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SERVICE AND REPAIR

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SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa drives the future with new service and repair centre

SKID STEERS: Manitou's Skid Steer loaders drive performance and value

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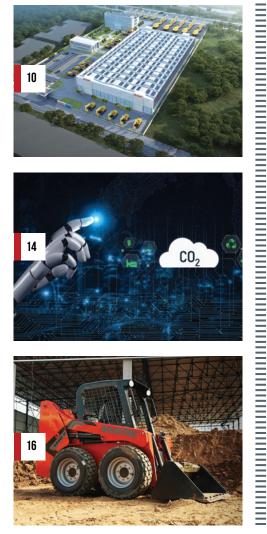
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REBUILDING EQUIPMENT — A POWERFUL SHIFT IN CAPEX

Across South Africa's industrial landscape, from mining to construction, manufacturing to logistics, a quiet but powerful shift is underway. The capital equipment rebuilding sector, once seen mainly as a cost-saving measure, is emerging as a strategic cornerstone of asset management.



n an era defined by tight budgets, disrupted supply chains, and growing sustainability imperatives, the choice to rebuild rather than replace is no longer just practical, it is essential. More and more operators are realising that a well-executed rebuild can restore heavy equipment to 'as new' condition at a fraction of the replacement cost. The benefits are clear: extended machine lifespans, reliable performance, and a smaller environmental footprint.

From complete overhauls of haul trucks and excavators to the remanufacture of engines, gearboxes, pumps, and motors, South Africa's engineering sector has developed world-class capacity in this field. Specialist companies, OEM dealers, and independent workshops offer everything from on-site component repairs to factory-

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certified rebuilds. This capability has become a competitive advantage for local industry, especially in sectors that rely heavily on imported machinery.

Economic realities have played their part. Rising input costs and deferred capital expenditure have pushed many mines and contractors to refurbish instead of replace, fuelling a thriving ecosystem of skilled tradespeople, testing facilities, and certified rebuild centres capable of delivering machines that perform as well as, and sometimes better than, the originals.

At the same time, the industry is evolving. Customers now expect transparency, traceability, and performance guarantees. To stay competitive, workshops are adopting formal quality assurance systems, digital record-keeping, and predictive maintenance tools. The integration of data analytics, non-destructive testing, and advanced coatings is reshaping the traditional "strip and rebuild" model into one that is smarter, faster, and more sustainable. Many companies are also embracing Industry 4.0 principles, using sensors, telematics, and digital twins to monitor component health and predict when rebuilds will be needed, reducing unplanned downtime and improving asset utilisation.

Training and skills development are becoming critical enablers of this progress. As equipment technology becomes more complex, the demand for qualified artisans, technicians, and engineers who can

diagnose, rebuild, and test to exacting standards continues to rise. Some OEMs and independent workshops are responding by partnering with technical colleges and sector training authorities to ensure a pipeline of new talent. The rebuilding industry, often overlooked as a career path, is beginning to position itself as a space where craftsmanship meets advanced engineering.

Challenges remain, from skills shortages and limited access to finance to power disruptions that slow production and extend turnaround times. Financing in particular continues to be a barrier for smaller contractors who would like to embark on fleet rebuild programmes but lack access to structured funding.

Despite these challenges, the momentum is undeniable. The capital equipment rebuilding sector aligns perfectly with global shifts toward circular-economy principles and resource efficiency. Instead of discarding valuable assets, companies are closing the loop by giving machines and components a second or even third life. Rebuilding reduces waste, conserves energy, and minimises the carbon footprint associated with manufacturing new equipment. In many ways, it represents one of the most tangible and measurable ways that heavy industry can demonstrate sustainability in action.

South Africa is well positioned to play a leading role in this transition. The country's long history of engineering excellence, combined with its robust industrial infrastructure, creates fertile ground for innovation in remanufacturing and refurbishment. With the right policy support and industry collaboration, the rebuilding sector could become not only a cost saver but also a significant contributor to national industrial growth, exports, and employment.

In this issue, we spotlight two companies that are driving this transformation in practice. Their work demonstrates that resilience, ingenuity, and technical mastery remain defining traits of South African industry. By rebuilding value, these firms are not only extending the life of our machines but also strengthening supply chains, enhancing competitiveness, and creating the engineering jobs of tomorrow.



WHO SAID WORLD-CLASS CAN'T BE LOCAL?

You don't need to cross oceans for Scania quality.
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Centre assembles trucks ready for real African work - tough roads,
long hauls, and no excuses.

Scania. Competition welcome.

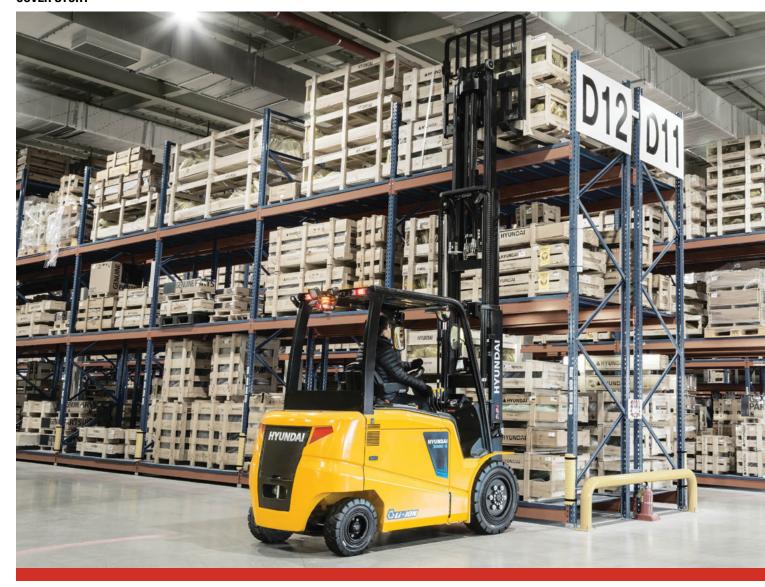
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Fuel efficiency comparison based on independent tests between the Scania Euro 3 and Scania Euro 3 Super models. Results showed up to a 10% improvement in fuel consumption for the Scania Euro 3 Super under standard operating conditions. Savings equivalent to approximately R8 352 per 10 000 km are indicative and may vary depending on load, route, driver behaviour and prevailing diesel prices.







SKYJACKS REACHES NEW HEIGHTS WITH HYUNDAI PARTNERSHIP

Juanita Pienaar spoke with Alistair Bennett, Managing Director of SkyJacks, about the company's latest milestone, its appointment as the authorised distributor of Hyundai forklifts in South Africa, and how this development reinforces SkyJacks' position as a trusted, multi-solution partner in access, lifting, and material handling.

Four decades of elevating industry standards

Founded in 1978, SkyJacks has become a cornerstone of South Africa's industrial landscape. Over more than forty years, the company has evolved into one of the country's leading specialists in access, lifting, and material handling solutions, serving industries from construction and logistics to mining and manufacturing.

