range



LIEBHERR marks 25 years of RTG innovation with a next-gen range offering five base models: electric, hybrid and VSG. Designed for efficiency, sustainability and performance, the RTGs are backed by advanced modelling software, helping terminals choose the right solution to optimise operations and cut emissions.

supply, requiring fixed conductor bar infrastructure.

- ERTG-CRD (Electric, Cable Reeling Drum) – A fully electric RTG with a flexible power feed, utilising a reeling drum for cable management.
- RTG-HC (Hybrid, Capacitor) – A hybrid RTG utilising

diesel RTG with optimised performance, reducing fuel consumption compared to standard diesel RTGs.

### Sustainability and flexibility

With a choice of electric and hybrid models, along with a variable speed generator option, sustainability and flexibility are the key drivers in the range. According to MD-Engineering at Liebherr Container Cranes, Charlie McCarthy, the range allows customers to advance their environmental ambitions and plan for a net zero future.

“Our range of RTGs offers unparalleled flexibility and choice, to meet diverse operational requirements. Our electric RTGs operate with zero local emissions while our hybrid models deliver exceptional performance alongside significant reductions in emissions, running costs and maintenance. Additionally, our variable speed generator RTGs provide exceptional performance and a substantial decrease in emissions compared to traditional diesel machines. Liebherr’s proprietary software enables advanced simulations and energy

modelling, predicting fuel and energy consumption, for various power system configurations based on clients’ specific operational scenarios.”

He adds: “This allows us to accurately simulate customers’ operations to explore and optimise alternative operating scenarios. Furthermore, by accommodating local and regional economic factors, we can conduct comprehensive economic assessments to identify the optimal machine for a customer’s setup, considering both cost and performance.”

Together, these options offer terminal operators a clear, sustainable path to improved operational performance.

### A legacy of progress

Since the introduction of its first RTG, Liebherr has consistently led the way in RTG development, integrating industry-leading innovations to enhance performance and sustainability.

The adoption of an eight-rope reeving system from the outset, has offered significantly improved load stability and reduced sway, facilitating precise container handling. This hasn’t changed. The eight-rope reeving system remains central to the RTG, delivering the same core benefits of stability and precision. It is complemented by the Liebherr Liduro drive system and a wide selection of power options.

Productivity aids and automation features have also evolved, from early destination control to today’s advanced solutions that support full autonomy or remote operation, both wired and wireless.

# Smart features increase crane safety - Konecranes



THE newly launched Konecranes S series hoist offers a large bouquet of smart features which not only increases lifting device safety but also delivers a higher level of operator protections.

“Skimping on crane and crane operator safety can lead to major accidents that no company would wish to experience,” says Ian Grobler, sales manager for Konecranes and Demag South Africa. “Smart features give you greater control of material handling in your production processes. From the moment operators take charge of the crane, their work becomes easier and safer due to the reduced chance of human error.”

Grobler adds that the S series hoist also features Konecranes’ world leading synthetic wire rope that offers advantages such as higher strength, reduced weight and increased durability, particularly in light to medium lifting applications where safety and less maintenance are key requirements.

### Benefits of smart features

Konecranes, acknowledged as a leader in crane component design that translates into a safer and more productive lifting experience, offers a wide range of smart features that can be activated upon requirement, such as:

- Slack Rope Prevention: When using a lifting device such as a coil tong, pressing tool tong or lifting beam, this feature prevents hoist ropes from becoming slack,

preventing the lifting device from falling or tilting.

- Microspeed and Inching: Heavy lifting in assembly can mean highly accurate positioning in a tight space is needed. Microspeed makes movement slow and exact and inching allows the operator to move the loads in small increments.

- Working Limits: Used occasionally when you have transport vehicles entering your facility, this feature builds temporary walls where the crane is designed to automatically stop.

- Protected Areas: Where incoming materials are regularly offloaded/uploaded from trucks or forklifts, this allows you to define a protected area where the crane is not permitted to enter.

- Sway Control and Active Sway Control: Controlling the acceleration and deceleration of the bridge and trolley, allows faster load handling and more precise positioning while reducing the risk of damage to the load, crane and surrounding area. Sway Control dampens existing load sway.

- Snag Prevention: This stops crane movement if the hook, sling or load accidentally catches on something, thereby preventing damage in the load, crane and operational areas.

- Target Positioning: Moves the load from one of eight possible

home positions to one of 120 pre-set target positions. It reduces cycle times and enhances safety.

Many other features such as Hook Centering, Follow Me, Advanced Speed and Extended Range, Load Floating and Hoisting Synchronisation offer safety elements in addition to their prime function of reducing wear on mechanical parts and increasing productivity.

Konecranes’ smart features are already installed in the S series and are easily activated. They can also be loaded onto existing cranes.

“We can customise a package of the smart features that are required to suit a customer’s production and operational requirements. Ultimately they enable the operator to have greater control of the crane, which leads to a safer environment, increased production, less downtime and smart operator performance,” comments Grobler.

### Consultative process

“Our goal is everyone home safe, every day. The S series with its smart features and synthetic wire rope is another way we showcase our experience and expertise and how it can make a difference on the factory floor. Our lifting equipment is designed with an operator’s safety being paramount. We engage with our customers through a consultative, open and transparent approach so that we can deliver measurable improvements that embrace safety, productivity and sustainability,” concludes Grobler.

“The adoption of an eight-rope reeving system from the outset, has offered significantly improved load stability and reduced sway, facilitating precise container handling.”

Designed to meet the ever-changing demands of terminal operations, the next generation of Liebherr RTGs delivers optimised efficiency, reduced emissions, and superior performance, ensuring operators can easily select the ideal solution for their operational needs.

### The five base models in the range are:

- RTG-CB (Electric, Conductor Bar) – A fully electric RTG with a continuous power

super-capacitors for energy recovery in combination with a smaller diesel generator. Offers the lowest capex investment and fastest pay-back period for a hybrid system.

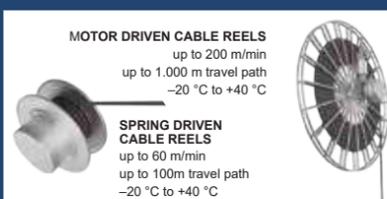
- RTG-HB (Hybrid, Battery) – A diesel-electric hybrid RTG utilising battery energy storage, designed for optimal fuel saving and emissions reductions.
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## BCCEI drives stability and structure in civil engineering sector



The BCCEI's role in dispute resolution supports swift sector-specific outcomes that prevent costly project delays.

AS South Africa intensifies its focus on infrastructure development to stimulate economic growth, the need for a robust and well-regulated civil engineering sector has never been more urgent. At the centre of this stability is the Bargaining Council for the Civil Engineering Industry (BCCEI) which plays a strategic role in fostering fair labour practices, ensuring compliance and enabling collaboration across all levels of the industry.

"The BCCEI exists to ease the administrative and regulatory pressures that employers and labour face so they can focus on delivering infrastructure," explains Lindie Fourie, operations manager at the BCCEI. "We manage key processes, provide clarity and offer a platform where both employers and employees can work together on fair enforceable labour standards."

This is achieved through six collective agreements that define everything from working conditions to retirement benefits. These legally binding frameworks eliminate the inconsistency that often undermines project efficiency, especially on public sector jobs. With recent amendments to the Wage and Task Grade and Conditions of Employment Collective Agreements now in effect, it is crucial that all parties familiarise themselves with the updates to maintain compliance.

The BCCEI's Dispute Resolution Collective Agreement allows for industry-specific arbitration, removing the need to approach general bodies like the CCMA. This streamlined sector-specific process enables timely resolution and prevents unnecessary project delays.

The BCCEI also

plays a powerful enabling role in skills development. Its ability to engage with Sector



Lindie Fourie, operations manager at the Bargaining Council for the Civil Engineering Industry (BCCEI).

Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) opens access to training grants and initiatives that are vital

to tackling the ongoing shortage of technical skills. "We use our position to link decision-makers and industry players, driving conversations that result in practical action," says Fourie.

