



Welcome Message from the MD

October is recognized as Transport Month in South Africa, and during that month the Department of Transport and its entities showcased transport infrastructure services in aviation; maritime; public transport and roads. October was also used to further advance the country’s road safety initiatives, while also creating awareness of the economic benefits of the sector.

President Cyril Ramaphosa officially launched 2019 Transport Month on 5 October 2019 in Gauteng, Heidelberg Weigh Bridge.

Investments in the transport sector are aimed at stimulating development and creating jobs as part of the country’s

Nine-Point Plan. These investments will ensure the development of an integrated public transport network across the country.

Maritime transportation is part of an intermodal transport system that is interlinked to road, air and rail transport. As we seek to make our ports world class and the most preferred over neighboring ports, this must be supported by much-needed infrastructure that facilitates reliable and efficient service delivery. We have seen over the years how Transnet National Ports Authority, as well as other divisions linked to the port sector, has worked to make improvements that ensure efficient service delivery to vessels visiting our ports. Improvements of infrastructure in our ports and across the various sectors of the maritime industry will support job creation, and the much-needed economic growth.

Campaigns such as the October Transport Month are very encouraging as they provide us with the opportunity to cast the spotlight on such important issues regarding the maritime sector. The EThekweni Maritime Cluster also ensures the improvement of maritime infrastructure and removal of all existing bottlenecks in the maritime value chain by hosting platforms that facilitate these engagements among the relevant stakeholders. Using sister city agreements, forged through the eThekweni Municipality, we encourage links with other ports cities allowing us to benchmark and model our industry against the best in the world.

I believe that it is also worth noting that our partnership with the institutions in the education and training sector, are of crucial importance in providing the industry with the research capacity to assist in improving the maritime industry as a whole. Furthermore, partnerships between industry and academic institutions will help us develop the required skills and expertise for our industry.

It is against this background that EMC partnered with the South African International Maritime Institute, on The Forward Thinking for Maritime Education and Training Excellence conference. The conference focused on finding solutions to the mismatch between skills supply and demand within the maritime industry. You can read more about this in this October issue of our newsletter.



SAIMI Workshop Aims to Close Skills’ Gap in Maritime Industry

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Mrs. Zenzile Gwamanda | Managing Director EThekweni Maritime Cluster |

SAIMI Workshop Aims to Close Skills Gap in Maritime Industry

South African International Maritime Institute (SAIMI), on 14 and 15 October hosted The Forward Thinking for Maritime Education and Training Excellence conference. The conference focused on finding solutions to the mismatch between skills supply and demand within the maritime industry.

As the Oceans Economy is seen as the new frontier for economic growth globally and for the African continent, South Africa is no exception, with Operations Phakisa looking to unlock the economic potential of South Africa's maritime domain. For this potential to be realised it depends on the availability of people with the required skills needed by the industry. Addressing the issue of the skills gap and unearthing the right types of skills means that focus has to be on the development of market-related specialized education and training programmes. This can be achieved by the various stakeholders within the industry and government working together and partnering in this regard.

"We need the skills to match the demand that would support the growth of the maritime sector. Notwithstanding inroads that had been made at post-school education and training institutions in recent years. SAIMI's Ocean Economy Skills Development Assessment for South Africa highlighted a potential imbalance between current skills being produced and actual industry needs." said Odwa Mtati - Acting CEO at the South African International Maritime Institute.

SAIMI's acting CEO facilitated the first session of the conference, and Prof. Sibongile Muthwa, chairperson of the advisory board at SAIMI, welcomed all delegates, speakers, partners and sponsors to the conference. The first day of the conference was attended by Councilor Mpume Sithole who was the acting mayor of EThekweni at that time. Increasing the growth of the oceans economy in South Africa through Operations Phakisa was the message on the key note address by Mpunzi Bonga, Head of Operation Phakisa, Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation.

A number of topics were presented by different speakers aimed at addressing the imbalances of skills in the industry and, consequently providing solutions. From the presentations it appears that



Above: Cllr. Mpume Sithole was one of the dignitaries who attend the conference .

maritime education and training focuses more on seafaring. The scope of the conference was inclusive of all maritime sub-sectors including marine tourism; ports and logistics; aquaculture and fisheries; shipping; ocean governance; safety, security and defense; and vessel construction.

All in all, collaboration seems to be the key theme that underlined the discourse of the conference. EThekweni Maritime Cluster continues to uphold its mandate of facilitating collaborative engagements in important issues affecting the industry.