"Our business has always been built on reliability, technical expertise, and service excellence," says Alistair Bennett, Managing Director of SkyJacks. "Over the decades, we've grown from a small family-owned business to a nationally recognised brand that enables safe, productive, and efficient working environments."

Today, SkyJacks' offering spans Suspended Access Systems, Mobile Elevated Work Platforms, Telescopic Handlers, Cranes, Forklifts, and Industrial Floor Cleaning Equipment, alongside a comprehensive range of lifting gear and load testing services. Its long-standing partnerships with leading global OEMs ensure that customers have access to the most advanced technologies and best-in-class equipment.

A complete solutions partner

SkyJacks' reputation in the market rests on more than the equipment it supplies. It's about offering end-toend solutions that combine quality products with strong technical and service support.







"This appointment is a significant milestone for us. Hyundai Material Handling is a globally respected brand, with a presence in over 140 countries. Being chosen to represent Hyundai in South Africa is a real honour and a powerful endorsement of our capabilities."

Alistair Bennett, Managing Director of SkyJacks.

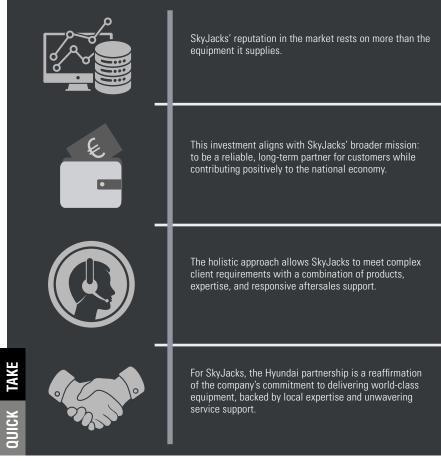
"Our differentiation lies in four key areas," Bennett explains. "Comprehensive solutions, global partnerships, technical expertise, and a customer-first service culture."

This holistic approach allows SkyJacks to meet complex client requirements with a combination of products, expertise, and responsive aftersales support. "We collaborate with leading OEMs worldwide to ensure access to world-class technology and equipment," says Bennett. "At the same time, our in-house workshop capabilities and 24/7 field service teams ensure that clients get the reliability and uptime they need to stay productive."

The company's service culture is one of its defining strengths. SkyJacks invests heavily in operator training, safety compliance, and equipment maintenance - all key factors that reduce downtime and operational risk. "By empowering people and industries to work smarter and safer, we're contributing to both economic growth and safer workplaces," Bennett adds.

Introducing Hyundai Material Handling

The recent appointment of SkyJacks as the authorised distributor for Hyundai





Hyundai Material Handling is a globally respected brand, with a presence in over 140 countries.

Being chosen to represent Hyundai in South Africa is a real honour and a powerful endorsement of our capabilities.





forklifts marks a major turning point in the company's growth story.

"This appointment is a significant milestone for us," says Bennett. "Hyundai Material Handling is a globally respected brand, with a presence in over 140 countries. Being chosen to represent Hyundai in South Africa is a real honour and a powerful endorsement of our capabilities."

The Hyundai partnership strengthens SkyJacks' already diverse portfolio and broadens its reach in the material handling market. "It allows us to better serve both new and existing customers," Bennett explains. "We're now able to deliver proven, reliable solutions from a world-class brand - reinforcing our position as a trusted multi-solution provider in the industry."

World-class forklifts built for South African operations

Hyundai's forklift range is known for its innovation, reliability, and operator-focused design. According to Bennett, the brand's values align perfectly with SkyJacks' own commitment to quality and customer satisfaction.

"The Hyundai name is synonymous with quality, reliability, and innovation, and every Hyundai forklift embodies these qualities," he says. The range includes electric, diesel, and LPG-powered models, offering versatility across applications and industries.

Customers can expect features such as fuel-efficient, low-emission engines, advanced lithium-ion power options, onboard diagnostics, and real-time performance data. "Comprehensive safety systems and operator comfort are also a key focus," adds Bennett. "This combination ensures exceptional reliability, a low total cost of ownership, and improved operational efficiency."

The forklift range caters to logistics, warehousing, manufacturing, retail, ports, and the food and beverage sectors, as well as heavy industry and mining. "It's a versatile product line that complements our existing access and lifting solutions perfectly," says Bennett. "We can now support customers across an even broader range of applications."

The SkyJacks promise

Aftersales support has always been a cornerstone of SkyJacks' business model, and the Hyundai partnership is no exception. "We are investing significantly in service capability, technical training, and parts availability to fully support

Hyundai forklifts," Bennett confirms.

SkyJacks' national branch network, well-equipped workshops, and skilled technical teams ensure quick turnaround times and proactive maintenance support. "Our goal is to maximise uptime and equipment longevity," he says. "When customers invest in our products, they also invest in a partnership that guarantees continued performance."

This commitment to service extends to operator training and safety compliance. "Operator competence is essential to productivity and safety," Bennett notes. "That's why we make training a key part of our offering. We don't just sell machines; we support the people who use them."

Growth through partnership and innovation

SkyJacks' vision is to become Southern Africa's most trusted partner in industrial equipment supply - a goal that the Hyundai collaboration helps bring within closer reach.

"The partnership directly supports our strategic vision by strengthening our material handling portfolio and providing a robust growth platform in one of the most dynamic segments of the equipment industry," Bennett says. "It's an exciting time for us. We're not just expanding our product offering, we're expanding the value we bring to customers."

Beyond the Hyundai development, SkyJacks continues to grow through new partnerships and product innovations. The company has recently added the MACH range of commercial and industrial floor cleaning machines from Italian manufacturer Eureka S.p.A., further enhancing its ability to deliver complete workplace solutions.

Building skills and capacity for the future

In parallel with product diversification, SkyJacks is also investing in local skills development and expanding its national footprint to improve service accessibility.

"We're expanding our branch network





and investing in technical training to build local skills and capacity," Bennett explains. "It's not just about growth for its own sake, it's about creating longterm sustainability and supporting South Africa's industrial development."

This investment aligns with SkyJacks' broader mission: to be a reliable, long-term partner for customers while contributing positively to the national economy.

"Our ongoing focus remains on customer service, safety, and innovation," says Bennett. "We aim to continue setting the standard for quality and reliability in the South African market."

A future built on strength and partnership

For SkyJacks, the Hyundai partnership is a reaffirmation of the company's commitment to delivering world-class equipment, backed by local expertise and unwavering service support.

As Bennett concludes: "We see this as an opportunity to elevate our offering, strengthen our customer relationships, and continue leading the way in access, lifting, and material handling solutions. Our journey has always been about helping our customers reach new heights, and this partnership allows us to take that mission even further."



It's an exciting time for us. We're not just expanding our product offering, we're expanding the value we bring to customers.