Ultimately, the BCCEI's impact extends well beyond its immediate stakeholders. By creating a stable labour environment, it supports infrastructure projects that improve public services, enable job creation and stimulate investment. "Our collective agreements bring structure, order and fairness. That's not just good for industry - it's good for the country," Fourie concludes.

## Western Cape Rail Pilot aims to triple exports by 2035

By Larry Claasen

IN a move to shift traffic from road to rail, the Western Cape Mobility Department says it will pilot a 211km rail freight redevelopment corridor project between Bellville and Bredasdorp.

The department says the pilot's goal is part of its broader strategy to triple the Western Cape export value by 2035. The province sees growing exports as key to expanding the region's GDP to R1-trillion.

To achieve this, it must overcome barriers to efficient trade, including rail underperformance, road freight dominance, and the complexities of integrating these two modes into a multi-modal system.

### Leveraging the Freight Rail Revitalisation Framework

The department hopes lessons from the Western Cape Freight Rail Revitalisation Framework will help address these challenges. The pilot aims to establish a basis for private sector-led freight rail operations and explore opportunities to revitalise branch lines with private sector participation.



Western Cape Mobility Minister Isaac Sileku

It will work to remove infrastructure and regulatory constraints affecting rail viability, improve coordination through existing structures, and enhance the efficiency of the Port of Cape Town via an integrated supply chain approach to reduce costs.

### Integrated supply chain enhancements

In addition, it will work to improve the efficiency of the Port of Cape Town through an integrated supply chain approach that improves freight movement and reduces costs.

"The business case is a strategic initiative aimed at revitalising freight rail, focusing on reconnecting the agricultural region of Caledon with the Belcon Inner Terminal in

Bellville and the Port of Cape Town," said Western Cape Mobility Minister Isaac Sileku, in his budget speech.

### Framework for provincial corridor expansion

Darryl Jacobs, acting head of department, speaking at Rail Africa, said the pilot would help set up a framework for similar corridor projects in the province, as it was eventually looking at replicating it on the Ceres, Riebeeck West, and Atlantis rail links.

"We believe there are key barriers to efficient trade, mainly rail underperformance and road freight dominance, as well as the complexities of integrating these two modes into a mul-

ti-modal system," said Jacobs.

He adds: "The objective, very simply, is to develop a financially viable and bankable rail project by assessing long-term freight demand, operational feasibility, and investment potential."

He said digitalisation and the employment of tools such as AI would play a crucial role in overcoming trade barriers and unlocking trade efficiency.

### Harnessing digitalisation and Innovation

"The Western Cape government's proven innovative capacity can be leveraged to achieve this. I believe that this key point regarding digitalisation is that there are many costs and efficiency gains where we put out the need to invest in expanded rail networks."

Jacobs hoped that the impact of the project would not only be felt in the Western Cape, but also throughout Africa.

"And while our focus was largely on the Western Cape, the realities in Africa's infrastructure and supply chains are interconnected. We must see and encourage collaboration across the strategic regions, the African Union, and in support of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement."



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# Exposed aggregates in the spotlight as demand for surface retarders rises - Chryso

AN upward trend in the use of surface retarders in South Africa's construction and infrastructure sector is shining a spotlight on

the increasing popularity of exposed aggregate concrete finishes. According to Michelle Fick of Chryso Southern Africa, this trend

reflects a growing appreciation for both the aesthetic and functional benefits that exposed aggregate offers. "Exposed aggregate is

no longer just a decorative finish; it's being adopted across a wide range of applications from pavements and driveways to architec-

tural facades and public infrastructure," says Fick. "The textured non-slip surface offers a safer option for high traffic zones, while the natural stone aesthetic enhances the visual appeal of buildings and outdoor spaces."

in large-scale or architecturally sensitive projects. "The simplicity of the application process is another advantage," Fick explains. "After the concrete is poured, the surface retarder must be applied evenly

no toxic substances, is 85% biodegradable, classified as harmless and complies with EEC Directives 88/379 and 93/18. Fick notes that Chryso's surface retarders are developed with the applicator in mind, of-

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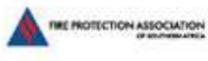
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Blending beauty with performance, exposed aggregate offers a visually appealing non-slip surface.

The finish is also ideal for preparing concrete surfaces that will receive a subsequent layer. Whether it is a waterproofing membrane, screed or cladding, the roughened texture created by the exposed aggregate allows for superior bonding, improving the durability and lifespan of the entire system. This makes it a preferred solution not only in aesthetic applications but also where structural performance is key.

Chryso Southern Africa offers surface retarders designed specifically to meet these evolving needs. The company's products facilitate reliable consistent exposure of the aggregate to the required depth – up to a maximum of 3 mm – ensuring a uniform and high quality result. This is essential for specialist applicators who rely on precision and repeatability, particularly

before the concrete begins to set. Following a predetermined curing period the surface is washed with water, removing the top layer of cement paste and revealing the aggregate below. A final sealant is then applied to enhance the surface's durability and finish."

Sealants can be selected to suit different environments and project needs including internal and external use, UV resistance and finishes ranging from matte to high-gloss. This flexibility allows architects and contractors to customise the final appearance while ensuring long term performance. Significantly, Chryso was the first manufacturer to offer a mineral solvent-free water-based retarder designed to prevent soil and groundwater pollution during the cleaning of treated concrete. The product contains

fering not only technical consistency but also ease of use in site conditions that can often be challenging. "Our retarders provide reliable performance even under variable temperature and humidity conditions, which is critical for projects with tight timelines and complex environmental demands."

With sustainability and safety continuing to drive specification choices in the built environment, the use of exposed aggregate finishes is expected to grow. "The combination of visual impact, surface durability, slip resistance and improved bonding makes it a smart choice for both new builds and renovations," Fick concludes. "As the trend gains momentum, we are committed to supporting the market with reliable solutions that ensure consistent high quality results."

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# The Construction Mafia Crisis: ISO 37001 May be South Africa's last line of defence against infrastructure corruption



Muhammad Ali, MD at WWISE.

CRIMINAL syndicates known as the construction mafia have brought South Africa's infrastructure sector to its knees, hijacking over 180 projects and causing an estimated R63-billion in economic damage, according to National Treasury.

These groups, often operating under the guise of community forums, use threats, extortion, and violence to force their way into government tenders and construction contracts.

While law enforcement has begun to respond, 745 extortion cases have been reported, and 240 arrests have been made since November 2024. Public Works and Infrastructure Minister Dean Macpherson admits that this is only the beginning.

"We are turning the tide," he said recently, but warned that corruption remains deeply entrenched in procurement systems and local government supply chains.

Against this backdrop, experts at WWISE (Worldwide Industrial and Systems Engineers) are calling for the widespread adoption of ISO 37001, a tool they believe could play a critical role in fortifying the

sector from within.

"This may be South Africa's last line of defence if we want to build infrastructure without bribery or intimidation," says Muhammad Ali, MD at WWISE.

"ISO 37001 helps organisations embed ethical conduct into every stage of a project, from procurement to execution, making it harder for criminal networks to manipulate the system."

ISO 37001 is not just a policy; it's a globally recognised standard, or in other words, a formalised, best-practice framework developed by international experts to help organisations detect and prevent bribery. As a standard, ISO 37001 establishes a uniform, auditable benchmark for anti-bribery management across industries, enabling companies and governments to foster transparency, demonstrate accountability, and safeguard their reputations.

"The standard requires top-level leadership commitment, risk assessments, strict financial controls, and confidential reporting systems," explains Ali. "It doesn't just help companies avoid corruption, it actively reshapes their culture."

Corruption in the construction industry not only inflates costs but also endangers lives. Ali notes that criminal infiltration has led to shutdowns, missed milestones, and Service Level Agreement (SLA) penalties. "We've seen cases where construction mafia threats delayed entire projects, with local authorities often turning a blind eye, or

worse, getting a cut," he says.

