Propak Africa 2016

Press release #7 – news general

01 March 2016 – FINAL

Get ready for Africa's largest ever packaging and related industries show

Over 600 exhibitors are all set to showcase new products, technologies and solutions at the largest ever Propak Africa trade show.

Taking place at the Expo Centre, Nasrec in Johannesburg, from 15-18 March, Propak Africa will offer visitors the opportunity to see the latest products, equipment, machinery and services across the packaging, food processing, plastics, printing and labelling industries.

Visitors can expect to see hundreds of leading-edge South African companies in the packed halls, as well as high-profile international exhibitors from countries such as India, China, Belgium, Austria, Portugal, France, Turkey, Greece, the UAE and the United Kingdom.

The excitement is building as exhibitors prepare to engage with thousands of visitors who are looking for cost effective products and solutions that will help to streamline operations, maximise output and deliver optimal returns.

"We are delighted that the show has received such excellent industry support. It is fully subscribed and ready to go," says Joshua Low, Propak Africa Event Director. "There has been an overwhelming response to the show, despite the tough economic climate. Industry has pulled together to make this the biggest Propak Africa ever and we encourage visitors to come and see the latest innovations on display as well as all the live demonstrations that will be taking place throughout the show."

"Propak Africa, together with the co-located shows, is the largest show of its kind in the southern hemisphere and attracts visitors from across Africa and from overseas. We have had a great response to our visitor programmes, having personally invited hundreds of visitors from across Africa. We are expecting high visitor attendance at this year's show and believe that it will be a valuable experience for all who attend."

There will be many live demonstrations across the four days, showcasing the latest innovations and technologies. New products to the African market will also be on show. Local and international technical experts will be engaging with visitors.

## **Conferences and workshops**

"An exciting line-up of conferences and workshops are also taking place alongside Propak Africa," says Low. "The Propak Africa Packaging Conference, organised by VDS Media and endorsed by the Institute of Packaging South Africa, will highlight the latest industry thinking in a comprehensive packaging based agenda. Delegates will be able to gain an in depth understanding on how brand owners, retailers, converters and suppliers all work together to foster a dynamic and innovative solution-based approach addressing current market demand focused on expansion into the African region."

The Institute of Packaging South Africa (IPSA) will also be hosting various specialised workshops alongside Propak Africa, developed specifically for the IPSA Advanced Packaging Programme. The Plastics SA Conference will host Alex Erwin, the previous Minister of the DTI, as one of its guest speakers.

Pavlo Phitidis, a regular co-host on the 702 Money show, writer for the Business Day and content producer for the growth engines TV channel, will be running events alongside the show. These will include: 'Building an Asset of Value seminar' which will provide businesses with practical advice on how to grow their businesses from small to medium sized organisations. Based on the popular TV programme 'Dragon's Den', Pavlo will also be hosting a 'Suppliers Den' where 3 lucky exhibitors will be given the opportunity to 'pitch' their products or services to a panel of industry experts and top procurement directors. People are encouraged to visit the Propak Africa website for more information about these events.

Visitors can also book a seat to join some favourite local and international guru's at The GAPP Business Conference on 16 March, taking place alongside Propak Africa and The GAPP Print Expo. The conference will map out the future of the printing, packaging and signage industries in the context of the current South African and global economic and political environment.

"Top names such as Derek Watts, Justice Malala and Alex Hogg will be discussing current economic and political trends at The GAPP Conference," says Low. "Techniques will be shared to improve sales and marketing efforts, entrepreneurship and business strategy. Industry experts Linda Jackson on packaging, Laurel Brunner on print, and Mike Horsten on signage will be bringing delegates up to date with latest insights."

More information is available at <a href="www.propakafrica.co.za">www.propakafrica.co.za</a> including conference and workshop updates, cost of attending these and details of how to book. Visitors can also pre-register on the website for free access to the show.

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