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SANY'S R500-MILLION COMMITMENT BUILDS A FUTURE OF LOCAL STRENGTH AND GLOBAL STANDARDS

The construction of SANY Southern Africa's new headquarters and production campus marks a defining chapter for the brand's regional presence - driving localisation, skills development, and sustainable industrial growth. Juanita Pienaar spoke with Hennie Louw, Operations and Marketing Manager at SANY Southern Africa, about the company's landmark investment in its new headquarters and production campus - an ambitious development that reinforces SANY's long-term commitment to the continent.



Central to this achievement is the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) Advantage synonymous with the Hitachi brand of equipment.

Building Africa's industrial future

"South Africa stands as the industrial heart of the African continent," says Louw. "Establishing our new Southern Africa headquarters and production campus here is a strategic commitment to long-term regional growth."

With a total investment now exceeding R500-million, this development goes far

beyond bricks and mortar. It's a statement of intent: a belief that Africa is not merely a market to serve, but a partner in shaping the future of smart, sustainable mining and construction.

A strategic investment that grows with demand

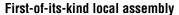
Originally budgeted at R300-million, the

scale of the project expanded significantly as plans evolved. "The total investment has now surpassed R500-million, reflecting both the project's expansion and our deepening commitment to the region," Louw explains.

As market demands grew, so did the vision. "The increase accounts for essential infrastructure additions such as a major component repair centre and advanced training facilities that were not part of the initial plan but became critical," he says. These enhancements strengthen SANY's ability to deliver faster response times, improved operational efficiency, and future-ready capacity.

In many ways, the rising investment mirrors the company's confidence in South Africa's potential to become a continental hub for industrial excellence.





SANY's decision to launch local assembly operations - a first among overseas yellow metal OEMs - is a defining milestone for the brand and the broader sector. "Our customers can expect shorter lead times, competitive pricing, and localised service excellence," Louw affirms.

But the significance extends far beyond customer benefits. "For South Africa, it represents more than industrial expansion, it's a transfer of technology, skills, and opportunity," he continues. "Local assembly empowers communities, creates skilled jobs, and strengthens the national manufacturing base."

This commitment is grounded in what SANY calls its #HereToStay philosophy -investing where it operates to drive shared growth and build enduring relationships across the value chain.

A world-class manufacturing standard

When production commences, the new facility is expected to produce more than 3 000 excavators and other machines annually. Maintaining global quality at this scale is non-negotiable.

"At SANY, Quality Changes the World. This principle applies to every factory - whether in China, South Africa, or anywhere else," Louw says. The Southern Africa plant will mirror the same global manufacturing standards, processes, and quality controls that define the SANY experience worldwide. "Every machine that leaves our assembly line will carry





"South Africa stands as the industrial heart of the African continent. Establishing our new Southern Africa headquarters and production campus here is a strategic commitment to longterm regional growth."

Hennie Louw, Operations and Marketing Manager at SANY Southern Africa.

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Skills transfer lies at the heart of SANY's long-term regional strategy. $\label{eq:santa} % \begin{subarray}{ll} \end{subarray} % \begin{subarra$



By localising production, service, and logistics, SANY is not just improving cost and delivery efficiency — it's embedding SANY deeper into the local value chain.



The three key production streams - excavators, EV trucks, and component repair - will anchor SANY's regional role in sustainable and intelligent mining solutions.







We're giving our teams the knowledge and resources to deliver world-class aftersales service - keeping our customers' operations moving efficiently and reliably.

the same reliability, strength, and precision that define SANY globally."

This approach ensures that the company's customers across the continent can trust that locally assembled doesn't mean locally compromised - it means world-class machines, made closer to home.

Empowering through skills development

Skills transfer lies at the heart of SANY's long-term regional strategy. "Skills development is central to our vision," Louw emphasises. "The new campus includes dedicated training areas where technicians and engineers gain handson experience in component repair, diagnostics, and assembly."

Beyond technical training, the company is also developing operator programmes to improve machine efficiency and site safety. "While we continue to formalise accreditation and compliance frameworks,

our goal is to build a sustainable skills pipeline that empowers local talent for generations to come," he adds.

The training focus ensures that SANY's investment uplifts people as much as it builds infrastructure - creating opportunities that extend far beyond the company's own workforce.

Aftersales excellence at the core

For Louw, the facility's location in South Africa is also key to elevating service responsiveness. "With South Africa serving as the logistics hub for Southern Africa, the new headquarters places us at the centre of regional supply routes," he says.

This centralisation allows faster access to equipment, genuine parts, and technical support - backed by regional training to ensure service teams are fully equipped. "We're giving our teams the knowledge and resources to deliver world-class aftersales service - keeping our

customers' operations moving efficiently and reliably."

Such an approach positions SANY as not just a supplier of machinery, but as a partner in productivity.

A workplace built on wellbeing

Unlike many industrial facilities, SANY's new campus prioritises the wellbeing of its employees through thoughtful design. "At SANY, we believe that a healthy body and mind are the foundation of productivity and innovation," Louw explains.

Features such as a gym, canteen, and rest gardens aren't luxuries - they're integral to SANY's philosophy. "These spaces encourage our people to recharge, reflect, and reconnect, because when our teams thrive, our business thrives," he says.

This ethos defines the company's #LifeAtSANY culture - one "built on respect, growth, and belonging." As Louw notes, "We don't just build machines; we build environments where people feel valued and empowered."

Collaborative strength

The project brings together SANY, Sinoma Engineering, and Prime Development, each contributing specialised expertise. "Sinoma Engineering brings world-class construction and project engineering capability, while Prime Development supports with local execution, compliance, and infrastructure development," Louw says.



It's a partnership that blends international best practice with local execution, ensuring the facility meets both global standards and regional realities.

Adapting for the future

The project's completion date has been extended to December 2025, a change Louw attributes to strategic expansion rather than delay. "As the project evolved, we introduced additional scope to align with market demand - such as expanded assembly areas, advanced component repair facilities, and improved energy systems," he explains.

While these changes required more time, they significantly enhance the facility's long-term value. "We've strengthened project management structures and supplier coordination to ensure smooth delivery and no further major delays."

Evolving beyond excavators

While excavator assembly forms the foundation, the facility's capabilities will expand in phases. "Beyond excavator assembly, future lines will focus on electric mining trucks (EV trucks) and a major component repair centre," says Louw.

These three key production streams - excavators, EV trucks, and component repair - will anchor SANY's regional role in sustainable and intelligent mining solutions. "This evolution supports our *Designing Change* campaign by leading



This evolution supports our Designing Change campaign by leading the shift toward energy-efficient and digitally integrated equipment.

the shift toward energy-efficient and digitally integrated equipment," he adds.

Driving regional growth and opportunity

Localisation is not just a manufacturing strategy, it's a competitive advantage. "By localising production, service, and logistics, we're not just improving cost and delivery efficiency - we're embedding SANY deeper into the local value chain," says Louw.