ISO 37001 offers practical safeguards. It ensures that tender documents are traceable and auditable. It enforces ethical vetting of suppliers and enshrines whistleblower protection through encrypted systems. "You can't bribe your way into a tender process governed by ISO 37001," says Ali.

Yet adoption of the standard remains frustratingly limited. "Most construction companies in South Africa haven't implemented it," Krause says. "The only time we see ISO 37001 considered is when international investors require it," Ali adds that public sector resistance is particularly troubling. "The fear is that ISO 37001 will expose misconduct," he says. "But that's the point. The excuses, 'too complex', 'too bureaucratic', don't hold water. This standard can be adapted to any organisation."

He points to a compelling case in Iraq, where a security company under attack from corrupt government officials used ISO 37001 to clear its name. "The audits exposed the wrongdoing, and the officials were jailed. That's the power of a strong, standardised anti-bribery framework."

For smaller contractors, who are often the most vulnerable to extortion, ISO 37001 can provide an essential shield if supported by law enforcement. "The problem may not be with the company," Ali warns, "but when it needs support, the authorities often fall short."

# PRASA property rentals targets R2-billion by 2035

By Larry Claasen

THE Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (PRASA) is looking to its commercial property operations to be a significant driver for its revenue growth.

The rail operator generated R707-million in rentals from its property portfolio for the year to end March 2025, and planned to grow it to R2-billion by 2035, said PRASA group CEO Hishaam Emeran at the Rail Africa conference in Sandton.

Though it's still early days, the strategy of increasing revenue from its property operations is paying off. "We've exceeded our target. Last year, we gave the team a target of R670-million, which they had to generate."

## PRASA property rentals growth trajectory

Over the past 15 years, PRASA's property division recorded significant growth in the rental space from R258-million in 2012/13 to R568-million in 2021/22 and R616-million in 2022/23.

Its property investment portfolio value grew from R924-million in 2012 to over R4-billion in 2021, with the highest growth of over R2-billion recorded in the Metrorail station environment, followed by the development leases at over R1-billion.

It's continuing this growth momentum as in the financial period to end 2024, the group finalised 24 of its property 26 development leases.

Emeran said the group was looking to operations, outside of its rail portfolio, to drive revenue because it fully understood



*Expanding its commercial property operation will make it less dependent on the national government for funding.*

that the national government was dealing with its own financing issues and would find it difficult to assist PRASA in future.

## PRASA property rentals secondary mandate importance

"We are all facing funding challenges. Therefore, the secondary mandate [like revenue from its property portfolio] becomes more critical."

Though the national government has committed itself to supporting the turnaround of state-owned enterprises like PRASA, it is increasingly asking them to partner with the private sector to source their own funding.

An example of the group turning to the private sector to help commercialise its property portfolio is the redevelopment of Cape Town station, where it partnered with developers through a long-term lease.

The Units on Cape Station redevelopment, in partnership with Eris Property Group, saw the creation of 7 000m<sup>2</sup> of retail development and 3 300 beds for student accommodation at a cost of over R1,2-billion.

## PRASA property rentals retail development anchors

The retail component is anchored by Spar, Clicks and Adidas. The food precinct is made up of amongst others, McDonalds, KFC, Debonairs, Pedros, Hungry Lion and Chicken Licken.

The student accommodation has amenities like laundry facilities, study and computer labs, games labs, TV rooms, Co-Lab lounges, a cinema, indoor gym, action soccer/netball/basketball courts, a braai area, on-site café and landscaped courtyards.

## PRASA property rentals pilot development model

Aadil Moosa, property manager of the Cape Station Precinct at Eris Property Group said the development could be an example for the rollout of similar developments across the country.

"With the public transport aspect - and massive tertiary education institutions just minutes away - Cape Station is a perfect pilot project for the city and the rest of South Africa. At Eris, we are excited to have a massive pipeline of development

projects being rolled in the next 5 to 10 years within the student accommodation sector."

Emeran said that in partnering up with PRASA, property developers had advantages that could see them get a better return.

"Show me another development... where you can develop to this level of bulk without requiring one parking bay. Why? Because we're both at a station. Mass transport."

## PRASA property rentals expansion pipeline

Aside from Cape Town Station, it's also looking to redevelop other major stations like Park Station in Johannesburg.

In Goodwood, it completed a social housing project in partnership with the Department of Social Housing. Around the country, there are developments."

## PRASA property rentals cross-sector synergy

The synergy of having rail linked to commercial property developments also pays off in other ways. PRASA, for example, made R22-million (a 55% increase) from advertising in 2024.

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## Energy-efficient compressor solutions by WCCE cut plant cost



By Diane Silcock

AN air compressor is a critical utility in manufacturing, yet it's often the 'forgotten utility' until something goes wrong. With the expertise and fresh perspective of Western Cape Compressors and Engineering (WCCE), manufacturers can enhance plant efficiency, reduce energy use, and significantly cut operating costs.

services include sales, rentals, engineering design, installation, piping, commissioning, maintenance, and predictive servicing.

### Energy-efficient compressor solutions for maximum plant efficiency

WCCE director, Guy Wilson, says, "We are very conscious in terms of offering a solution that is the most energy efficient, but at the same

fer multiple solutions for each application, WCCE/SACS delivers both premium and cost-effective compressor options, complemented by high quality air treatment and filtration systems.

### Driving energy efficiency and sustainability

The company's energy-efficient offerings include two-stage compressors that deliver superior specific power, resulting in lower overall plant operating costs. In addition, water-lubricated compressors offer high efficiency while serving as an environmentally-friendly alternative to traditional oil-free systems. For high-pressure applications, 40 Bar Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) solutions are also available.

These advanced systems are ideal for industries where air quality and environmental sustainability are critical—such as medical, food and beverage, PET packaging, pharmaceuticals, and green technologies.

### Proactive maintenance through smart technologies

WCCE and SACS deploy a proactive, tech-

nology-driven service model that includes:

- Real-time monitoring via IoT
- Leak detection
- Oil and vibration analysis
- Predictive maintenance

These tools enable clients to minimise unplanned downtime, extend equipment lifespan, and reduce long-term operational costs.

### Proven results in energy savings

The companies have delivered tangible cost-saving results across various sectors:

- Aluminium manufacturing: Secured contracts due to superior energy-efficient system design.
- Plastics packaging: Helped reduce energy consumption by implementing centralised and dedicated compressed air systems.
- Aquaculture (trout farming): Achieved a 35% reduction in energy usage through advanced two-stage, variable speed drive (VSD), and permanent magnet (PM) technologies.

Educating clients on the energy and cost savings achievable through the right compressor design and system configuration is central to WCCE/SACS's approach—ensuring compressors are no longer treated as the 'forgotten utility'.

"We provide our clients with more than one solution, including the pros and cons of each," Wilson concludes. "That way, they can make informed decisions that suit both their budgets and operational needs."

## Interwaste explores how food packaging waste challenges South Africa's zero waste to landfill ambitions

By Justin Bott, CEO at Interwaste

SUSTAINABILITY has become the watchword for South African corporates, as they grapple with both the public's demand for environmentally friendly products and the demands of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) reporting. However, this shift is now not only fostering collaboration between waste producers and managers to develop solutions that meet both environmental and regulatory expectations, but is reshaping business practices for a more circular and responsible economy.

"...we need to start at a company level, where organisations examine its entire value chain to see how and where waste is created and therefore reduced, as well as where waste can be re-used, recycled or repurposed."

And it's not hard to understand why. Globally, 1,05-billion tonnes of food goes to waste and in South Africa, almost 10,3-million tons of food goes to waste annually, however, the packaging that accompanies this waste, has exacerbated the strain on our waste management systems.

As a result, in an effort to manage these numbers, companies are now examining business models that allow them to correctly move from the line-

ar take-make-dispose model to a system that minimises waste, conserves energy and raw materials, and reintegrates excess back into the cycle – what has been termed the 'circular economy'.

At Interwaste, this principle is brought to life through practical, scalable solutions such as composting, which allows for the organic fraction of packaging waste—often tied to food disposal—to be diverted from landfill and transformed into nutrient-rich compost that feeds agricultural soils.