"As SAIMI we appreciate the partnership with EThekweni Maritime Cluster in the organization of the event and the support that we received. The contacts were quite invaluable in contributing to the success of the conference. We trust that the relationship has been made stronger and we'll be able to take on future opportunities as both SAIMI and EThekweni Maritime Cluster," concluded Mtati .



SAIMI IS FUNDED BY



Transnet Unveiling of New Helicopters



From left to right: TNPA's acting Chief Executive, Nozipho Mdawe, Leonardo Manufacturers representative and MEC Nomsa Dube-Ncube, accepting the two AgustaWestland AW109SP helicopters

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Nomsa Dube-Ncube on 3 October 2019 unveiled two new helicopters, worth R250 million, bought by Transnet National Ports Authority. These new port helicopters will operate between both the ports of Richards Bay and Durban.

This was a harvest of an establishment that had begun sometime in July last year, where a memorandum of understanding was signed between Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone (signed between RBIDZ and TNPA and Umhlatuze Municipality). The signing of this MoU opened up significant opportunities for the three parties to work together and this yielded in the obtaining of the two helicopters.

"I must however point out that this investment would not have been possible without the partnership involving IDZ, Transnet, Umhlatuze Local Municipality and Department of Trade and Industry," said MEC Nomsa Dube-Ncube.

It is with no doubt that working together creates better opportunities and when different stakeholders come together including the private sector, more jobs can be created, said Dube-Ncube.

"President Cyril Ramaphosa announced in many platforms that operation Phakisa will create millions of job opportunities. It is for these reasons that KZN government is finalizing plans to establish the KwaZulu-Natal boatbuilding Park as part of a maritime vessel industrial complex at Bayhead in the Port of Durban," continued Dube-Ncube.

Transnet procured these two Agusta Westland AW109SP helicopters from Italian manufacturer, Leonardo, at a combined price estimated to be R250 million. The two helicopters will guide ships arriving at Durban and Richards Bay harbours. TNPA's acting chief executive, Nozipho Mdawe, said the helicopters will help to improve ship turnaround times and the overall reliability of its marine services at the two ports.

When the procurement agreement was signed, the Italian company Leonardo committed to a 25% supplier development obligation to ensure the contract has socio-economic benefits within South Africa, such as job creation, skills development and the use of local empowered.

Ramaphosa Officially Launches October Transport Month Campaign



From left to right: National Minister of Transport, Fikile Mbalula, President Cyril Ramaphosa and Gauteng Premier, David Makhura were pictured during the official launch of October Transport Month.

The department of transport and the rest of South Africa celebrated its annual October Transport Month (OTM) campaign. OTM focuses on infrastructure projects that have major socio-economic spin-offs for all modes of transport such as roads, maritime, aviation, rail and public transport.

Every year in October the Department of Transport and its entities showcases the best of what the industry has to offer, and deliberate on how to better the industry as whole. October was also used to further advance the country's road safety initiatives, while also creating awareness of the economic benefits of the sector.

President Cyril Ramaphosa officially launched this year's OTM in Gauteng and the theme was "Khawuleza". This theme was in line with the resolve of the president's sixth administration to accelerate service delivery. This year's October Transport Month campaign was built from the implementation of the President's Coordinating Council model for service delivery, and to prioritize road safety through the implementation of the 365 Days Road Safety Action Agenda.

The president's keynote address during this official launch was attended by a contingent of traffic and law enforcement officers from all provinces and key stakeholders including the private sector; the maritime industry; and the transport industry as a whole. The President was joined by the Minister of Transport, Fikile Mbalula, when delivering the keynote during this time the revamped and cabinet-approved Arrive Alive programme of the Department of Transport was unveiled.

"The need to have an integrated developmental planning process becomes ever more important. We need to understand transport as

an integral part of a much larger plan for the provision of infrastructure and services. Economic growth as well as service delivery can only take place when we have efficient and effective transportation that is safe and reliable," said Ramaphosa.

Among the prominent talking points of the president's address was growth of urbanization which will add greater strength to transport infrastructure.

Mbalula said, "We need to fix our rail systems in terms of mass transport, bringing safety and efficiency. How do we make this sustainable and use the term 'turn around execution plan not turn-around strategy' followed by concrete actions?"



UPCOMING EVENTS

Message About Upcoming Events

If you have any maritime related news or events that you would like published on this newsletter or our website please contact:

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- ◇ The ETHEKWINI MARITIME CLUSTER'S SHIP OPERATORS' ENGAGEMENT BREAKFAST SESSION ON SULPHUR 2020 CAP |4/12/2019| Club Chambers Building on 10th Floor
- ◇ 5 Dec: International Volunteers Day

MSC Cruises bringing two new ships for 2020 season visit www.msccruises.co.za



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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