Proximity enables responsiveness and fosters closer collaboration with customers. "It's a strategic advantage that positions SANY as a trusted long-term partner and a driver of regional industrial growth."

The economic impact is equally significant. "The facility will directly create over 100 new jobs during its initial operational phase, with significant growth potential as production expands,"

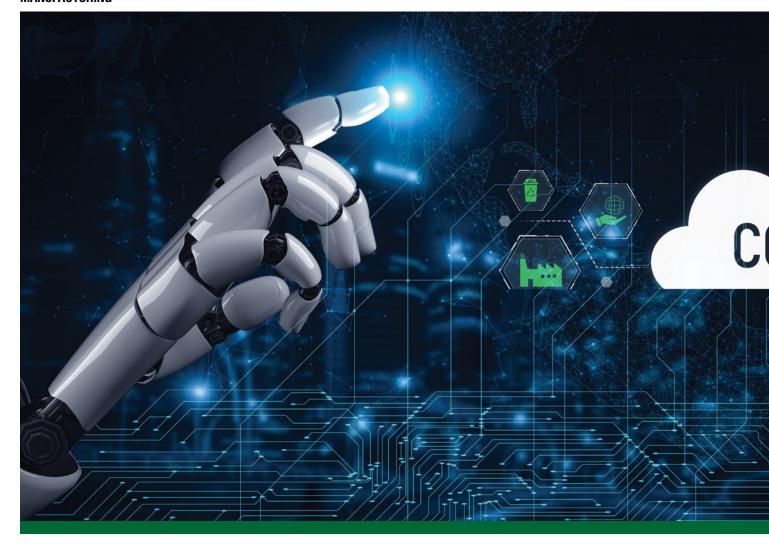
he notes. Beyond direct employment, the project stimulates opportunities for local suppliers, contractors, and training partners, helping to build a robust ecosystem around mining and construction.

"This investment demonstrates SANY's long-term belief in Africa's industrial future - an investment in people, progress, and shared prosperity," Louw concludes.

A lasting legacy of local strength

SANY Southern Africa's new headquarters and production campus stands as a symbol of confidence and collaboration. With its mix of world-class production, skills transfer, and community investment, it represents a future where industrial growth and human development advance hand in hand.

For SANY, this is not just about assembling machines - it's about assembling a future built in Africa, for Africa. •



WHY CARBON INTELLIGENCE IS FAST BECOMING AN OPERATIONAL KPI

South African manufacturers have long built reputations on grit, keeping plants running through load-shedding, supply bottlenecks, and rising input costs. But as 2025 draws to a close, it is clear that resilience alone no longer defines competitiveness. The next measure of operational excellence is data, specifically carbon intelligence. By Amith Singh, National Manager: Manufacturing, Nedbank Commercial Banking.

The data shift reshaping factories

The Nedbank-NAACAM Carbon Readiness Study, released mid-year, revealed how exposed South Africa's industrial base is to the global shift toward carbon accountability. Nearly 70% of the country's automotive component manufacturers export to Europe or the UK, where emissions reporting is now mandatory. Yet fewer than half have set a net-zero target, and only a small minority are tracking Scope 3 supply-chain emissions.

That data gap is no longer just an

environmental issue; it is an operational and commercial one. As global buyers begin to screen suppliers based on their carbon performance, a factory's ability to measure and manage emissions is now as critical as its cost, quality, and delivery scores.

Carbon now carries a price tag

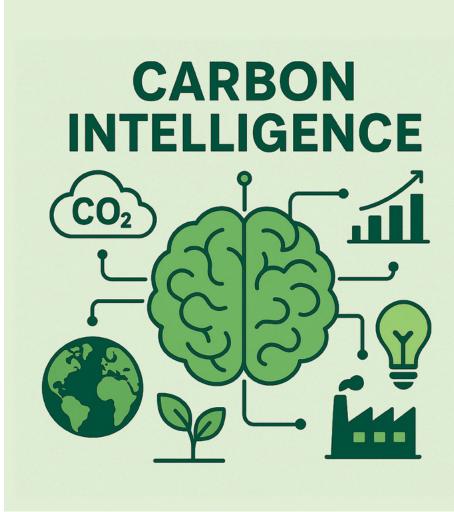
In October 2025, carbon traded between R1 600 and R1 620 per tonne, up from R1 320 in 2024. For exporters, that means embedded emissions in every product carry a measurable financial cost under mechanisms like the EU's

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). The longer companies delay in establishing measurement systems, the higher their exposure, especially as buyers shift toward verified low-carbon suppliers.

What the leaders are doing differently

A Tier 1 automotive supplier has recently become the first in South Africa to trial low-carbon steel in full production, thereby cutting embedded emissions and aligning with international OEM expectations. Although the material





premium remains high, early adopters are already securing access to future value chains. Their approach shows that carbon readiness is not a compliance burden; it is a strategic advantage that protects export channels and strengthens supplier credibility.

Beyond energy: total operational resilience

The study also surfaced broader operational risks. Nearly half of the surveyed firms rely solely on municipal water, which often results in frequent supply interruptions. Sustainability is therefore no longer limited to environmental metrics; it has become a measure of production stability and business continuity.

Financially, most manufacturers still invest less than 1% of annual budgets in sustainability or efficiency projects, a level that will not move the dial. The challenge is to connect finance, policy, and data so readiness becomes mainstream rather than exceptional.

Where finance meets factory floor Nedbank's response has been to go beyond traditional credit support and

partner with manufacturers on carbon measurement and transition planning. Our Carbon Readiness Toolkit, developed in collaboration with NAACAM, provides practical diagnostics, benchmarking tools, and step-by-step guidance to help firms prioritise interventions, from baseline audits and energy-mix modelling to supplier engagement strategies.

For small and mid-sized companies without in-house sustainability teams, this partnership approach provides both technical and financial scaffolding to stay competitive in a rapidly changing global market.

The bigger picture

Globally, capital investment is chasing low-carbon production. The US Inflation Reduction Act and Europe's Green Deal Industrial Plan are channelling billions into re-shoring clean technologies. South Africa's manufacturers cannot afford to fall behind while policy bottlenecks delay local approvals for renewables or infrastructure upgrades.

Yet, the sector's ingenuity and technical skill remain unmatched. The opportunity now lies in linking sustainability with productivity, data with design, and banking with engineering.



Amith Singh, National Manager: Manufacturing, Nedbank Commercial Banking.

At Nedbank Commercial Banking we believe the manufacturers who measure early, invest smartly, and adapt fastest will own the next decade of industrial competitiveness. •

Think bigger. Think Nedbank Commercial Banking.



MANITOU'S SKID STEER LOADERS DRIVE PERFORMANCE AND VALUE

Juanita Pienaar spoke to Andrew Maynard, Managing Director at Manitou Southern Africa, to unpack how Manitou's versatile Skid Steer Loader range continues to deliver exceptional performance, reliability, and total cost efficiency across the region's most demanding industries.