In parallel, our Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) technology enables the conversion of non-recyclable packaging waste into a fuel substitute used in industrial applications such as cement kilns—offering a valuable landfill alternative and reducing dependency on fossil fuels.

It's no surprise then that companies are using this type of data to drive innovative, sustainable packaging designs—incorporating biodegradable, compostable, and recyclable materials, as well as reusable systems that support a zero-waste-to-landfill approach.

However, if South Africa is to reach its zero waste to landfill goal by 2030, the reality is that 90% of waste from landfills must still be diverted correctly – and this means not merely just making use of recycling and reuse, by beneficiation technologies as well as, if we want to create value-adding opportunities which have the potential to create numerous environmental,

social, and economic opportunities for South Africa.

Simply put, achieving a zero-waste, sustainable country starts with better management of waste at its source - supported by innovative solutions, as well as an effective recycling system and a widespread culture of responsible consumption.

And we need to start at a company level, where organisations examine its entire value chain to see how and where waste is created and therefore reduced, as well as where waste can be re-used, recycled or repurposed. This approach, when applied correctly, will not only divert a large amount of our waste from landfill disposal, but it has the potential to create numerous environmental and social opportunities for South Africans, including economic ones.

While tackling food packaging waste requires navigating a complex web of environmental, economic, and social challenges, meaningful progress is within reach - if industry leaders, policymakers, and consumers unite behind bold, innovative action. Certainly, as a waste management company, Interwaste is not just a participant in this process, but a key driver of the transition to a truly circular economy – leveraging technologies like RDF and composting to turn waste into opportunity. We remain committed to delivering sustainable solutions that make a lasting impact.



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"In 1977, Nippon Thompson - a leading international bearings manufacturer - awarded BMG exclusive distribution rights for the Japanese IKO range in South Africa and more than 47 years later, this partnership is still in place," explains Ziyaad Shaik, business unit manager of BMG's Bearings Division.

"IKO components - which also incorporate rails, ball screws, bushings and shafts - are engineered to provide high speed, precision and durability, making them essential for industries that require smooth, controlled movement and long-term reliability.

"There is a growing trend for companies in the packaging and paper sector to move away from manual machine operation to specialised mechanisation. BMG has made a substantial investment in expanding our product range to meet specific demand in both standard and highly complex applications.

"Apart from paper and packaging, IKO linear motion products are designed for OEMs, the machine tool sector, automotive plants, design houses, beverage plants, robotics, brick and glass manufacturing, as well as for advanced measuring systems. Our range ensures excellent accuracy, smooth linear motion, easy integration, energy saving and environmental protection.

"Key to precision instruments are linear guides, which are used in conjunction with compact ball screws that are locked onto a platform and linked to a servo motor, to produce linear motion. The primary function of the guide is to allow the platform to maintain high precision, high rigidity and high load motion." BMG can offer custom manufacturing of ball screws from customer samples or customer drawings. It also carries a wide range of standard rolled and ground ball screws, and has a large stock holding of linear guides and rails.

The team focuses on optimising productivity, minimising downtime and reducing operational costs for companies in all sectors.

Their customised solutions-based approach to engineering reduces the total costs of owning and

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comprises ball, roller and linear bearings - ranging in size from miniature to extremely large units. Their product offering is enhanced by techni-

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# Polyco drives growth of micro-recycling businesses through RLabs partnership



lion lives through its innovative work in fostering hope, innovation, technology, training, and economic opportunities.

RLabs has provided skills training and economic empowerment programmes to more than 2,5-million people, with an ambitious goal to reach 2-billion individuals by 2030, prioritising expansion across Africa.

Through its Reconstructed Living Labs (ReCha) Waste Sourcing Expansion Model, RLabs leverages infrastructure and buy-back systems to support micro-entrepreneurs in recycling, creating economic opportunities while driving environmental sustainability in underserved communities.

“At Polyco, we are committed to fostering innovation in waste management and supporting initiatives that empower communities,” said Patricia Pillay, CEO of

“Through its growing network of recycling champions and micro-recycling enterprises, RLabs, in collaboration with Polyco, is ensuring that waste reclaimers have access to the resources and infrastructure they need to succeed.”

Polyco. “Our sponsorship of RLabs reflects our dedication to environmental sustainability and aligns with our mission to create opportunities for micro-entrepreneurs in the recycling sector. RLabs’ transformative work is a testament to the power of collaboration in addressing environmental challenges while uplifting individuals and businesses.”

Through its growing network of recycling champions and micro-recycling enterprises, RLabs, in collaboration with Polyco, is ensuring that waste reclaimers have access to the resources and infrastructure they need to succeed. By integrating accredited buy-back

centres and adhering to strict health and safety standards, RLabs promotes responsible and sustainable waste management while uplifting local communities.

“RLabs is grateful for the support received from Polyco. It has enhanced our operational efficiencies and created greater value for our recycling community and network,” said Craig Du Mont, director at RLabs.

This collaboration underscores Polyco’s long-term commitment to sustainability and socio-economic development, ensuring a cleaner, more inclusive, and environmentally responsible future for all South Africans.

IN a crucial step toward advancing South Africa’s green economy, Polyco today officially launched its partnership with Reconstructed Living Labs (RLabs), a globally recognised non-profit organisation, to expand recycling infrastructure and empower micro-recycling businesses. Backed by a R500 000 sponsorship,

this collaboration will enhance RLabs’ recycling operations, foster sustainability-driven entrepreneurship, create new opportunities for informal waste reclaimers, and empower income-generating activities by integrating them into the formal circular economy. This funding will enable the organisation to scale its impact by pro-

viding essential infrastructure and resources, including:

- H2O Baling Machine: Enhancing efficiency in compacting recyclable materials
- One 12m Container: Providing additional storage for collected recyclables
- Weigh Pay System:

Supporting accurate tracking and collection of recyclable materials to ensure data-driven operations.

Founded in 2009 in Bridgetown, Cape Town, RLabs is an award-winning organisation operating in 24 countries across five continents. To date, RLabs has positively impacted over 60-mil-

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- ▶ Bushings not subject to wear



# Tripling 2023 recycling rates, Tetra Pak® demonstrates commitment to sustainability



TETRA Pak® Southern Africa is proud to announce a significant sustainability achievement, with a 26% collection rate for post-consumer Liquid Board Packaging (LBP) recorded in 2024. This milestone highlights the substantial increase from the collection for recycling rate of 8% in 2023.

“Tetra Pak continues to be the principal producer driving LBP recycling in South Africa.”

The percentage of LBP placed on the market by Tetra Pak® that was ultimately recycled similarly leapt from 8% to 24%, underscoring its progress towards the goal of 40% recycling by 2030. These results, achieved in partnership with the producer responsibility organisation Petco, also met the legislated annual targets for the recycling of its cartons set by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment. This impressive growth has been driven by strategic partnerships and investments in South Africa’s recycling ecosystem. Collaborations with major recyclers Mpac and Gayatri Paper Mills have allowed Tetra Pak® cartons to become an integral part of their operations, helping to advance the recycling infrastructure across the country.

Reflecting on the

three-fold growth from 2023, Masale Manoko, Tetra Pak’s sustainability manager, says the achievement highlights the successful results of collaborative efforts. “Achieving 26% collection and 24% recycling rates is testament to the power of partnerships and innovation. By working closely with our PRO, recyclers, communities, and other stakeholders, we’re not only meeting our extended producer responsibility commitments but also fostering a culture of recycling that contributes to a sustainable future.” Manoko also highlighted Tetra Pak’s commitment to education and community outreach. “In 2024, we invested an additional R3,5-million to enhance our collection systems.

As part of this, we deployed eleven young professionals to serve as recycling champions across the country, educating waste pickers and buy-back centres about carton recycling. These efforts are laying the foundation for a more inclusive and robust recycling value chain in South Africa.”

