



**Message from MD**

**eThekwini Maritime Cluster brings You Fresh News**



Noma Sokhela - Acting Managing Director, EMC

It is that time of the year where one reflect the maritime industry good achievements and what needs to be done in the year 2018 as we begin. It wouldn't have been a fantastic year without the staff members, stakeholders dedication and team work. There has been a glitches but we cannot dwell on negativity. As the year 2017 draws to a close, Maritime Industry has to proudly embrace the developments of this sector and strive to be globally competitive. The geographical location of South Africa could be used advantageous in influencing the country's international trades. The collaboration of stakeholders has led to host successfully events, such as Comprehensive Maritime Transport Policy Launch and the Terminal Operators Conference for the entire continent of Africa.

These events in the maritime arena formed part of the maritime transformation.

Therefore it is with excitement to voice

out many thanks to the industry at large for immense contributions that are just waving success in the maritime arena. EThekwini Maritime Cluster (EMC), highlight for 2017 includes Maritime Summit and Maritime Career Expore which was hosted after the Maritime Summit at the Transnet Maritime School of Excellency (MSOE), We are also looking at the Smart Port City initiative closely through innovations with the help of the industry stakeholders in order to achieve the blue ocean's economy in considerate of the sustainable port city for the future of South Africa at large. EMC in this financial year has elected new proactive board members that enhance and adapt to EMC strategies to transform the cluster and contributes immensely in the maritime industry.

We excited to be host our next year Career Expo in April .EMC, Training and Skill Development Programme will host a maritime career expo as one of this industry big events that unleash the gap between the community and the industry role players However the Training and Skills Development Programme will not end there. In 2017 Training and Skills Development, Graduate Placement Programme has made a success in placing graduates . The purpose of this programme is to facilitate first contact work experience for graduates within the industry, therefore will continue with the graduate placement programme.

EMC and Transnet Port Terminal (TPT) has undertaken to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU), which aims to Enterprise supply

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Development Programme. The mandate between Enterprise and Supply Development and (TPT) is to facilitate new entry Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) into the maritime industry and explore viable opportunities within the maritime industry. EMC is proud to have notched up several success this year and have other exciting project awaiting to be implemented and continue to bear fruit during the year 2018.

EMC projects and achievements would not be possible if it not for the close working relationship with the industry stakeholders. I sincerely thank them for their support. It is with a sense of excitement that EMC looks forward to 2018 with wishing all our readers, stakeholders a prosperous and productive year Looking forward to the good working relationship and interaction with you.

## Terminal Operators conference Engaged On Technology That Facilitate Global Trades



**T**he president of Republic of South Africa, Mr Jacob Zuma, delivered the opening speech at the Terminal Operators Conference (TOC), hosted in the Durban International Convention Centre (ICC) on Tuesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2017. Among the dignitaries that were present, Mr Sihle Zikalala the KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs was his companion.

The nature of the TOC Africa Conference is to discuss the evolution of regional maritime containers logistics, transport and supply chain operations and the equipment and technology that facilitates global trade. It would be remembered that the president of South Africa has previous taken time to invest and contribute immensely in

the Oceans economy by launching an initiative called Operation Phakisa in 2014. This initiative has contributed in creating 397 000 jobs in eradicating unemployment.

“The maritime sector is critical for Africa’s rise in global trading,” he told conference delegates. “Our Operation Phakisa programme is generating new investment and creating jobs, and will boost our economic growth. Mr Zuma said. He further stated, “It was correct that the conference was held in KwaZulu-Natal a province with maritime industry that spans sectors such as freight and logistics, ancillary maritime support service, tourism and leisure, maritime energy and fishing, aquaculture and Mari culture”.

Mr President added that it was important for Africa to develop her Oceans Economy further, he

stated this after his emphasized on how he want blue economy to be pushed. He concluded by saying that the conference was in line with the South Africa’s foreign policy of contributing towards a prosperous continent through an increase in Intra-Africa trade.

In enclosing his visit at the TOC Africa he took a tour around the TOC exhibition desk. This was delightful highlight on how the president believed in blue Oceans Economy and conveying a strong message

for transformation initiatives on maritime governance.



