



MANUFACTURING CIRCLE

EMPLOY . PRODUCE . PROSPER

The Manufacturing Circle Quarterly Communication provides a status update on activities conducted in relation to our objectives for the calendar year

STRATEGIC PROJECTS STATUS UPDATE

Strategic projects initiated in 2023 continue in the 2024 calendar year. Facilitating access to demand side opportunities and addressing supply side challenges are areas of focus applied across exports, energy, municipalities and steel.

Workstreams are facilitated and project managed by the Manufacturing Circle engaged on a collaborative basis to defined outcomes, parties, deliverables and timelines. Where appropriate, stakeholders are engaged on a collaborative basis to avoid duplication of efforts.



EXPORTS

- **The Trade Interest Registry (TIR)** is a web-based platform that companies can use to provide input to trade negotiations, report export barriers, receive alerts on trade trends, access relevant research, and inform policy makers of their priorities. User acceptance testing is complete, and three onboarding sessions for MC members are scheduled during the course of June.

The sessions will be run via Teams and a detailed email with registration details has been communicated.
- **CBAM** The MC in collaboration with BUSA, SEIFSA and AFSA conducted a survey to better understand industry measurement and readiness in preparation for CBAM. Feedback was solicited from affected companies in South Africa on the first reporting process, challenges faced and readiness to move forward. Interest was also assessed for the establishment of an industry working group. Communication of survey results and details regarding an industry working group kick-off session will be shared in due course.
- **The Manufacturing Trade Forum (MTF)** is in the process of being structured for launch in Q3 2024. This initiative aims to enhance pro-active industry participation in trade discussions on a bi-lateral basis with government, informed by inputs facilitated by the TIR.



ENERGY

- **Renewables** The MC continues to engage in the South African Renewable Energy Masterplan (SAREM). We are involved in assessing opportunities for the provision of locally manufactured products to renewable energy projects in both the private and public sectors, and what is required from a policy and procurement perspective to facilitate implementation.
- **Grid (Tx and Dx)** The MC continues to work to address blockages in the execution of Eskom's transmission build programme. An industry Tx position paper is currently being developed in collaboration with the Centre for Sustainable Transitions (CST), Stellenbosch University, with a view to tabling engagements with the newly formed National Transmission Company of South Africa (NTCSA) which can hopefully enable decisions and speed up strategic procurement.
- **Gas** The MC is engaging on a regular basis with the Industrial Gas Users Association of South Africa (IGUA-SA) to escalate the urgency in addressing the imminent 'gas supply cliff' impacting on industrial gas users.



MUNICIPALITIES

Electricity

Water

- The MC continues to work in the City of Ekurhuleni (CoE) to implement pilot projects to address poor service delivery across electricity and water infrastructure.
- An active partnering model is being developed, comprising an agreement between industry and the CoE to enable proactive management and maintenance of municipal infrastructure (such as substations and pump stations). The intention is for industry to provide funding and / or resource support to address critical infrastructure fixes together with a method to recover costs by way of rebates and / or repayments.
- In Springs, the New Era and Fulcrum regions have been identified as focus areas led by The Gauteng East Chamber of Commerce to pilot an Active Partnering Model.
- In Wadeville, the MC is working together with the National Treasury Cities Support Programme (CSP) and the National Cleaner Production of South Africa's (NCPC-SA) Eco-Industrial Park Programme. A project team has been established which includes representation by the Wadeville Action Group (WAG), representing 45+ businesses, and municipality representatives. A project programme has been agreed which includes clean up efforts in the areas.

INDUSTRIALISTS IN ACTION

A new area of focus, Industrialists in Action, will highlight the daily challenges SA industrialists face in extreme working circumstances and how they overcome these odds to keep factories working. The aim is to advance the reputation of industry across business, government and labour. We firmly believe that manufacturers make things, manufacturers fix things, and manufacturers make things happen.

ENGAGEMENTS 2024



GOLF DAY

Date: 4 JUNE

Event Format: Full day event (6-8hrs)
Mid shot gun start
Halfway house meal
Dinner and Prize giving

Number of Players: 100-120

Golf Course: Royal Johannesburg Kensington

TRADE INTEREST REGISTRY (TIR) Onboarding Sessions

- 13 June @ 11h00
- 18 June @ 12h00
- 24 June @ 11h00

CBAM Industry Working Group Kick-off Session: 19 June 10h00 – 12h00

MUNICIPALITIES ROUNDTABLE - Electricity and Water: 3rd September

AGM: 17th October

For further information relating to any of these items please do not hesitate to contact jo@manufacturingcircle.co.za