### Leading the way in carton recycling

Klaus Plenge, MD of Tetra Pak® Southern Africa, noted the company’s leadership role in the region’s carton recycling efforts. “Tetra Pak continues to be the principal producer driving LBP recycling in South Africa. With over R20 million invested in 2024, we are proud to lead this charge, creating partnerships and making long-term investments that contribute to sustainability and the de-

velopment of a circular economy.”

### Strengthening partnerships

In collaboration with Petco, Tetra Pak® has further expanded its impact on the recycling landscape. Petco has embraced LBP collection and recycling as part of its expanded vision for building a sustainable packaging value chain.

Petco CEO Telly Chauke has applauded the growth figures. “Petco’s exceptional results for our LBP scheme are proof of what’s possible when organisations share a common vision. We’d like to thank Tetra Pak for their consistent support and engagement, and investing in this shared success. By leveraging Petco’s nearly two decades of experience in recycling, we’ve been able to establish a sustainable model for LBP recycling that will benefit both Tetra Pak® and the environment for years to come, and these audited results stand as testament to an extended producer responsibility model that works.”

### Empowering the next generation

As part of its sustainability goals, Tetra Pak® continues to inspire young minds through initiatives like the 2024 Recycle Carton School Competition. In partnership with Orange Grove Dairy, RFG Foods, and Woodlands Dairy, the campaign reached over 300 000 students across 320 schools in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape, and Western Cape.

# Landfill and Waste Treatment 2025 Conference & Exhibition

By Larry Claasen

THE Landfill and Waste Treatment 2025 Conference & Exhibition will be held at the Riverside Hotel, Durban.

The theme of the conference is a play on the word “landfill” to indicate that many landfill sites are nearing capacity, or are filling up faster than planned. Hence there is a need to deliberate on the need for landfill sites in the future, and look to waste treatment technologies as alternatives or adjuncts to waste disposal by landfill.

Landfill and Waste Treatment 2025 will be held from 22 to 24 October and is a premier event for those involved with waste disposal by landfill, as well as waste treatment technologies. The event will provide delegates with the opportunity to

learn about the latest techniques and developments, while providing a forum for the exchange of knowledge and ideas.

The conferences typically attract 120-150 delegates with plenary sessions for the technical presentations and 10-12 stands in the exhibition area.

Delegates have a range of knowledge and expertise in various relevant fields including:

- Landfill construction and operations
- Waste transportation
- Civil and geotechnical engineering
- Geosynthetics
- Waste compaction
- Waste transportation
- Waste treatment equipment
- Alternative treatment/management technologies and operations (such as refuse derived fuels, waste to energy

plants and funding models).

This conference will attract decision makers from government and the private sector, prospective users, academics, vendors and suppliers, policy makers and representatives of various national organisations working in the arena of Landfill and Alternative Waste Treatment.

The Landfill and Waste Treatment 2025 Conference and Exhibition has a number of sponsorship opportunities available to businesses and organisations to increase their brand exposure and show their support for the waste management industry.

Sponsorship packages range from the exclusive premium packages to a variety of smaller packages, and tailor-made packages can also be discussed.

The Landfill and

Waste Treatment 2025 conference exhibition will cater for both outdoor and indoor space. The outdoor space is reserved for premium sponsors although any exhibitors requiring outdoor space can put in a request to the organising committee.

The indoor exhibition area consists of 10-12 table stands where manufacturers and professional service providers will be able to showcase products and services to potential clients throughout South Africa.

### Important dates for noting:

- Delegate registration opened 12 May 2025
- Abstract submission closed 31 May 2025
- First draft programme 14 July 2025
- Sponsorship and exhibition bookings and payment closes 19 September 2025

# Inhouse team develops SA’s first recyclable 7kg potato bags for Shoprite Group

THE Shoprite Group is the first South African retailer to launch a fully recyclable 7kg potato pocket – solving a complex packaging problem that has challenged the industry for years.

Used by millions of consumers annually, potato pockets consist of two layers – an outer layer and an inner wet-strength layer, which is moisture resistant and not recyclable through existing local facilities. This contributes significantly to landfill waste, with around 18 600 tons of potato pockets disposed of across South Africa in 2023.

The breakthrough came not from a supplier or consultancy, but from within. A team of five employees from various departments took on the challenge during a Shoprite leadership development programme presented in partnership with the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS).

Tasked with solving a real-world business problem through an Action Learning Project (ALP), they set out to make the group’s 7kg potato pockets recyclable, reusable or compostable.

What appeared to be a straightforward task quickly revealed deep



supply chain complexity. Potato bags require an inner wet-strength layer to absorb any moisture – a specification set by industry body, Potato SA – which made them incompatible with standard recycling processes. A CSIR study had previously concluded that recycling these linings would require the construction of specialised plants, however this would come at a cost of around R30-million each.

Over six months, the team mapped the entire value chain, engaging with various paper mills, packaging manufacturers, recyclers, retailers, consumers and waste pickers. They investigated international alternatives, evaluated repurposing claims, and

probed whether consumer return schemes or even reuse in the construction industry could be viable. None of these were feasible for the local market.

The breakthrough came when long-standing multinational paper supplier Billerud, one of three major suppliers of potato pocket material for the local market, learnt of the challenge. Their research and development team in Sweden took on the task of developing a new semi-wet-strength formulation that is recyclable in South Africa.

Although Billerud’s first formulation failed, a second attempt passed local recyclability tests, meaning it met all technical requirements, came at no additional

cost, and could be adopted without disrupting operations.

The new recyclable bag also passed shelf-life testing and will roll out across more than 1 400 Shoprite, Checkers and Usave supermarkets from May 2025.

As a result, the proportion of the Shoprite Group’s packaging that is recyclable, reusable or compostable will increase from 88,9% to 90% – firmly on track to meet its 2025 sustainable packaging targets.

Beyond environmental benefits, the change also creates economic opportunity. If adopted industry-wide, the new bag could unlock more than R22-million in potential income for South Africa’s informal waste pickers.



## ZITHANDE MZANSI GREEN SCHOOLS LAUNCH A COLLABORATION BETWEEN FIBRE CIRCLE AND STELLENBOSCH MUNICIPALITY, UNDER THE ZITHANDE MZANSI SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

### 1. INTRODUCTION

**Fibre Circle**, in collaboration with the **Stellenbosch Municipality** and the **Zithande Mzansi Schools Programme**, is pleased to present this proposal for the re-launch of the Green Schools Recycling Initiative. This renewed partnership aims to enhance environmental sustainability within Stellenbosch schools through the provision of recycling infrastructure, education, and long-term community involvement.



*Ms Edith Leeuta CEO of Fibre Circle, delivering her keynote address*

### 2. BACKGROUND

Environmental degradation and increasing landfill waste present ongoing challenges in South Africa. Schools are uniquely positioned to serve as change agents by instilling sustainable behaviours in learners from an early age. The Green Schools Programme previously provided a framework for environmental education and recycling efforts. Fibre Circle leveraged this platform to pilot the Zithande Mzansi Schools Programme at Webergedenk Primary School. As part of the pilot, Fibre Circle donated three color-coded recycling bins and learning materials. The pilot's success demonstrated the need to expand the initiative across all participating schools to ensure inclusivity, consistency, and maximum impact.



*MMC Cllr. Ndipiwe Olayi, delivering his keynote address*



*Mrs Natalie Harmse from SIG, a loyal partner of Fibre Circle*

### 3. OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of this collaboration are to:

- Provide schools with recycling infrastructure to support source separation of waste.
- Prevent recyclable materials, particularly paper, from being lost to landfills.
- Promote environmental awareness and sustainable habits among learners and school communities.
- Support schools through training, resources, and ongoing programme oversight.
- Foster academic and career pathways within the circular economy.

### 4. SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme will include:

- Distribution of colour-coded recycling bins to participating schools.
- Supply of educational materials aligned with the Zithande Mzansi Schools Programme.
- Scheduled collection of recyclable waste by the Municipality
- Ongoing training and knowledge-sharing sessions for educators and learners.
- Monitoring and evaluation of programme progress and outcomes.

