

Wednesday, 16 May 2018

Transnet Port Terminals & Fast World Industries create the perfect space for community upliftment

Transnet Port Terminals (TPT), in partnership with suppliers Fast World Industries and City Late, donated a much needed classroom and commissioned repairs at an official handover ceremony at Yiboni Primary School in KwaMakhuta, South Coast of Durban. The joint initiative forms part of TPT's ongoing objective in the procurement space to leverage off their relationships with suppliers for the benefit of the communities they operate in.

"This is one of a series of handovers that have taken place in 2018 already across the country that are as a direct result of TPT driving Transnet's procurement policies to support the government's National Development Plan of supporting and advancing previously disadvantaged communities through our supplier development partnerships. One of our contract conditions for tenders won is that the service provider must commit to a percentage of the contract value to supplier development initiatives, with particular focus on the areas of new skills development, job preservation, rural integration and regional youth development. For the 2018 period to date a total of ±R10m has been invested in community outreach programmes by TPT and our partnered suppliers," stated Thandi Sabelo, TPT Executive Manager for Supply Chain Management.

In this particular instance – Fast World Industries, the contractors for Transnet Port Terminals providing personal protective equipment at TPT's terminals. Based on the Supplier Development contractual agreement in place, Fast World Suppliers were responsible for the acquisition/production of a classroom and City Late repaired damaged windows for Yiboni Primary School that would be partitioned so that part of the space could also be utilized as a staff room for the teachers.

The need for the additional classroom and teacher's room stemmed from a previous handover of school shoes by TPT as part of their annual Shoes on Feet initiative. TPT's dynamic Chief Executive Nozipho Sithole, who attended the school shoes handover in February was made aware by the school's principal of the overcrowding of students in the existing classrooms and

she immediately took action to see how TPT could be of further support. Because of her busy schedule, she was represented by Brenda Maqgwaka, General Manager: Office of the Chief Executive at the handover of the classrooms.



“As a state-owned company and because the empowerment of South Africa’s historically disadvantaged people is high on government’s agenda, the onus is on us to implement this agenda. Knowing that we have already achieved great things with our procurement team in supporting communities in need through collaboration with our suppliers – I knew it was a matter of finding the right partner to get the job done. We are thrilled that Fast World Suppliers and City Late were able to assist in providing much needed space for the students and teachers at the school to improve their chances of providing and receiving an education in an environment that is conducive to learning,” explained Maqgwaka.

According to Principal Mr. Mduduzi Kheswa of Yiboni Junior Primary School, they have been humbled by the ongoing support provided by TPT. Principal Kheswa added, “this donation is not only one of much needed educational resources for our students and teachers, but it also gives us hope that the spirit of Ubuntu is alive and well in our community. Our sincerest thanks to both Transnet Port Terminal and Fast World Suppliers for making our dream for an additional classroom a reality. We are truly honoured and proud and will ensure our students appreciate and capitalise on the enormous opportunities that this will create for them”.

Already in 2018 TPT was responsible for various donations in the Eastern Cape region that saw the likes of Lamphum’ikwezi Transport and other contracted suppliers who stepped up to empower communities in need. Other CSI initiatives that TPT has been involved with this year included the Durban Chamber of Commerce and Industry to cover the memberships for youth businesses to be enrolled as members of the Chamber with the aim of developing these SMME’s by providing a platform where they can explore and network with other key players in their fields. Additionally TPT have aligned themselves with the Durban Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Absa and the Ethekwini Maritime Cluster to roll out a series of supplier development boot camps aimed at educating and supporting SMME’s to thrive as successful entrepreneurs and ultimately curb the issue of unemployment in SA.

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PICTURES	: TPT handing over school classroom to Yiboni Junior primary school
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Notes to editor:

Transnet Port Terminals manages 16 cargo terminal facilities across seven South African ports with a staff compliment of over 9 000. Its operations target four major market sectors, namely the automotive sector, containers, bulk and break bulk, organised according to their respective geographical regions.

Nozipho Sithole is the Chief Executive.

For information, visit www.transnetportterminals.net

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