



PRESS RELEASE

PPC hands over Mobile Science and IT Lab to Hammanskraal Secondary School

27 July 2017. PPC prides itself on creating and supporting corporate social investment campaigns that make a real difference in the lives of the communities. It is against this backdrop that the company has recently handed over another of its flagship Mobile Science and IT Lab to Hammanskraal Secondary School outside Pretoria. The mobile lab, an ideal alternative for underprivileged schools such as this one, incorporates both technology and the science equipment needed to conduct experiments covered in the high school science syllabus – bringing physics and chemistry to life as never before.

The handover of the lab to the school is amongst one of the several such initiatives planned to benefit schools countrywide. Through this initiative, PPC has already positively impacted over 10 000 learners countrywide, opening up their career paths to becoming South Africa's next generation of engineers, scientists and technicians. For PPC, the Mobile Science Lab initiative is a direct response to supporting talented budding scientists, providing them with the tools to develop their skills.

Excited grade 9, 10 and 11 pupils at Hammanskraal Secondary School got to see science in action today – thanks to their new Mobile Science and IT laboratory handed over to them by PPC. The lab (a self-sufficient portable structure on wheels) will be used to teach science to learners at the school going forward, enabling practical interactive demonstrations, as well as appropriate revision in preparations for exams.

PPC CSI Manager Kabira Akoob presented Hammanskraal Secondary School's new mobile science lab to excited learners and school principal Mrs Sithole thanking the various partners that had collaborated with PPC on the rollout of this project.

"Providing access to quality, meaningful education remains one of our continent and country's greatest challenges," Akoob noted. "For education to create tangible opportunities to the lives of our children, corporates need to collaborate with government and communities in developing the skills they will require to achieve their dreams. It is our hope as a business that today's handover will unlock new career options for many of these learners, and impact their lives well into the future."

A major development in the evolutionary process of the PPC Mobile Science & IT Lab initiative has been the collaboration with the project partner, Diebold Nixdorf. Commenting on the partnership, Jean Christophe Bouche, managing director East and Southern Africa, Diebold Nixdorf said, "At Diebold Nixdorf, we are committed to contributing to youth development through initiatives such as the PPC Mobile Science and IT Lab project. Education is a powerful tool for youth development and as such, pivotal to transforming the economy. We are thrilled to collaborate with PPC in helping deliver the Mobile Science and IT Lab, which incorporates science equipment for the high school science syllabus, to Hammanskraal Secondary School."

In a drive to provide holistic support to the learners, PPC has taken the mobile science lab initiative a step further, partnering with Caster Semenya's Princess D Foundation to support the girl child's uninterrupted access to education through the provision of menstrual cups.



PPC also joined hands with government as well as other corporate stakeholders to provide the critical infrastructure needed for this school. These include the Hip Hope Foundation who are the foundation partner, Department of Basic Education and Department of Mineral Resources.

With sustainability a key focus of the initiative, PPC has put various measures in place to ensure the most effective use of the lab possible. Brainwave will offer workshops and psychometric analysis to assist learners at the school with their subject selection and provide them with career guidance going forward. “Through this assessment, they will be better equipped to select subjects that are suited to their personality, helping them to embark on the career path that’s right for them,” explained Akoob.

A memorandum of understanding with the Department of Basic Education enables PPC to monitor outputs and the impact of this and other labs they roll-out across South Africa. This speaks directly to the corporate’s short to medium-term plan of then offering bursaries to deserving matriculants from these schools who want to pursue PPC-related careers.

“PPC aims to deliver lasting benefits to local communities. As a legacy brand, celebrating 125 years in existence, it’s important that we leave an equally lasting legacy in communities across the country - one that demonstrates that there’s far more to us as a brand. We look forward to working with our partners to rolling out this initiative across the country – thereby shaping futures in a positive and meaningful way,” concludes Akoob.

Ends.

About PPC Ltd

A leading supplier of cement and related products in southern Africa, PPC has 11 cement factories in South Africa, Botswana, DRC, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Zimbabwe. In 2016, PPC commissioned its fifth milling depot, located in Harare, Zimbabwe. The recent commissioning of PPC’s new plants in DRC and Ethiopia bring PPC’s capacity to around eleven and a half million tonnes of cement products each year. As part of its strategy and long-term vision, PPC is expanding its operations in South Africa with the construction of a new kiln line (SK9) at PPC Slurry outside Mafikeng in the North-West province.

PPC’s Materials business, comprising Safika Cement, Pronto Readymix (including Ulula Ash) and 3Q Mahuma Concrete, forms part of the company’s channel management strategy for southern Africa. PPC’s footprint in the readymix sector has grown to include 26 batching plants across South Africa and Mozambique and the capacity to produce half a million tonnes of fly ash.

PPC also produces aggregates with its Mooiplaas aggregates quarry in Gauteng having the largest aggregate production capacity in South Africa. PPC Lime, one of the largest lime producers in the southern hemisphere, produces metallurgical-grade lime, burnt dolomite and limestone.



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