### 5. PROGRAMME NEEDS AND SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

To ensure successful implementation and sustainability of the initiative, the following support is required:

- Infrastructure Support: Recycling bins, PPE, and plastic bags.
- Operational Support: Regular collection of recyclable materials.
- Educational Support: Training workshops, learning materials, and in-school awareness campaigns.
- Launch Event Logistics: Venue, transportation of learners, Catering of tea and lunch, refreshments, goodie bags items for learners and stakeholders, etc.



*Harry Gwala Secondary School Choir*

### 6. EDUCATIONAL IMPACT AND LONG-TERM VISION

Education is central to this initiative. Through consistent training and support, we aim to empower young people with the knowledge and tools needed to adopt environmentally responsible behaviours. Beyond classroom impact, the initiative opens pathways for learners to explore careers in environmental science, waste management, and the broader circular economy. This programme is not only about recycling – it is about creating a culture of environmental stewardship and responsibility that will extend beyond school grounds into homes, communities, and future professions.



*Ms Sangiwe Oliphant from Umhlabomhle waste. Fibre Circle's SMME partner from Khayelitsha*

### 7. CONCLUSION

This proposal outlines a renewed and strengthened commitment to environmental sustainability through school-based recycling initiatives. With the support of the Stellenbosch Municipality and the Zithande Mzansi Schools Programme and our partners who attended the launch, SIG, FairCape, Pick n Pay, and DFFE, Fibre Circle is confident in the transformative potential of this collaboration.

We invite you to endorse and support this programme in driving long-term environmental change and community empowerment.

**For further information, contact:**

Dumisani.Khumalo@fibrecircle.co.za or visit <https://fibrecircle.co.za/about/>



# BASANI FISHING GROUP'S GROWTH CREATES MORE JOBS IN ST HELENA BAY

By Diane Silcock



**HAKE deep-sea trawling** is a capital-intensive and financially high-risk industry that demands a highly qualified workforce. As a result, small operators often struggle to survive. The Basani Group, a vessel-owning company based in the Western Cape's West Coast, has navigated rough waters in more ways than one over the past 20 years. However, through sheer determination it has found success in exporting their hake to Spain.

The small town of St Helena Bay on the West Coast – which is fast becoming a popular tourist attraction – is home to Basani. The group provides much needed employment in the Western Cape and is expanding its operations in St Helena Bay, thereby creating further employment.

Arthur Shipalana, Basani Group CEO discusses the company's operations and the challenges it faces. "We took a huge financial risk as a small startup in acquiring a 35m trawl vessel to gain entry into the hake deep-sea trawling sector. We had to overcome significant challenges. However, through working closely with a Spanish partner, and local fishing companies ZWM Fishing and Visko Sea Products, today we own and operate two trawl vessels, three pelagic vessels, three squid vessels, a HACCP-certified hake factory in St Helena Bay, and we're expanding to resuscitate our bait business with the pilchards' gradual return to our coastline."

## BASANI CONTRIBUTES GREATLY TO LOCAL EMPLOYMENT UPLIFTING COMMUNITIES

Basani is revamping an existing building for conversion into a bait factory, the completion of which is imminent, and which will create employment for 60 additional workers (mainly women from Laingville in St Helena Bay). At their hake factory, the company already employs 40 workers from the community. Furthermore, across the 8 vessels that Basani operates, the sea-based crew employed amounts to around 150 people.

The squid business is located in the Eastern Cape where fishing takes place in Port Elizabeth (Gqeberha), Humansdorp and Jeffreys Bay, while hake is fished from Cape Town, and the small pelagics fished up the West Coast and occasionally along the South Coast.

## STRONG TIES WITH SPANISH COMPANY PROVE INVALUABLE TO BASANI

Almost 90% of the fish caught by Basani is shipped to one customer in Spain. Shipalana says that the relationship which exists between Basani and their Spanish customer, is at the centre of their success and survival. The Basani brand has grown to become one of the most respected and sought-after fish brands in Spain.

At Basani's hake factory, the fish is filleted, individually wrapped and packaged into 5kg portions for export to Spain. Initially, the hake was provided as H&G (head and gutted) but the filleted fish has proved more popular where it is mostly supplied to restaurants. The HACCP-certified operation was substantially revamped to fully comply with stringent European standards thereby enabling Basani to export to the EU.

## ONGOING FISHING QUOTA CHALLENGE

Shipalana highlighted several ongoing challenges affecting fishing operations, including fluctuations in catches, and vessel availability. Notably, inadequate fishing allocations are a significant issue, as allocations are not sufficient to sustain operations beyond September. As a result, Basani is compelled to source fish from third-party quota holders at a substantial cost, which is dictated by demand and supply. Furthermore, low catch rates, potentially due to the sudden disappearance of fish, requires the crew to spend additional days at sea, resulting in higher costs for diesel, manpower, and food.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF CLEARING AND FORWARDING AND SHIPS AGENCY PROVES BENEFICIAL TO BASANI'S BUSINESS

"Our hake trawl operation has contributed to the establishment of a clearing and forwarding ships agency business which trades as In X-Freight. It has outstanding credentials in its dealings with customs and port officials, and all efforts are being made to further grow this company," says Shipalana.

"In our books, it's a contribution to our operations in terms of job creation, not just being involved in catching, processing and marketing, but also in the support of our activities, such as logistics and the value chain of our fishing activities."

Basani serves as testimony for its resilience in the capital-intensive industry, demonstrating the impact of determination and perseverance, by thriving in an industry that previously excluded small companies. Basani not only achieves success but also provides much needed jobs for the small community of St Helena Bay.



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## MSC's Ocean Stewardship Fund awards over R40-million to accelerate sustainable fishing and support innovation and research in marine life protection



EIGHTY-FIVE projects around the world have received funding to advance sustainable fishing practices. These initiatives cover a diverse array of efforts from neuroscientists developing deterrents for marine mammals and employing Artificial Intelligence (AI) to improve data collection, to international collaborations aimed at protecting highly migratory fish stock and recycling end-of-life fishing gear.

The projects are being funded through the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)'s Ocean Stewardship Fund (OSF), which is providing R40-million to fisheries, NGOs, researchers, and scientists working to promote sustainable fishing and marine wildlife protection globally.

In South Africa, the deep-sea hake trawl fishery will trial innovative technologies to further improve its environmental performance; addressing fishery impacts to Endangered, Threatened and Protected (ETP) species, marine habitats and ecosystems.

These include advanced manufacturing technologies to recycle end-of-life fishing nets, testing electronic monitoring devices that will be used to ensure compliance around the use of bird scaring lines, and the employment of AI to automate data collection for better by-catch management.

Dr. Johann Augustyn, South African Deep-Sea Trawling Industry Association

(SADSTIA), said: "This funded project is a great opportunity to bolster our work and is of huge conservation value. These pilot projects have the potential to benefit several fisheries when more widely implemented, by encouraging the use of technologies to minimise impacts on endangered, threatened, or protected species, reduce the gear loss/ghost gear impacts, and mitigate the impacts on marine ecosystems."

To the north, in Namibia, the hake trawl and longline fishery, has received funding to work with scientists and engineers to deploy the use of Targeted Acoustic Startle Technology (TAST), to minimise potentially harmful interactions with Cape fur seals with fishing gear.

Rooted in neuroscience, the technology emits a low range frequency to deter seals from approaching fishing gear, without damaging the hearing of the animal or other species in the area. As well as mitigating interactions with Cape fur seals during the Namibian fishery's operations, the research hopes to gain valuable insights for other fisheries facing similar challenges with fur seal interactions.

Dr Thomas Götz, who is conducting the research with local partners, said: "For some top predators, particularly certain marine mammal species, bycatch and gear entanglement in fisheries is hugely impactful.

This technology could offer a sustainable solution to long standing human-wildlife conflicts and help balance human need for food and livelihoods with wildlife conservation and environmental stewardship."

