

**Press Release:**

***‘Better in Bloem’: Renttech South Africa extends reach to agricultural and other Free State industries through new Bloemfontein branch***

**24 July 2015**

Renttech South Africa’s growth trajectory is continuing with the recent opening of a new branch in Bloemfontein. The move is in response to a growing demand in the Free State and Lesotho, particularly in the agricultural sector, for the sales and rental of quality industrial equipment at affordable prices.

“Renttech identified the need to provide higher levels of personal service, as well as the benefits of a large stockholding and faster turnaround times to our customers in the Free State,” says Etienne Gouws, Branch Manager of Renttech South Africa in Bloemfontein. “Our new 400m<sup>2</sup> facility is ideally located between two busy industrial areas; and we are fully geared to service our clients in the Free State, as well as Lesotho, and to meet the industrial and agricultural activity in the region.”

With the largest fleet of rental welding equipment in South Africa, a large portion of Renttech’s value proposition to its customers is its specialist knowledge and expertise in all aspects of welding processes and equipment. The company’s distribution agreements with Lincoln Electric for welding equipment, and Air Liquide for welding gases, place Renttech in a strong position to offer ‘across the board’, high-quality welding solutions to its Free State customers. As the largest global supplier of welding solutions and equipment to tractor manufacturer John Deere among others, Lincoln is an important brand name in the agricultural sector.

“We identified a definite gap when it came to offering an optimum welding service to our customers in the agricultural sector in the Free State,” notes Gouws. “Our range of welding equipment, consumables and specialist welding gases, coupled with Renttech’s own in-house technical expertise, are now providing new levels of convenience and accessibility for our welding clients in the region.”

“Our clients value the convenience of a dependable a ‘one-stop’ shop,” says Gerrit van Zyl, Managing Director of Renttech South Africa. “We realise how important it is for them to know that they are renting the best in the business, backed by knowledgeable service. Our distributorship of Lincoln Electric, as well as Harris – among other global brands - allows for

this, further underscoring our vision of becoming the leading supplier of welding and industrial equipment in South Africa.”

The company’s portfolio of industrial equipment includes a wide range of generators, which, given the current power crisis, are becoming increasingly sought-after, according to van Zyl. This is particularly true of Renttech’s new range of diesel-driven generators, which meet both domestic and commercial/industrial demands.

“There has been a very positive response to our new diesel generators, both the smaller units – for domestic and small business use - and the larger, heavy-duty range. We are therefore all set for a spike in demand for our generator sets as our agricultural customers encounter and have to plan around load-shedding this winter.”

Renttech’s diesel-driven generators range from 10kva up to 250kva, and include an extra heavy-duty ‘rental spec’ series for extreme conditions.

“Our agricultural customers in the Free State are also reaping the benefits of our range of water pumps and machine tool solutions,” says Gouws, adding that, thanks to rigorous ongoing product and technical training, the Bloemfontein branch will ensure consistent and up-to-date ‘Renttech-style’ service.

“We are excited to be filling a gap through Renttech Bloemfontein. Having a presence in the region will enable us to offer a more ‘immediate’ service for our Free State customers, and key industries in the region, notably agriculture, will benefit from having a high-quality product offering - right on their doorstep,” van Zyl concludes.

***Ends***

**(606 words)**

#### **Note to Editors**

#### **About Renttech South Africa (Pty) Ltd:**

Renttech South Africa (Pty) Ltd, a company within the Brandcorp Group, has a solid background in the rental and sales of 22 recognised brands of welding, power generation, lifting, rigging and construction-related equipment. The company’s successful growth can be

attributed to the adoption of the highest levels of integrity, performance and customer service.

Industries addressed by Renttech South Africa include petrochemical, power generation, construction and civils, fabrication/manufacturing, pulp and paper, offshore oil and gas, shipbuilding and marine maintenance, mining, road and rail equipment fabrication and maintenance, and engineering.

The company has the largest fleet of rental welding equipment in Southern Africa. In addition, SA Welding (SAW) provides a range of specialised welding consumables and KLS Lifting Services (KLS) manufactures and distributes rigging and lifting equipment, including nylon web slings and endless round polyester slings.

Quality levels are measured through the internationally-recognised ISO 9001-2008 standards.

Renttech South Africa is an active member in a number of industry-relevant Associations: SA Oil and Gas Association (SAGOA); Lifting Equipment Association of South Africa (LEASA); South African Institute of Welding (SAIW); Local Economic Development (LED); as well as the Shutdown National Forum (SNF).

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