Compact machines, big capability

When it comes to construction, agriculture, and industrial applications across Southern Africa, versatility is key. From loading and levelling to trenching and waste handling, operators demand equipment that can deliver power, agility, and reliability in one package. Manitou's Skid Steer Loader range answers that call.

"Manitou provides a range of Skid

Steer Loaders that directly address the varied terrain and loading demands across Southern Africa," says Maynard. "These machines are highly sought after due to their versatility, excellent traction, speed, and manoeuvrability."

Manitou's line-up includes four models - the 1340R, 1640R, 1800R, and 3300V - each designed to meet the needs of specific applications. With operating capacities ranging

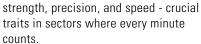
from 612 kg to 1 497 kg, the range is available in both open and closed cab configurations, offering flexibility across environments and operator preferences.

From construction and earthmoving to agricultural feed handling and waste management, these machines are engineered to adapt. "The versatility of our range is maximised by the All-Tach® Attachment Mounting System," explains Maynard. "It allows attachments to be changed quickly and effortlessly, ensuring operators can move from one task to the next without delay."

Performance that outpaces the competition

Performance lies at the heart of Manitou's design philosophy. Each model is built for





"Our Radial Lift (R-Series) models achieve an unmatched balance of power and size," Maynard says. "They can turn on their own axis, offer the lowest turning radius, and deliver superior dump height - all of which drive efficiency in confined spaces."

That efficiency extends to travel speeds of up to 19,5 km/h, allowing operators to complete jobs faster and move quickly between work zones. The 1640R, for example, boasts a high dump height of 2 379 mm and superior crowd and dump angles for enhanced material retention and discharge precision.

These features are matched by Manitou's emphasis on robust design and reliability. "Reliability is guaranteed by using well-known components, including Yanmar engines," Maynard explains. "Our design drastically lowers total cost of ownership through features like centralised service access points and a maintenance-free hydraulic fan."



"Manitou provides a range of Skid Steer Loaders that directly address the varied terrain and loading demands across Southern Africa".

Andrew Maynard, Managing Director at Manitou Southern Africa.

QUICK

TAKE

Manitou's line-up includes four models - the 1340R, 1640R, 1800R, and 3300V - each designed to meet the needs of specific applications.



Each machine comes standard with a two-year subscription to Easy Manager Telematics, providing remote diagnostics, service reminders, and proactive maintenance alerts.



Each model is built for strength, precision, and speed - crucial traits in sectors where every minute counts.



Visibility has been significantly enhanced, with the latest models offering a 23% increase in sightlines.



Optimised power and lift for every job

No two applications are the same, and Manitou's design reflects that reality. Each model offers the right combination of lift, power, and reach to deliver optimal productivity.

"The design supports high productivity and perfectly matches your application," says Maynard. "Our Radial Lift (R-Series) machines are ideal for digging and midrange tasks, providing maximum breakout force and stability close to the ground.



The design supports high productivity and perfectly matches your application. Our Radial Lift (R-Series) machines are ideal for digging and mid-range tasks, providing maximum breakout force and stability close to the ground.



The Vertical Lift (V-Series), on the other hand, excels at lifting and stacking, offering superior stability and maximum reach for loading high-sided vehicles."

At the top end of the range, the 3 300V delivers up to 294 Nm of torque from its reliable Yanmar engine - a level of power that ensures efficient operation even under the toughest conditions. Optional features like the Two-Speed Drive allow operators to travel between job sites faster, while the Power-A-Tach® system enables effortless, in-cab attachment switching, ensuring the machine is never idle.

Operator comfort and safety at the core

In modern fleet management, productivity isn't just about horsepower, it's about people. Operators spend long hours in the cab, making comfort and safety essential factors in performance.

"We place your operator at the centre of our design to reduce fatigue, increase safety, and maximise output," Maynard notes. "Our new medium frame loaders offer a 23% larger cab and option for pilot joystick controls or T-bar controls attached to the seat. They move with the operator, providing intuitive, low-effort control."

Visibility has also been significantly enhanced, with the latest models offering a 23% increase in sightlines. A patent-pending sloped roof and shaped lift arms ensure clear views to the tyres and dumping area - critical for safe operation in confined or high-traffic environments.

Safety is built into every aspect of the design. "The Hydraloc™ Safety System is standard," says Maynard. "It automatically locks the lift, tilt, and drive functions when the operator restraint bar is raised or the seat is vacated. This ensures the machine remains completely secure when not in active use."

Technology that maximises uptime

Manitou's innovation extends far beyond the operator cab. The company's approach to technology and maintenance is centred on minimising downtime and simplifying fleet management.

"Routine service is simplified by a tiltup cab and a flip-up cooling package that provides tool-free access to the engine," Maynard explains. "We've made it easier than ever to wash, inspect, and service components."

Each machine comes standard with a two-year subscription to Easy Manager Telematics, providing remote diagnostics, service reminders, and proactive maintenance alerts. "This connected solution helps fleet owners schedule maintenance before problems arise, avoiding costly unplanned downtime," he adds.

The integration of Manitou's new IV Diagnostic Tool further reduces troubleshooting time by providing real-time data and fault codes, while features such as maintenance-free hydraulic fans and easy-to-access greasing points contribute to quicker daily checks and less time in the workshop.

Support that stands behind every

Beyond machinery, Manitou's success lies in its commitment to after-sales support. With a local parts distribution centre in South Africa, the company ensures quick turnaround times for essential components.

"We guarantee the availability of Genuine Original Spare Parts to protect your investment and maintain machine integrity," says Maynard. "Our Service and Full Maintenance Agreements provide predictable costs and fast, expert service from factory-trained technicians."

For customers seeking complete peace of mind, Manitou also offers Extended Warranty options of up to six years or 6 000 hours, ensuring that owners can operate confidently without the financial uncertainty of unexpected repairs.

Shaping the future of the skid steer market

According to Maynard, the Southern African market is evolving - and so are customer expectations. "We're seeing growing demand for the high-stacking capability of the Vertical Lift (V-Series) and the high power in compact Radial Lift (R-Series) models," he says. "The market increasingly prioritises uptime, versatility, and cost control, and our equipment is designed to meet those exact needs."

Manitou is also leading the charge toward a more connected, data-driven future. "By standardising advanced features like pilot joystick controls and Easy Manager telematics, we're ensuring fleets are ready for the next generation of smart, connected equipment," he explains.

Built for long-term return on investment

Every feature, from its robust construction to its intelligent maintenance design, contributes to one goal: long-term value.

"Investing in a Manitou Skid Steer Loader guarantees return on investment by focusing on three pillars: productivity, controlled total cost of ownership, and asset value protection," says Maynard. "We help customers maximise utilisation rates, lock in predictable maintenance costs, and protect the residual value of their machines."

From construction sites to farmyards, the message is clear - Manitou's Skid Steer Loaders are engineered not just to perform, but to endure. With their combination of power, comfort, smart technology, and dependable support, they embody the modern standard for compact equipment excellence.

