



MEDIA RELEASE

The 'Green Revolution' Conference has set the pace in sustainable initiatives

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Caption: The Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA)'s Eastern Cape Conference which took place last week (10 September 2013), at The Boardwalk Conference Centre, Port Elizabeth, has ended on a high note with Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) showcasing the unique solar car. Delegates used the platform to share, network and deliberate on how to be more environmentally conscious, and what better environment to profile the car of the future.

This year's bi-ennial Eastern Cape 'Green Revolution' Conference saw the 72 delegates participating in lively debates; join in on significant discussions about environmental consciousness and maximising networking opportunities.

Guest speaker, Sarah Edwards from RWS Environmental Consultancy based in the United Kingdom, focussed on international best practices in the waste industry. Edwards shared that the

growing population and economy increased complexity of waste streams. Limited understanding of waste flows, the policy and regulatory environment as well as the absence of a recycling infrastructure in South Africa poses great challenges that need to be overcome.

One of the highlights of the day was Nick Chapman, Manager of Central Plant Engineering at Volkswagen South Africa, who shared insights into the automotive giant's Think Blue.Factory. initiative. Chapman indicated that ecological sustainability is amongst the most important challenges in becoming the ecological number one in the automotive market.

In addition, Prof Maarten de Wit, from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) added by sharing insights on 'How to get earth back on track' through a new discipline called 'Earth stewardship science'.

"We are delighted by the positive turnout for this conference and for all the valuable insight we received about focus areas in the waste industry, green technology, South Africa's recycling prospects and newly formulated disciplines. On behalf of the IWMSA, we would like to thank all the speakers for their time and knowledge," comments IWMSA President, Dr Suzan Oelofse.

For more information on the IWMSA, visit www.iwmsa.co.za or call 011 675 3462/4. The IWMSA is also on Facebook www.facebook.com/iwmsa

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About the IWMSA

The Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA) is a multi-disciplinary non-profit association that is committed to supporting professional waste management practices.

Our organisation comprises of voluntary members who promote environmentally acceptable, cost effective and appropriate waste management practices. We strive towards the protection of the environment and people of Southern Africa from the adverse effects of poor waste management by supporting sustainable best practical environmental options.

We contribute to the improvement of waste management standards and legislation, support international, national and regional trends in best environmental practices; promote the science and technology of waste management and practice affordable cost effective management of waste. Education and training in the realm of effective and efficient waste management is also a key focus for us.

When the IWMSA was established over 30 years ago, it was the vision of the founders to provide South Africa with a clean and healthy environment. Today this is still the very core of the organisation.