



NAACAM Show 05 April 2017

Her Worship The Mayor, Councillor Zandile Gumede's Welcome Address

Programme Director,

Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr Rob Davies,

NAACAM President: Dave Coffey,

Distinguished guests,

Captains of the industry,

Members of the media,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Sanibonani and good morning,

I am pleased to welcome delegates from the South African automotive industry to our award-winning City of Durban, which is also home to Toyota and a significant number of suppliers into local, national and international vehicle production markets.

EThekweni Municipality recognizes that the automotive industry is an important sector that generates significant economic and social benefits for the City and its citizens. As the most significant contributor to the

local manufacturing sector, it plays an instrumental role in providing good jobs and upskilling employees. Moreover, it is an important sector for technology transfer into the country that provides significant export earnings and has the potential to act as a key pillar in the transformation of our country.

Programme Director,

The automotive and component manufacturing sector is a priority job creating sector in the City and the eThekweni Municipality recognises the importance of supporting the sector and its significance as a key contributor to the local and national economy. Approximately 30% of total South African vehicle production originates from eThekweni which is host to the largest light vehicle manufacturer, Toyota South Africa Motors and a significant number of component manufacturers which supply locally, nationally and internationally.

The sector makes a significant contribution to employment directly and indirectly, providing over 17 000 good direct jobs locally and imparts significant skills to those involved in the varied roles required. It is important to note that the automotive and components industry is perfectly placed for investment opportunities.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As you are all aware, eThekweni Municipality have a strategic partnership with the automotive industry through the Durban Automotive Cluster (DAC) since 2002. The partnership provides an effective platform to facilitate strategic and operational change and is a powerful example of what can be achieved through collective action. We are therefore energized and thrilled by the partnership between the Durban Automotive Cluster (DAC) which is mandated to support and develop industry locally and the National Association of Automobile Component and Allied Manufacturers (NAACAM) and are proud to host this inaugural NAACAM Show, incorporating the DAC's National Localisation Indaba at our iconic Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre.

eThekwini is also pleased to be the home to the Automotive Supplier Park and play an integral role in the planning and establishment of the crucially needed infrastructure in the City which will encourage benefits from the economies of scale in the manufacturing automotive industry through the centralization of different functions.

It is important to note that the industrial development programmes run by the City's Economic Development and Investment Promotion Unit aims to facilitate the growth and development of labour-absorbing sectors, export-orientation of local industries as well as promoting localisation. However, most importantly, we promote empowerment and economic transformation, ensuring greater levels of participation of historically disadvantaged individuals and marginalised regions of eThekwini Municipality.

Programme Director,

Adjacent to the theme of **empowerment and economic transformation. We** are also excited to later witness the launch of the Dunlop's Enterprise Development programme which comprises of the Dunlop Containers and Dunlop Express stores. This container programme is the first of its kind which was formally introduced in 2013, and acts as a transformational catalyst in South Africa's informal tyre sector. It is a fast growing initiative aimed at the townships and rural areas which focuses on training, mentorship and marketing support for container dealers in the township and rural area.

I am confident that this show will arm local role players with vital intelligence and strategies on how to take the sector forward and also create business linkages for future collaboration.

I wish you all a fruitful and memorable stay in our warmest and most beautiful City and I humbly urge all of you to take the time out after the show and enjoy our numerous attractions.

Let me close by saying that for a Democracy to survive and flourish, a healthy debate and free media is important. Robust debate doesn't

mean that there is instability. Debate around leadership preference and changes are sign of health democracy not instability.

The recent changes in our national government have not changed our constitution. Our country policies and constitution remains unchanged. Everything that has happened was done within the provisions of the supreme law of the republic.

I thank you.