Manitou's commitment to performance, reliability, and lifetime value ensures that every Skid Steer Loader is more than just a machine - it's a partner in productivity.



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FIRST LIEBHERR LTM 1650-8.1 CRANE IN AFRICA DELIVERED

Having over the years become the recipient of several 'firsts' in terms of new Liebherr crane models in South Africa and even in Africa, Allied Crane Hire, a South African-headquartered mobile crane specialist that operates across sub-Saharan Africa, has taken delivery of the very first Liebherr LTM 1650-8.1 mobile crane on the continent.

llied Crane Hire officially welcomed a new addition to its ever-growing Liebherr mobile crane fleet, the LTM 1650-8.1 — the first of its kind in Africa. The milestone marked yet another 'first' in the history of

the company, having previously been the first in Sub-Saharan Africa to receive an LTM 1110-5.1, an LTM 1150-5.3 and an LTM 1230-5.1.

André Engelbrecht, General Manager Africa at Allied Crane Hire, says the

The design supports high productivity and perfectly matches your application. Our Radial Lift (R-Series) machines are ideal for digging and mid-range tasks, providing maximum breakout force and stability close to the ground.

company is proud of the latest milestone. "The goal, however, is not necessarily to always be the first recipient of every new model. In most cases, these new models become available at exactly the moment we were looking for a crane that fits certain job requirements, which is an important criterion in every procurement decision," says Engelbrecht.

Several reasons to decide on for the LTM 1650-8.1

Commenting on what was central to the buying decision, Engelbrecht says the company has proudly owned an LTM 1500-8.1, the predecessor model to the new LTM 1650-8.1, since 2012. In addition to that, there have been increased enquiries for a crane in this performance class in the market recently. However, says Francois Pretorius, Sales Manager Mobile and Crawler Cranes at Liebherr-Africa, the LTM 1500-8.1 has been discontinued, with production ending in 2020. Produced for over 23 years, the model saw some 626 units shipped to customers globally, making it Liebherr's best-selling large crane of all time.

The LTM 1650-8.1 fit the bill for Allied Crane Hire on several fronts. Firstly, the model comes with a rated capacity of 700 tonnes, a significant upgrade to the LTM 1500-8.1, which offered a 500-tonne lifting



capacity. Depending on its equipment package, the new crane is between 15% and 50% more powerful than its predecessor. Technical progress has made this possible since, after all, a great deal of work has been done since the development of the LTM 1500-8.1 over 20 years ago.

The new crane, which Liebherr refers to as "The maximum on 8 axles," has also inherited something else from the LTM 1500-8.1. Customers can buy the two different telescope boom lengths and interchange them easily by replacing telescope section three, including the roller head, with telescope sections three to five. The concept has proven to be successful. The LTM 1650-8.1 is available in lengths of 54 metres and 80 metres.

In addition, says Engelbrecht, the LTM 1650-8.1 comes with proven Liebherr technologies such as VarioBallast[®], VarioBase[®], as well as the new NK System, a hinged luffing jib assembly system designed to significantly reduce the space required for erecting long luffing jibs in confined spaces. Pretorius explains the benefits of VarioBallast[®]: "High performance normally requires a large ballast radius. But often there is simply not enough space on building sites. This means the ballast radius must be as small as possible. We meet this

challenge with our VarioBallast[®] technology. The ballast radius can be infinitely adjusted using a simple hydraulic positioning mechanism — between 6,4 and 8,4 metres on the LTM 1650-8.1. The variable support base VarioBase® delivers higher load capacities and a larger working range.

Delivering beyond expectations

Since its arrival in early September, the LTM 1650-8.1 has largely been deployed in mining. "The crane has performed beyond expectations. We have been particularly impressed by the quick assembly time and the functionality of the crane as a whole," says Engelbrecht.

Speaking of functionality, Pretorius explains that the automated luffing jib has been one of the standout features for the operators. "During the familiarisation training, I asked the operator what else stood out for him apart from the crane design. Without hesitation, he replied 'the automated erection of the luffing jib'. With this function, the operator only needs to move the joystick and then the magic happens. The straightforward handling takes the strain off the crane operator and enhances safety," says Pretorius.

Longstanding partnership

"The latest LTM 1650-8.1 purchase," says Engelbrecht, "is a culmination of 25 years of a longstanding business relationship between Liebherr and Allied Crane Hire, demonstrated by the large number of Liebherr mobile cranes within the mobile crane specialist's fleet." The company's fleet currently consists of 20 Liebherr mobile cranes.

Aftersales support, says Engelbrecht, is a principal factor in any of Allied Crane Hire's purchasing decisions. As a company that services production-driven businesses that work on tight deadlines and are sensitive to any form of downtime, Allied Crane Hire puts reliable aftersales support at the centre of its operations. Parts, technical support and prompt response, are of utmost significance to the success of its business.

"We have built a very strong business relationship with Liebherr and appreciate the service and support we receive from various parties at Liebherr-Africa, all the way from the sales teams to management as well as the technical and parts departments," says Engelbrecht.

Erik Benz, General Manager Mobile and Crawler Cranes at Liebherr-Africa, hails the longstanding partnership with Allied Crane Hire, which he says is built on trust, respect, and a shared commitment to staying ahead in terms of technology, quality, and reliability.



From left: Erik Benz (Liebherr), Andre Engelbrecht and Peter Ripepi (both from Allied Crane Hire) and Francois Pretorius (Liebherr).



The latest LTM 1650-8.1 purchase is a culmination of 25 years of a longstanding business relationship between Liebherr and Allied Crane Hire, demonstrated by the large number of Liebherr mobile cranes within the mobile crane specialist's fleet.



SEW-EURODRIVE SOUTH AFRICA

DRIVES THE FUTURE WITH NEW SERVICE AND REPAIR CENTRE

Juanita Pienaar spoke with Raymond Obermeyer, Managing Director of SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa, about the company's latest investment in infrastructure, its global growth strategy, and its commitment to future-proofing both its business and the local industry.



"The facility is a symbol of growth, innovation, and our unwavering commitment to excellence."

Raymond Obermeyer, Managing Director of SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa.

hen SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa cut the ribbon on its new Service and Repair Centre in Johannesburg, it wasn't simply celebrating a building, it was marking the next phase of a vision decades in the making.

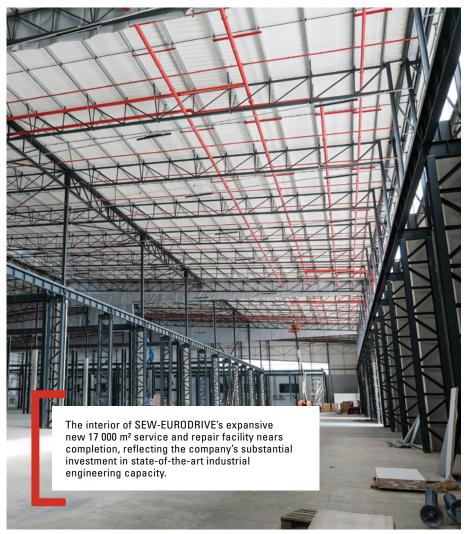
"This is more than just a facility," said Raymond Obermeyer, Managing Director of SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa. "It's a symbol of growth, innovation, and our unwavering commitment to excellence. The multi-million rand investment demonstrates our promise to deliver world-class service and product quality, while strengthening the sustainability and self-sufficiency of our operations."

