



Media Release

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Entertain your brain at Sasol Techno X 2008

6 August 2007, Sasolburg – Science and technology developments are introducing new and exciting career choices for young people. The eight annual Sasol Techno X, taking place from 11-15 August 2008 at the Boiketlong Complex, Sasolburg, is aimed at sharing with learners the endless and exciting possibilities of science and technology.

Last year's exhibition attracted more than 21 000 registered visitors, 31 primary schools and 174 secondary schools, from seven different provinces.

"The fields of science and technology offer thrilling career opportunities," says Johan Furter, managing director, Sasol Infrachem. "Sasol Techno X provides an inspiring experience, well beyond that of classroom science. The exhibition brings a host of displays, workshops, tours and activities together to excite learners about the career choices that science, mathematics and technology can offer."

The annual festival seeks to expose, at a practical level, the many facets of technology and encourage learners to explore the wide range of exciting disciplines and career choices that science, mathematics and technology offer. In the Free State in particular, the career show linked to the exhibition is the only one of its kind in the province and fills a crucial gap by providing learners with access to career advice.

"At Sasol we have an excellent first-hand view of the skills required for a technologically advanced South Africa. Currently, Sasol employs more than 800 full-time engineers, scientists, technologists and related professionals but, the future will demand many more skilled science professionals if our country is to maintain the rate of economic growth we currently enjoy," expands Furter.

This year's Sasol Techno X hosts national education and training institutions as well as career exhibitions by Sasol, Air Traffic and Navigation Services, Hip2B², Eskom and the South African Police Services to name a few.

"Combining the career exhibition with practical demonstrations and interactive exhibitions has been a successful formula in the past," explains Furter. "Inspired by what they see and experience at the exhibition, learners are able to source information on career paths, subject choice and admission requirements to tertiary institutions."

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Sasol Techno X is, however, not only about career options. This year's programme also includes practical demonstrations and interactive exhibitions on every topic imaginable. Some of the highlights include talks on the everyday uses of ammonia and hydrogen, a behind the scenes look at how rubber and latex is produced, astronomy and site visits to the Sasol fuels research unit to find out how fuels and lubricants are developed and tested, Karbochem, Emerald Animal World, Eskom and Rand Water to name a few.

Visitors can also join Freaky the mad scientist, and Bob, her hapless assistant, to learn more about the weird and wonderful ways in which you can turn your kitchen into a laboratory with the Freaky Science Show.

"Our overarching goal is to play an active part in increasing South Africa's scientific and technology expertise and, therefore, our competitiveness and innovation as a country in the world market. Sasol Techno X is part of our investment in developing science and math capacity in our country," concludes Furter.

Each year the number of visitors attending Sasol Techno X increases. Last year's exhibition attracted more than 21 000 registered visitors, 31 primary schools and 174 secondary schools, from seven different provinces.

Sasol Techno X takes place at the Boiketlong Complex, Sasolburg and is organised by the Boitjhorisong Resource Centre in Sasolburg.

For more information visit www.sasoltechnox.co.za.

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