

Engen Driver Wellness 2017 travels to Kimberly

Engen Petroleum launched their annual Driver Wellness programme in Kimberly this week.

Truck drivers were invited to receive free voluntary health screenings at the Kimberly Truck Stop, Cape Town Road, Kimberly from 17:00 - 22:00 as part of Engen's Driver Wellness Initiative.

Engen Driver Wellness is a mobile health awareness initiative run by Thubelihle Occupational Health & Wellness.

The initiative which has impacted positively on the country's bulk truck driver operators has continued to increase driver participation in voluntary screenings and improved health scores over the years.

Over a seven month period, running from April to the end of October, the programme will reach 21 sites in five provinces.

Running for its sixth year, Engen Driver Wellness continues to bring health to the front seat for truck drivers by providing them with free health screenings.

Operated nationwide at Engen Truck Stops and retail service stations, drivers are offered free voluntary screenings in mobile clinics. These are conducted by qualified nurses and councillors where blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, tuberculosis, BMI (Body Mass Index) and HIV/AIDS are tested.

Engen's Corporate Social Investment Manager, Mntu Nduvane says that the main aim of this initiative is to improve health through awareness. "Education helps to remind drivers and our employees why their health is important and how life choices impact on their well-being. Ultimately this increases their health, safety and productivity."

"There has been a marked increase in the amount of individuals using the services we provide which is a clear indication that this intervention is making a difference to the wellbeing of drivers and will ultimately lead to a healthier industry," adds Nduvane.

As testing is voluntary, the incremental acceptance of health management as a path to longevity and wellbeing are important indicators that health empowerment is gaining traction. Given the long and lonely hours long haul drivers spend on the road and the stresses associated with the job, these interventions form a critical pillar of support.

"Our most recent statistics show how cholesterol screening jumped by 63% from 2014 to 2015. Glucose testing went up by 18.5% and 16% more drivers tested their Body Mass Index (BMI), while blood pressure screening also realised an increase of 16% for 2015. HIV and STI testing rose by 16% between 2014 and 2015 and TB Screening saw a 15% upsurge," added Nduvane.

Engen's focus on Health and Safety is aligned to its business. Health and Safety is entrenched in every aspect of the company's operations. World-class standards and guidelines govern all of Engen's practices in this regard and are applied vigorously to ensure operational excellence and best practice.

"Engen's Driver Wellness campaign continues to have a massive all-round impact. This includes both on the drivers and their families, who benefit from reduced exposure to diseases and greater longevity of a breadwinner, and of course on the company itself, in terms of improved worker productivity, skills retention and disease management," says Nduvane.

Truck Stop & Retail sites	Venue	Date
Kokstad Truck Stop	BG Truck Stop Main Road Kokstad	31-Oct-17
Harrismith Truck Stop	N3 Highway, Harrismith	03-May-17
Kimberly Truck Stop	Cape Town Road, Kimberly	26-Jun-17
Upington Truck Stop	De Drift Plaza, Erf 1070, Louisvale, Upington	11-Jul-17
Springfontein Truck Stop	Plot no 3, N1 Highway, Springfontein	27-Jun-17
Cape Road Convenience Centre	314 Cape Road, Newton Park PE	24-Apr-17
Millennium Convenience Centre	R75 Uitenhage Rd, Algoa Park PE	25-Apr-17
Penford Motors	18-20 Graaf Reinnet Road , Uitenhage	26-Apr-17
Progress Service Station	35 Thompson Avenue, Bizana	07-Jul-17
Mosselbay 1 Stop	N2 Mosselbay	28-Sep-17
Gone South Engen Truck Stop	No 1 Old Grahamstown Road, Swartkops	23-Oct-17
East London Engen Truckstop	16A Settlers Way, Gately, Wesbank, East London	25-Oct-17

Airport Motors	9 Breezyvale Rd. Orange Groove	26-Oct-17
Gateway Truck Stop	N1 Highway, Beitbridge Border Post, Musina	05 & 06 Oct 2
Market Gateway	Majorie Street, City Deep	17-Oct-17
Kranskop 1 Stop N & S Bound	N1 Highway, Bela Bela	17-May-17
Highveld 1 Stop N & S Bound	R21 Highway	11-Oct-17
Vaal 1 Stop	N3 Highway	18-May-17
Engen Swartland 1 Stop	N7 National Road, Philadelphia	29-Sep
Engen Winelands 1 Stop North	N1 National Road, Joostenbergvlakte	01-Oct
Engen Winelands 1 Stop South	N1 National Road, Joostenbergvlakte	01-Oct
Engen Kempston Truck Stop	Gunner Circle, Epping Industrial	02-Oct