The new 17 000 m² centre forms part of SEW-EURODRIVE's long-term plan to localise manufacturing and expand its presence across Africa. Within just 12 months, the company has transformed what was once an empty site into a hub of learning, service, and innovation."

Building a self-sufficient future

SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa has grown into one of the largest subsidiaries in the global SEW-EURODRIVE Group, now active in 57 countries. Obermeyer, who





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SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa has grown into one of the largest subsidiaries in the global SEW-EURODRIVE Group, now active in 57 countries.



The new 17 000 $\rm m^2$ centre forms part of SEW-EURODRIVE's long-term plan to localise manufacturing and expand its presence across Africa.



The opening of the Service and Repair Centre comes at a pivotal time for SEW-EURODRIVE globally.



A customer-centric approach has allowed SEW-EURODRIVE to stand apart from competitors



started his journey with SEW-EURODRIVE 37 years ago as a sales representative, has seen the business evolve from humble beginnings to an industry leader.

"I started selling SEW geared motors from my garage," he recalls. "Back then, nobody wanted to venture into that product range. I decided to take it on and make it work - and from there, we just kept growing."

That entrepreneurial spirit still drives SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa today. The new Service and Repair Centre is designed to consolidate the company's capabilities under one roof, allowing SEW-EURODRIVE to control every stage of production - from fabrication to final assembly - without relying on external suppliers.

"With this facility, we're able to take control of all aspects of our production process," Obermeyer explains. "We will fabricate our own base plates, manufacture our own guards, assemble our own gearboxes, and fill them with our own oil. We're aiming to become completely self-sustainable - what we call 'true SEW-EURODRIVE DNA.'"

The centre includes CNC machines, lathes, grinders, sandblasting and stressrelieving equipment, all installed to ensure





The training institutions that used to produce skilled artisans and technicians no longer exist in the same way. There's a massive gap, and most of the skilled people are either older or have left the country.

that SEW-EURODRIVE can handle complex repair and manufacturing tasks in-house. It also features 22 overhead cranes, with capacity to repair up to 30 industrial gearboxes at a time.

"We want to be the gearbox supplier and repairer of choice," says Obermeyer. "This facility positions us to dominate the repair and service market in our industry - not just for SEW-EURODRIVE products, but for other OEMs as well. We're not afraid to repair competitors' gearboxes. In fact, we welcome it."

Expanding into new markets

Alongside its repair capabilities, SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa is also preparing to assemble and service planetary gearboxes locally for the first time - a move that opens the door to new industries such as mining and sugar production.

"This allows us to go into new markets," Obermeyer says. "We will assemble in South Africa up to 500 000 Newton-metre gearboxes off the shelf, with full stock and repair capabilities. It brings a whole new dimension to our product offering."

The development reflects SEW-EURODRIVE's broader commitment to innovation and diversification. While many businesses have reduced operations in the face of economic pressure, SEW-EURODRIVE continues to invest in new technologies and facilities. "Where others are downsizing, we are expanding," Obermeyer notes. "We find opportunities in challenges. That's why we've even

purchased the property next door - another 20 000 m² - for future growth."

The human element: skills and sustainability

Despite the state-of-the-art technology inside the new centre, Obermeyer insists that people remain SEW-EURODRIVE's greatest asset. "I have a team I'd go to war with any day," he says proudly. "They're dedicated, driven, and they share a common purpose."

However, like many leaders in South Africa's industrial sector, he acknowledges the critical skills shortage facing the country. "The biggest challenge isn't building a facility - it's finding the human resources," he explains. "The training institutions that used to produce skilled artisans and technicians no longer exist in the same way. There's a massive gap, and most of the skilled people are either older or have left the country."

To help bridge this gap, the top floor of the new building houses the SEW-EURODRIVE Drive Academy, a dedicated training facility focused on upskilling both staff and customers. The academy will play a central role in developing future industry leaders, offering training in areas such as digitalisation, automation, and

artificial intelligence.

"Without training, the skills issue will only get worse," says Obermeyer. "We want to ensure that our people and our customers are equipped for the future. The Drive Academy will be key to that."

Powering growth through the "7-in-7" global strategy

The opening of the Service and Repair Centre comes at a pivotal time for SEW-EURODRIVE globally. The company's "7-in-7 strategy" aims to achieve €7-billion in global turnover within seven years, coinciding with its 100th anniversary in 2031.

"This is a very interesting and unifying global strategy," explains Obermeyer. "Every SEW-EURODRIVE worldwide - all 97 subsidiaries and 17 production facilities - is working towards the same goal. It brings us together, aligns our planning, and ensures that we all contribute to a shared vision."

SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa, he adds, is expected to make a significant contribution. "We're one of the larger operations globally, based on turnover. That's something we've achieved through focus, teamwork, and continuous investment over the past seven years."

During that period, SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa completed its flagship manufacturing plant in 2022, a facility that became the foundation for the current phase of expansion. "While others were at home during COVID, we were building," Obermeyer recalls. "Now, we're continuing that momentum with the Service and Repair Centre - part of our goal to future-proof the company."

Location and logistics: why Johannesburg

When asked why the new centre was established in Johannesburg's West Rand, Obermeyer's answer is practical. "Our decision was based on infrastructure and people," he explains. "Most of our staff live in this area. It's a region with both blue-collar and white-collar communities, good access to highways, and stable power supply - all critical factors for a facility like ours."

Electricity, in particular, was a decisive issue. "Motor testing and repair facilities require significant power," he notes. "This area had the infrastructure in place from the World Cup era, and that made it a logical choice. It's also an area that's growing - if you look around, you'll see new developments everywhere."

A legacy of innovation and resilience

Reflecting on his 37 years with SEW-EURODRIVE, Obermeyer attributes the company's success to a culture of innovation, customer focus, and resilience. "We've always listened to our customers," he says. "They asked us for these facilities, and we delivered. We don't just sell products, we offer solutions."

That customer-centric approach has allowed SEW-EURODRIVE to stand apart from competitors. "Other OEMs in this industry don't have facilities like this," Obermeyer notes. "They don't have the infrastructure or backup. That's why SEW-EURODRIVE will continue to grow - because we're providing what the market truly needs."



As SEW-EURODRIVE South Africa approaches its 40th anniversary next year, the company shows no signs of slowing down. "We're committed to building a future that's sustainable, secure, and full of opportunity," says Obermeyer. "For

our customers, our employees, and the industry."