Picture : Bongani Mthethwa

# A Graduate Programme Making Waves of Success

behind me pursuing a career in the accounting field,” says Maphumulo. Meanwhile, Buthelezi attributes her choice of a career in the accounting field to advice from her teachers in high school.

Buthelezi said: “My desire to pursue a career in financial accounting was fuelled by the knowledge that there was a scarcity of young black woman in this field.”

The pair is grateful for the opportunity of being placed as graduates in training with Subtech Group; a specialist company is sub-sea services and an industry partner of the EMC. Over and above the invaluable learning experience, the two young women feel that they have been warmly welcomed and accepted into the Subtech family. They say this is reflective of the companies underlying values of cohesiveness and unity.

Subtech Group financial manager, Bjorn Anderson and senior financial manager, Estelle Lutge, describe the two graduates as being most ambitious and willing to learn, while also commending them for their self-discipline.

“It has been easy to be part of their learning journey due to them being so ambitious,” said Lutge.

“It has always been exciting to be part of someone’s career development; it is an honour to be able to provide mentorship to these promising youngsters,” added Bjorn.

Such positive remarks bode well as a success story of this graduate placement programme, which would not be possible if it was not for the three key partners involved: EMC, Subtech Group and the EThekwini Municipality.

In 2017, the two interns initially signed one year contracts with the group but their impressive work has seen Subtech commit to extending

both contracts by a further year to February 2019

Zenzile Makelo, whose a programme manager in the Training and Skills Development Unit of the EMC, said that it was very encouraging to see the objectives of the Unemployed Graduates Programme come to fruition. She also commended Buthelezi and Maphumulo for their sterling work at Subtech and making the programme a success.



Pictures: Nomfundo Sithole

“If it was not for EThekwini Maritime Cluster we would have been unemployed graduates,” These are the sentiments shared by Sinokwazi Buthelezi (24) and Sinethemba Maphumulo (22). The two are beneficiaries of EThekwini Maritime Cluster’s (EMC) Graduate Placement Programme, a sub-programme of the NPO’s Skills Development Programme.

The duo graduated from the Durban University of Technology: Buthelezi who hails from iNquthu (northern KZN) completed her diploma in financial accounting before graduating with a B-Tech in coastal management in 2016. Maphumulo (from Adams mission also in KZN) completed her diploma, accounting in 2016.

“My mother, an accounting teacher, has been always an inspiration



# The MSC Cruise Offers bigger and better Ocean Transport.

Picture : Trevor Jones

**M**SC -Mediterranean shipping company Cruises' MSC Sinfonia which arrived in Durban on Monday and has since departed on her first South Africa cruise of the 2017/18 summer season.

Durban - MSC Cruises is introducing a new ship to South African -waters next year - to cater for more passengers and to offer them even more facilities.

MSC Musica continues to provide fantastic cruise destination as it can carry 3223 passengers and which has 16 deck, more swimming pool than the current MSC Sinfonia, more cabins and more entertainment. The brochures have already been printed for the 2018/2019 cruise season, for holidays aboard.

“We are already moving more than 100000 local passengers every six-month season,” said Ross Volk, managing director of MSC Cruises South Africa.

MSC is also in a joint venture with Africa Armada Consortium and their KZN Cruise Terminal has already been named the preferred bidder for the R100million Durban Cruise Terminal. The terminal will be able to take two vessels at the same time and the project will create employment during construction and operation phases.

MSC began a concerted drive to employ more South Africans - both in local waters and worldwide - in 2013. The numbers for on-board and land-based jobs have increased over the years, and South Africans are now employed in a wide variety of jobs, from housekeepers, waiters, shore excursion hosts, shop assistants, casino dealers as well as cruise directors.

The managing director of MSC Cruises South Africa, Volk says, “MSC Musica will drive -local employment opportunities even further, with a need for a total crew of just over 1000”.

## Message About Up-coming Events

For maritime related news or events that you would like to published on this newsletter or our website please contact

Tel: 031-3010950/9



*The eThekwini Maritime Cluster (EMC) is a non-profit company that was launched in 2009. The EMC provides a platform for collaborative engagement between different levels of government, state owned enterprises and the maritime community to implement programs of common interest that support the growth and improve performance and competitiveness of the maritime industry.*

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