Staying on the South Atlantic, a unique multi-stakeholder inter-governmental collaboration is also receiving support through this year's Ocean Stewardship Fund. Five MSC certified albacore tuna fisheries – including the two South African albacore fisheries recently certified to the MSC Standard – will work with NGOs and inter-continental agencies to develop and implement a science-based stock-wide harvest strategy for albacore tuna, a highly migratory species. By targeting long-term sustainability and resilience, this project will create a replicable model for the management of albacore tuna stocks.

Shana Miller, project director for International Fisheries Conservation at The Ocean Foundation said: "This support from MSC will help us to facilitate expansion of rigorously tested harvest strategies to South Atlantic albacore, a valuable commercial stock. Stronger management and control of large-scale fishing, including with science-based harvest strategies, will transform fisheries management, helping to protect marine biodiversity and ensuring future sustainability in a changing ocean."

## Sea Harvest Group's commitment to sustainable business practices

IN recognition of World Ocean Day, observed annually on 8 June, the Sea Harvest Group reaffirms its commitment to sustainable fishing practices and to preserving the health of the world's oceans. As an organisation whose operations are intrinsically linked to the ocean, Sea Harvest is dedicated to ensuring that marine resources continue to benefit both South Africa and future generations.

Founded over 60 years ago in Saldanha Bay on the west coast of South Africa, Sea Harvest has grown into a significant player in the global seafood industry. Today, the Group operates across the Western Cape in South Africa and in Western Australia. It employs over 5 000 people and manages a fleet of 59 vessels, nine processing facilities, eight aquaculture operations, and eight factory shops. Its diverse product portfolio includes wild-caught hake, prawns, pilchards, fishmeal, fish oil, abalone, aquafeed, and a range of value-added dairy products. Sea Harvest exports to more than 30 countries, demonstrating the global reach of its sustainably harvested offerings.

At the core of Sea Harvest's operations is a deep-rooted commitment to sustainability—a principle viewed as essential to the long-term success of both the South African commer-



cial fishing and aquaculture sectors. This commitment is evidenced by a number of globally recognised certifications it holds. Notably, the Group's Cape hake and Australian prawns are certified as sustainably harvested by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC). Its fishmeal and fish oil production is certified by the Marine Trust global standard for the responsible sourcing of marine ingredients, while its abalone and aquafeed have achieved Global G.A.P. sustainability accreditation.

Sea Harvest's approach to sustainable fishing is guided by robust scientific methodologies that support responsible harvesting and resource regeneration. These practices not only secure the long-term viability of marine

ecosystems but also safeguard the Group's ability to continue contributing meaningfully to South Africa's economy and food security.

Beyond its marine-focused sustainability efforts, the Group is actively advancing its renewable energy transition. Several of its aquaculture and dairy operations are now powered by solar and wind energy. Additionally, the company has prioritised water conservation and waste management initiatives across its facilities.

Sea Harvest's commitment to responsible corporate citizenship extends beyond environmental stewardship. In recent years, the Group has adopted a structured, data-driven approach to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG)

practices. This methodology allows for continuous refinement of ESG goals and ensures relevancy in an ever-changing world. The Group's evolving ESG framework underscores its dedication to embedding sustainability into all facets of its operations, reinforcing its role as a responsible and future-focused corporate entity.

As ESG considerations become increasingly central to corporate governance worldwide, Sea Harvest remains steadfast in its efforts to lead by example—prioritising environmental integrity, social impact, and transparent governance in its operations.

For more information, visit: <https://www.seaharvestgroup.co.za/investors/integrated-reporting/>

## Enhanced data collection boosts sustainable fishing

AS South Africa's hake trawl fishery prepares for reassessment by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), fleet operators are intensifying efforts to improve at-sea data collection. The industry aims to secure its fifth certification from the globally recognised eco-labelling body.

In February, key figures from the trawling sector — including skippers, vessel operators, and company executives — gathered in Cape Town for a workshop on accurate data reporting. The session was led by the South African Deep-Sea Trawling Industry Association (SADSTIA) and its scientific collaborators.

"The whole face of fisheries management is changing," said data

expert Mike Bergh. He noted that Version 3 of the MSC Fisheries Standard increases focus on the environmental impact of fishing, particularly interactions with endangered, threatened, and protected (ETP) species such as seabirds, seals, turtles, and sharks.

Crews must also log catches of invertebrates like sponges and corals to monitor potential impacts on vulnerable seabed habitats.

Robert Landman, Chair of SADSTIA's Scientific Committee, stressed the importance of accurate reporting: "The MSC wants to know fishing is done correctly, and the only way to prove that is with concise, accurate information."



Chairman of SADSTIA's Scientific Committee and Business Insights Manager at I&J, Robert Landman.

SADSTIA and its partners continue to provide training to help crews meet evolving requirements. Reassessment is expected between May and August 2025, with re-

certification targeted for February 2026.

MSC certification is crucial: a loss could reduce the sector's GDP contribution by up to R4,7-billion and cost more than 1 400 jobs.

## THE NEXT GENERATION

Internships, Skills & Development Programmes

# It's a YES from BMG



**BMG - part of Invicta Holdings Limited - celebrates five years since joining South Africa's Youth Employment Service (YES) Programme, which is a joint initiative between the Government and private sector.**

BMG - part of Invicta Holdings Limited - celebrates five years since joining South Africa's Youth Employment Ser-

vice (YES) Programme, which is a joint initiative between the Government and private sector.

The country's YES programme aims to create one million work opportunities for unemployed black youth.

"We believe that the business sector has a responsibility to help solve the escalating problem of youth unemployment."

"The social cost of unemployment and the threat it poses to the stability and dignity of South African society, are far too great for companies not to get involved in a meaningful way," says Ruth Black, group human resources executive, Invicta Shared Services.

"Through the inspiring YES Programme, Invicta and BMG currently employ over 132 young people who have participated in this programme.

"The YES programme offers our youth a bridging opportunity between school and the world of work, aspiring to nurture leadership capabilities, that are invaluable for business success and individual achievement.

"By providing the opportunity for young people to gain practical work experience and enjoy mentoring and

training at BMG, we are able to equip them with the necessary skills and business ethos that contribute to a brighter future and economic sustainability.

"This 12-month programme offers participating businesses the chance to gain up to two levels on their Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) scorecard. As a special service, BMG offers its customers the opportunity to participate in this initiative by providing the necessary training to selected candidates at BMG World. These businesses are able to claim the scorecard points at the end of the programme.

"The BMG team has always enjoyed a culture of learning and knowledge sharing, which is why this uplifting programme is a perfect fit with our need to develop commercial and technical skills and nurture personal development."

BMG currently has 82 candidates participating in the YES programme, who are involved in all areas of the business – including sales, warehouse functions, experience in various product divisions as well as important support functions.

## South Africa's supply chain sector is vital to the country's economy but faces a skills gap that is threatening growth, says supply chain industry body SAPICS



**University of Johannesburg's Transport and Supply Chain Management Department, Asekhona Ngeno**

RECOGNISING the imperative to address this, the organisation has lined up a presentations, panel discussions and initiatives aimed at supporting and growing a pipeline of young supply chain talent at the upcoming SAPICS Conference in Cape Town.

This annual event, which is now in its 47th year, is Africa's leading learning, knowledge sharing and networking event for the supply chain profession.

Experts participating in an important panel discussion this year will explore strategies to equip and empower young professionals - from mentorship and industry partnerships to skills development initiatives.

Success stories will be shared and actionable steps for organisations outlined. This important session will examine how collaboration between academia,

government and the private sector can build a resilient, future-ready workforce, SAPICS states.

The panel discussion will be facilitated by Yaseen Ahmid, CEO and founder of the Circular Economy Institute of Africa in South Africa.

He will be joined by panellists Prof. PJ Kilbourn, associate professor and senior deputy head of the University of Johannesburg's Transport and Supply Chain Management Department, Asekhona Ngeno, the corporate supply chain director at Procter and Gamble, Azel van der Walt, the IMEA head of Logistics at Maersk, and Nicole Petersen, the programme manager for the South African Graduate Employers Association (SAGEA).

