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Transnet Port Terminals crowned transformation champion as it bags Top Empowerment Award

Transnet Port Terminals has come out a cut above the best after it walked away with this year's Top Empowerment Award in the Socio-economic development category, having been pitted against corporate sector heavyweights like Dell Computers, Spar Group and the First Rand Group, amongst others.

The awards, which took place in Johannesburg [Gauteng] and were in their 18th edition, recognise "companies and individuals who have contributed to accelerating transformation and building an all-inclusive economy". Furthermore, the nominated companies and individuals must demonstrate innovation and leadership in broad-based black economic empowerment.

Following the win, TPT's Acting General for Human Resources Brenda Magqwaka was elated with the win, saying it is testament that their policy interventions were not introduced to merely tick the BEE scorecard boxes but to "make a meaningful contribution to the transformation of our country".

"With empowerment programs such as the *Young Professionals In-Training* [YPTs], *Women In Operations* and business support to up and coming small businesses, the award acknowledges the critical role we are playing in making key opportunities available to our people, transforming and building an inclusive country," she said.

TPT's YTP program offers more than 40 previously disadvantaged young graduates two-year internships opportunities yearly with the possibility of permanent employment while the *Women in Operations initiative* exposes women employees to jobs in operations that were traditionally reserved for men in order to build a diverse

succession pipeline of leaders. The intake for the current financial year is 19 candidates.

In addition, TPT also supports small businesses by enrolling them in programs and courses that will emancipate the work that they do through chambers of commerce in the various regions to enable their readiness to services their sectors efficiently.

In the past year, TPT has bagged a number of awards including Top Employer, Vision 2030 for Infrastructure, coming first overall with two PMR Africa Business Excellence Awards for its contribution to the economic growth and development of the KwaZulu-Natal province and also for outstanding port terminals.

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