

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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ArcelorMittal South Africa donates R13m Sebokeng Wellness Centre to the Sebokeng Community and the Gauteng Department of Health

ArcelorMittal South Africa, Africa's largest steel producer is pleased to officially handover a R13 million state-of-the-art Reamohetse Wellness Centre situated at the Sebokeng Hospital precinct to the MEC for Health, Mr Hope Papo, the hospital's management and the community on the 1st of November 2013. The project is a partnership between the ArcelorMittal South Africa Foundation and the Gauteng Department of Health.

With the capacity to treat approximately 279 patients daily, 1395 patients weekly, 5580 patients monthly and 66960 per annum, the wellness centre will address the lack of adequate healthcare facilities for the disadvantaged communities residing in the Vaal Triangle. The MEC for Health, Mr Hope Papo said that the wellness centre will also fulfill a significant role in meeting the growing demand for healthcare in South Africa due to an increasing population and significant burden of disease due to HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis (TB). It will also fulfil a pivotal role in meeting the South African National Aids Council (SANAC) mandate to have three million people receiving [antiretroviral \(ARV\)](#) treatment by 2015.

“ According to statistics on the UNAIDS website 6.1 million South Africa citizens are living with HIV/Aids and an increasing number of people are becoming infected with drug-resistant TB strains. We are in need of more healthcare institutions such as the wellness centre to treat, maintain, educate and make those who are infected with the diseases lives as comfortable as possible, “says MEC for Health, Mr Hope Papo.

The high quality wellness centre took 12 months to complete, created employment opportunities and provided training for 36 local community members from local contractor Mthembu-Mvelase Civil Projects on the installation of Arval panels and roofing.

The wellness centre is equipped with the latest technological equipment and qualified medical professionals such as nurses, social workers, health promoters and counsellors who will provide much needed professional and personal element. The facility will provide accessible integrated HIV and TB medical treatment and care, disease management advice, social, psychological and peer support services. Further health services include advice for dietary plans, Voluntary Counselling and Testing for HIV and TB , implementing educational awareness campaigns on HIV/AIDS as well as TB prevention and management strategies for the community of Sebokeng and surrounding areas.



“ArcelorMittal South Africa understands that access to excellent healthcare is a fundamental entitlement of every individual and the company’s primary objective through the provision of the wellness centre is to make a meaningful difference to the lives of its surrounding communities,” explains Mr Themba Nkosi, General Manager of Corporate Affairs, ArcelorMittal South Africa.

Additional medical services available at the wellness centre include PAP smear examinations for women, male medical circumcisions, TB screening, HIV Counseling and Treatment, the treatment of hypertension and Diabetes, and referrals to local clinics for DOT support

The clinic will also be a catalyst for improved service integration. Services such as HIV Counseling and Treatment, treatment of Hypertension and Diabetes will also form part of a suite of services provided by the clinic.

Apart from being a specialised medical facility, the wellness centre has been built with steel technology that provides numerous environmental conservation advantages. Some of which include the fact that the material is well insulated and energy efficient, has reduced low carbon emissions and is less labour intensive than masonry construction methods.

ArcelorMittal South Africa is committed towards improving the lives of its communities through its various healthcare projects including, the Nurturing Orphans of AIDS for Humanity initiative which takes care of orphaned and vulnerable children, Hands of Hope NGO and the West Coast HIV/AIDS initiatives.

NOTES TO EDITORS

About ArcelorMittal South Africa

- **Founded in 1928, ArcelorMittal South Africa is a subsidiary of the world’s leading steel and mining company and Africa’s largest steel manufacturer with a capacity of 6 million tons of liquid steel per annum. ArcelorMittal South Africa employs approximately 15 000 staff members and contractors across the country.**
- **ArcelorMittal South Africa is committed to uplifting, empowering and improving the lives of disadvantaged communities who are situated close to its operations in Vanderbijlpark, Vereeniging, Newcastle, Saldanha and Pretoria.**
- **The ArcelorMittal South Africa Foundation sets up projects in accordance with identified needs of communities in areas such as healthcare, education and social upliftment.**



- **Key educational projects include science centres in Sebokeng, Newcastle and Saldanha which are non-profit centres that strive to improve maths and science skills and performance of learners who wish to pursue a career in scientific and technological fields. ArcelorMittal South Africa's core business relies heavily on employing skilled people in the scientific, engineering and technological fields. It is therefore in the company's best interest to improve the maths and science skills for the communities who live around its operation plants.**

For more information on ArcelorMittal South Africa's CSI programme, visit www.arcelormittal.com

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