How AI and gamification are reinventing supply chain learning is the topic of a 2025 SAPICS Conference presentation by France-based Laurent Vigouroux, a supply chain expert, b2wise brand ambassador and winner of the renowned French award "King of Supply Chain". According to Vigouroux, traditional supply chain training often struggles to engage participants and drive real-world results.

Gamification and AI are transforming the learning experience, with serious games like DDBrix simplifying complex concepts, fostering collaboration and

boosting retention. Attendees will learn how AI personalises training, identifies skill gaps and enhances decision-making.

Missing skills can slow down or stop the flow in a supply chain, turning into a bottleneck, stock outs and delivery delays. A 2025 SAPICS Conference presentation by leading international supply chain management expert and author Caroline Mondon will introduce attendees to the Demand Driven Skills Model (DDSM). It allows organisations to locate and size skill buffers in order to protect the operational flow in a supply chain.

This year, SAPICS has partnered with sponsors Industrial Logistics Systems (ILS) and Bertling to enable 20 students from institutions including Stellenbosch University and the University of South Africa (UNISA) to attend the conference.

This forms part of the SAPICS youth development programme, which aims to upskill and empower young graduates and professionals for career success in the important and dynamic supply chain profession, address the skills gap in the supply chain field and fight the country's high youth unemployment rate.

The 2025 SAPICS Conference takes place in Cape Town from 8 to 11 June 2025.

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- Occupational Health & Safety | PPE
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## Making urban mobility convenient

By John Rammutla, principal associate: Highways, Transport & Infrastructure, WSP in Africa



PEOPLE's transport choices are shaped by safety, accessibility and socio-economic factors. Many African countries lack the infrastructure necessary to provide convenient, safe, reliable and sustainable public transport systems, leaving urban citizens with limited options.

To make urban mobility more convenient, safe and accessible in African cities, integrating public transport into smart transportation infrastructure that leverages existing technology and innovative solutions will be key.

Public transport integration and digitalisation of transportation infrastructure considers elements within transport systems through a digital lens. It focuses on how stakeholders can leverage technology and data-driven approaches to meet policy goals and population needs.

A good example of this is the City of Cape Town in South Africa, which is actively working towards integrating the Public Transport Network (IPTN) and aims to create a more accessible and efficient public transport system. Some of their digital solutions include the implementation of

"Collaboration across industries, disciplines, municipalities and even nations is essential to build resilient and adaptable transport networks for current and future generations."

MyCiTi app for route planning, ticketing, and tracking real-time vehicle locations.

Implementing system-wide digitalisation is no small feat in cities where infrastructure deficits and funding are clear barriers. It requires a vision developed with a whole-system perspective, strategic investment decisions and a willingness to embrace continuous change. Collaboration across industries, disciplines, municipalities and even nations is essential to build resilient and adaptable transport networks for current and future generations.

It also calls upon those who advise, de-

sign, engineer and operate road infrastructure to prioritise the provision of inclusive, equitable and accessible digitised systems, making the benefits of digital transformation available to all. Today, the boundaries between vehicles, roads, communication networks and the users themselves have blurred, creating a dynamic, evolving ecosystem. Gone are the days when vehicles and infrastructure functioned as separate entities. The synergy between technology, infrastructure and people will continue to drive innovations in road transport, especially as transport data becomes ubiquitous and more accessible. As African cities adopt technology that enables the collection and utilisation of more and better quality transport data, adopting innovations that facilitate the development of safer, greener, more reliable and more equitable transport systems must consider the interdependencies between technology, infrastructure and people.

Transport systems the world over face several challenges that necessitate this kind of change. Safety performance is plateauing, which limits progress toward Vision Zero - the aim for zero traffic fatalities and severe injuries, as well as safe and equitable transport for all.

The environmental impact of road transport infrastructure poses a significant threat to ecosystem health and human wellbeing - constituting the highest proportion of overall transport emissions globally.

"...given Africa's rapid urbanisation and population growth trends, road infrastructure must adapt as more people move to urban centres in pursuit of economic, social and personal benefit."

Accessibility and inclusivity are a significant consideration in Africa, as road transport infrastructure continues to act as a barrier to mobility for marginalised communities, thereby contributing to inequity. And given Africa's rapid urbanisation and population growth trends, road infrastructure must adapt as more people move to urban centres in pursuit of economic, social and personal benefit.

Governments are facing a challenging financial situation with high interest rates and rapidly increasing costs in labour, materials and general service delivery. As a result, road transport infrastructure projects are grappling with constrained budgets and material scarcities limiting the capacity for governments to deliver on construction plans.

Clearly, the transition from analogue to digital road networks is crucial to Africa's sustainable development. To make the transition successfully requires a whole-system approach to understand the impacts and dependencies between people, processes, places, data, technology and services. This holistic view enables system designers to identify and mitigate adverse impacts, providing for safer, more convenient, more equitable and more environmentally conscious systems.

## The future of tech - How innovation is shaping business operations and strategy

By Alma Nusic, VP General Manager EMEA at Infobip

BUSINESSES are driven by change; however, the pace of transformation has never been as rapid as it is today. As advanced technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), cloud computing and big data analytics mature, they are not only reshaping operational models, but also the very strategies that businesses rely on to stay competitive.

Digital transformation is at the heart of this progress. Organisations across every sector are fast-tracking their shift to cloud-based infrastructure to enhance scalability, security, and operational flexibility. AI is now automating repetitive processes and providing real-time insights that improve decision-making. Big data analytics is no longer a luxury for large companies alone; it is an essential tool for businesses of all sizes. This helps them gather intelligence, understand market dynamics, and personalise customer experiences.

Key examples of industries that have successfully integrated these emerging technologies are retail and healthcare. In retail, AI-powered recommendation engines and predictive inventory management systems are transforming the customer journey, while in healthcare, digital records, telemedicine, and AI-driven diagnostics are improving patient outcomes and access to care. These shifts go far beyond operational improvements; they represent fundamental changes to business models, unlocking new opportunities for value creation and more meaningful customer engagement.

"Equally important to adopting advanced technologies is ensuring that the implementation is guided by clear ethical principles."

Yet, while the advantages of digital transformation are clear, the journey to achieving them is not without challenges. One of the most significant difficulties lies in overcoming cultural resistance to change. Whether it is anxiety from employees or hesitation at the leadership level, the introduction of new workflows, automation tools, and AI-driven systems can often trigger uncertainty. Addressing this requires strong leadership, clear communication, and a proactive approach to upskilling and training.

Equally important to adopting advanced technologies is ensuring that the implementation is guided by clear ethical principles. As AI and automation become more deeply embedded in our economies, there is a



legitimate concern about job displacement in industries like manufacturing, transportation, and customer service. However, this is not just solely a challenge, but as an opportunity to reimagine the workforce. By automating routine tasks, businesses can unlock human potential, allowing people to focus on more creative, strategic, and value-adding roles that drive innovation and enhance job satisfaction.

"The future of work will be defined by constant innovation and agility. To thrive, organisations will need to embrace a mindset of continuous learning and foster cultures that are flexible, inclusive, and resilient."

That said, embedding strong ethical frameworks into the deployment of technology is critical. The principles of transparency, fairness, and accountability must guide the development and use of AI and data analytics to mitigate risks like bias, privacy infringements, and security breaches. Ultimately, building trust with customers, employees, and society at large will be a defining factor for successful, sustainable tech-driven businesses.

The future of work will be defined by constant innovation and agility. To thrive, organisations will need to embrace a mindset of continuous learning and foster cultures that are flexible, inclusive, and resilient. Leaders must lead by example, staying digitally literate and open to new ideas, while encouraging their teams to challenge conventional thinking and embrace new technologies.

To truly thrive in this era, businesses must invest in resilience not only within their technology infrastructure, but also in their people and operational models too. This means creating work environments that promote well-being, inclusivity, and creativity while embracing collaborative platforms and automation tools to boost productivity and engagement.

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