And, with its latest expansion, SEW-EURODRIVE has once again proven that its name is more than just a brand - it's a promise of motion, progress, and purpose. •



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INSIDE BARLOWORLD'S WORLD-CLASS REBUILD CENTRE

Juanita Pienaar spoke to Kamogelo Mmutlana, Executive Head: Business Excellence, to gain insight into the company's technological advancements, sustainability initiatives, and commitment to extending the life of Caterpillar equipment across Southern Africa.

A hub for excellence

Opened in 2012, the Barloworld Rebuild Centre (BRC) in Boksburg has evolved into a world-class hub for Caterpillar component repairs and rebuilds, serving the mining, construction, and power sectors throughout Southern Africa. "This facility was originally a Caterpillar plant," explained Kamogelo Mmutlana, Executive Head:



"Caterpillar's standards for process control and quality are exacting, and we were recently recertified - an achievement we're very proud of."

Kamogelo Mmutlana, Executive Head: Business Excellence. Business Excellence. "We purchased it and converted it into a component rebuild centre to meet customer demand and expand our component solutions offering to our customers."

Covering 30 000 m² under roof, the BRC focuses primarily on major mining components - engines, drivetrains, hydraulics, and transmissions - with the capacity to process more than 2 000 components per year with a single shift. The centre employs around 250 people, including permanent contractors, and operates with the precision and efficiency of a manufacturing plant.

Mmutlana explained that the BRC's business model is built on an exchange programme similar to that of the smartphone industry. "You give us your





old component, and we provide a rebuilt one in return, along with a core credit," he said. "It's the same warranty as new, built to Caterpillar specifications, but offered at 55% to 75% of the price of a new component."

Rebuilding machines, reducing costs Kamogelo Mmutlana described the

rebuild philosophy as a crucial part of

the company's value proposition. "By the time a component reaches us, it's at the end of a specific economic life cycle," he explained. "Traditionally, customers would dispose of it. Instead, we rebuild it - break it down, clean it, salvage usable parts, renew unsatisfactory parts, and reassemble it to produce another economic life."

This process allows Barloworld to restore components to a full Caterpillar specified condition, extending their life. "We always try to position this offering at between 55% and 70% of the price of new," said Mmutlana. "It represents a compelling value proposition - full warranty cover, lower cost, and reduced downtime."

The turnaround time is critical for mining operations, which run 24/7. "We've had major failures on a Friday evening, and our team will work through the weekend to ensure the component is back in operation by Monday morning or sooner," said Mmutlana. "Our customers can't afford downtime, and we can't afford to let them down."

Technological advancements driving precision

Barloworld has invested more than R68-million in new technology at the BRC, including semi-automated salvage machinery, smart assembly tools, and digital management systems. Kamogelo Mmutlana, Executive Head of Business Excellence said the investment has improved turnaround time by nine days. "Much of the new equipment is computer numerically controlled (CNC), which ensures repeatable, high-precision work," he explained. "We can now complete any engine repair - from block to crank -

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BRC focuses primarily on major mining components - engines, drivetrains, hydraulics, and transmissions - with the capacity to process more than 2 000 components per year with a single shift.



The BRC breaks old equipment down, cleans it, salvages usable parts, renews unsatisfactory parts, and reassembles it to produce another economic life.



The human element remains central to Barloworld's technical strength.







"If someone shows aptitude, we can train them for a specific technical task - like engine rebuilding - giving them a career path and helping us fill vital roles faster."

entirely in-house."

The investment also includes a new 6 000-horsepower dynamometer for engine testing. "It allows us to test everything from small construction engines to the massive 20-cylinder units used in the largest mining trucks," said Mmutlana.

In the assembly department, Barloworld is transitioning to Industry 4.0 tools. Mmutlana highlighted the shift from conventional air-powered tools to digital, battery-operated smart torque tools. "These tools transmit data via Wi-Fi and record every torque value applied," he said. "They improve safety, quality, and ergonomics, ensuring our artisans go home less fatigued. It's a major leap forward in traceability and quality assurance."

Building skills for the future

The human element remains central to Barloworld's technical strength. Kamogelo Mmutlana, Executive Head of Business Excellence, said the group's investment in people is what enables its technological progress. "All these initiatives depend on

capacity," he explained. "We build that capacity by training technicians to the highest standards."

Barloworld's academy, which holds Caterpillar Gold Star certification, trains technicians from across Africa. "Two of our technicians recently represented us at the CAT Global Dealer Competition in Europe," said Mmutlana. "That speaks volumes about our training quality."

The company is also addressing South Africa's skills shortage through a "trainto-task" programme. "Not everyone needs a full four-year apprenticeship," said Mmutlana. "If someone shows aptitude, we can train them for a specific technical task-like engine rebuilding - giving them a career path and helping us fill vital roles faster."

Commitment to sustainability

Barloworld's rebuild operations play a major role in the company's environmental, social, and governance (ESG) strategy. "We take ESG very seriously," said Kamogelo Mmutlana, Executive Head of Business Excellence. "By rebuilding rather than replacing with new components, we reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 70%."

The facility has also invested heavily in renewable energy and water management. "We've installed over 1 000 kilowatt peak of rooftop solar, generating around 141 000 kWh," Mmutlana noted. "That investment - over R15 million - has already reduced our electricity bill by 19% year-on-year."

In addition, the centre recycles and reuses water for washing components. "We've installed rainwater harvesting systems with more than 30 000 litres of storage," said Mmutlana. "That allows us to operate with minimal reliance on municipal supply."

Waste management is another focus. "Our goal is zero waste to landfill," he added. "We recycle as much as possible and are working towards full circularity in our processes."

Certified quality and continuous improvement

Barloworld's BRC is one of only 19 Caterpillar dealers worldwide to achieve CAT Certified Rebuild Centre status. "It's extremely difficult to obtain," said Mmutlana. "Caterpillar's standards for process control and quality are exacting, and we were recently recertified - an achievement we're very proud of."

Continuous improvement forms part of the company's operating philosophy through the Barloworld Business System (BBS). "Our rapid improvement events help us identify and eliminate waste across the production line," said Mmutlana. "It's through this approach that innovations like smart tooling and modular parts kits were born."

Each initiative feeds into a broader strategy of efficiency and customer responsiveness. "The market is shifting," Mmutlana explained. "Many customers now prefer to have their own components rebuilt rather than using exchange stock. Our processes have evolved to accommodate that. At the end of the day, the customer is king."

A vision for sustainable growth

From its origins as a Caterpillar plant to its current status as a benchmark facility, the Barloworld Rebuild Centre represents a powerful blend of technical innovation, environmental responsibility, and customer-driven excellence.

As Mmutlana summarised, "We're not just rebuilding components - we're rebuilding reliability, value, and sustainability for our customers. Seeing is believing, and when you walk through this facility, you can see exactly what world-class looks like."





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