

news release

24 February 2017

ARCELORMITTAL SOUTH AFRICA CEO, MANAGERS AND EMPLOYEES CYCLE TO PROMOTE SPORT IN THE VAAL

ArcelorMittal South Africa and Exxaro have joined hands in an initiative aimed at promoting sport and wellness in the Vaal Triangle, where the steel manufacturer has three operations, one in Vanderbijlpark and two in Vereeniging.

The CEO of ArcelorMittal South Africa, Mr Wim de Klerk, together with senior managers and a number of employees from ArcelorMittal South Africa, as well as senior executives from Exxaro, embarked on a cycle tour that incorporated a number of ArcelorMittal South Africa's Corporate Social Investment (CSI) projects in Sebokeng and Evaton.

"The tour is aimed at encouraging young people in the communities close to the company's operations in the Vaal to get involved in sport," explained Wim de Klerk. "I have noticed that participation in cycling does not represent the demographics of the country and we need to do more to encourage young children to get involved in cycling and provide access to the sport."

The 25km tour started at ArcelorMittal South Africa's Sebokeng Science Centre, the company's flagship CSI project where learners are exposed to specialised tutoring in science, maths and life skills to improve their results and enhance their opportunities for further study. Just as significantly, the tour ended at the company's most recent community project, the ArcelorMittal South Africa Incubation Hub, where the company invests in the development and support of local small businesses. In between, the group stopped at the Tshepong Home in Sebokeng, Youth Life in Boipatong, the Asedi Centre in Bophelong, the Dirang Ka Kgotso Drop-in Centre and the Bophelong Multi Disability Centre, all supported by the company.

During the tour, the team handed out pamphlets promoting a healthy lifestyle and, in particular, cycling as a sports option. As part of this pilot project, five successful young



ArcelorMittal

applicants will become part of the ArcelorMittal South Africa Cycling Club, where they will be educated on issues such as wellness and road safety, and will be mentored by experienced cyclists. ArcelorMittal South Africa will buy bicycles and cycling kit for the five young people.

“Apart from the obvious benefits of improved health and wellness, the young people will also learn the value of hard work, dedication and goal setting, as the sport requires,” shared De Klerk.

“We have partnered with Exxaro in this initiative because they have a similar interest in using sport in community development and run a Mountain Biking Academy which they started in 2011 to develop and promote cycling in townships,” said De Klerk, who worked at Exxaro before becoming CEO of ArcelorMittal South Africa.

“What is just as exciting for me with this initiative, is that we have involved our own employees in community development,” said De Klerk. “Our employees are members of these communities and are shareholders in the company through the employee share scheme, so it is important for them to experience the impact that the company can and is having in the community, even through a simple initiative such as this one.”

Ends

Contact person:

Themba Sepotokele
Corporate Communications Manager
016 889 2425/083 468 1415
ArcelorMittal South Africa