

Press release: Air Products: 46 years and still going strong

- Track record of security of supply and stability ensures company's 'ever-green' status in the industrial gas industry

24 March 2015

Air Products South Africa celebrated its 46th anniversary on the 12th March 2015. Part of the global organisation Air Products and Chemicals Inc (APCI), Air Products South Africa has enjoyed steady growth since its founding locally on 2 March 1969.

The company is the largest supplier in the on-site and pipeline markets, and a leader in the bulk, cylinder, specialty gas and chemicals supply markets. The company also features significant in-house engineering expertise and specialist skills, which have been instrumental in the construction and commissioning of sixteen air separation units (ASUs) to date, around the country.

Based on careful market analysis and a strong focus on the needs of its customers, the two most recent ASUs were built in 2014: 'G-Plant' at the company's flagship facility in Vanderbijlpark, and its new plant at the Coega Industrial Development Zone (IDZ) - the first of its kind in the Eastern Cape. These two state-of-the-art production facilities form part of a current investment pipeline of R2 billion.

Air Products South Africa attributes its success in the market to consistently building on and strengthening its long-term customer relationships; and to being responsive to the changing needs of its customers. 2015 will see a further roll-out of the company's R2 billion investment pipeline, in the form of facility expansions and upgrades, as well as the introduction of new technologies to further enhance customer service.

Led by Managing Director, Mike Hellyar, the company has secured a market leadership position within the local industrial gas and chemicals market through a legacy of insightful and dynamic executive leadership.

Air Products is confident that its strategic, long-term investments in security of supply, infrastructure and - above all - excellent customer relationships, will support its ongoing sustainability and stability for many more decades to come.

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Note to Editors

About Air Products South Africa

Air Products South Africa (Pty) Limited manufactures, supplies and distributes a diverse portfolio of atmospheric gases, specialty gases, performance materials, equipment and services to the Southern African region.

Air Products touches the lives of consumers in positive ways every day, and serves customers across a wide range of industries from food and beverage, mining and petrochemicals, primary metal and steel manufacturers, chemical applications, welding and cutting applications to laboratory applications.

Founded in 1969, Air Products South Africa has built a reputation for its innovative culture, operational excellence and commitment to safety, quality and the environment. In addition the company aims to continue its growth and market leadership position in the Southern African region.

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