



GAUTENG PROVINCE

EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media
Att: News Editors
For immediate release

26 October 2023

MEC CHILOANE LAUNCHES THUTO KE MAATLA ENGINEERING SCHOOL OF SPECIALISATION

Gauteng Education MEC Matome Chiloane today, on Thursday, 26 October 2023, launched Thuto Ke Maatla Engineering School of Specialisation with a focus on Manufacturing of Industrial Equipment.

With the launch of this school, the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) has achieved a remarkable feat, having launched 30 Schools of Specialisation to date. Thuto Ke Maatla Engineering School of Specialisation is located in Tembisa, a large township situated in the north of Kempton Park, which has emerged as a center of creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship. This unique township has a lot to offer, from its diverse and multicultural community to its bustling marketplaces and vibrant arts scene.

The school, through its diligent learners, needs to further enhance the economy of Tembisa by identifying its challenges and find innovative ways to solve them. They should service the needs of the community, especially those who are in close proximity to the school.

The establishment of an Engineering School of Specialisation with a focus on Manufacturing Industrial Equipment is based on this school being located in Ekurhuleni, the Eastern Economic Development Corridor. The main industries within this Corridor are manufacturing, transport and logistics.

Accordingly, trains are manufactured in Nigel. We envision the school partnering with, and having excursions, at the relevant companies where said manufacturing is done. This will be beneficial towards skills development and enable learners to become professional accredited artisans.

Industrial Equipment is tools and fabrication equipment such as power saws, drills, hand tools, metal-working machines, polishing machines,

presses, boilers, industrial ovens, and industrial scales. Our learners have shown that they can excel utilising these tools.

Barloworld Equipment, in Isando, also utilises this Industrial Equipment, offering earthmoving equipment, industrial services, and power systems, which enable the operation and maintenance of a large array of mining, construction, and power solutions.

This is what the learners should be able to do, and as such partnership with the said company is key. At Barloworld Equipment, learners can access the various simulators, learning how to operate the industrial equipment that they should learn to make. There is also a workshop where learners will see the various machinery and processes that go into manufacturing industrial equipment. Learners should do job shadowing during the school holidays.

“Indeed, we are excited and proud to have established such schools that impart invaluable future skills to learners. We will continue to launch these schools until we achieve our goal of introducing about 36 of such schools in Gauteng. The future of our education is bright” said MEC Chiloane

For more information, contact the Gauteng Department of Education’s Spokesperson, Steve Mabona on 072 574 3860 or Spokesperson for Gauteng Education MEC Matome Chiloane, Xolani Mkhwemte on 084 513 9285

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Issued by the Gauteng Department of Education