



MEDIA RELEASE

Networking and collaboration for Eastern Cape's waste management industry

Immediate Release

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The Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA's) Eastern Cape branch hosted a successful information sharing business morning last week at the Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber. With 50 delegates in attendance, the event focused on networking and integration of the waste management industry.

[Above picture from left to right: Theuns Duvenhage (Aurecon), Lizl Muller (Goodyear), Andrew van Wyk (The Waste Trade Company), Melinda Labuscagne (Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality) and Theo von Ruben (Chemsolved)] Photographer: Vicky du Toit. High resolution image available on request.

The Eastern Cape's waste management industry convened last week at the IWMSA's Eastern Cape branch event entitled 'Small Pieces make the Bigger Picture'. Individuals and organisations operating in the waste management field were treated to expert presentations at the Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber.

"The IWMSA Eastern Cape branch's Port Elizabeth subcommittee coordinated the event and we are delighted to see the growing interest of professional waste management practices in the province," said Nomakhwezi Nota, IWMSA Eastern Cape Chairperson.

Andrew van Wyk, HR manager at The Waste Trade Company and master of ceremonies, kicked off the event by emphasising that the forging of relationships is necessary in a growing industry. This is especially important in the waste management industry as it often includes many technical aspects needing professional advice.

Among the panel of experts presenting was Technical Director and Environmental Specialist at Aurecon, Theuns Duvenhage. Duvenhage discussed basic legal requirements, waste licensing and best practice methodology in the waste management industry.

Safety, Health and Environmental Officer at Goodyear, Lizl Muller, reported on the successful implementation of zero waste to landfill within an organisation. "Changing the mind-set of employees is the key ingredient. Management need to be committed – the process takes time and financial investment is often needed as South Africa lacks the infrastructure that certain European countries offer," said Muller.

Geographic Information System (GIS) Controller at the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality and IWMSA committee member, Melinda Labuscagne, concluded the morning by elaborating on the transport registration processes within Nelson Mandela Bay. Attendees was also introduced to the IWMSA where Labuscagne explained the benefits associated with being an IWMSA member and the various training opportunities at their disposal. She emphasized that similar events will be hosted by the IWMSA Eastern Cape branch as it is important that businesses within the waste industry are aware of each other and work towards the same vision of a cleaner environment.

The event ended off with informal networking.

"As the national industry body for professional waste management practices, we encourage interaction between individuals and businesses from the waste industry. We host events such as these all over the country in an effort to inform, educate and empower those operating in the environmental and waste management space," concludes Nota.

For more information on the IWMSA visit www.iwmsa.co.za. The IWMSA is also on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/iwmsa>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/IWMSA>).

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