



MEDIA RELEASE

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FEMALES SCORE BIG IN TECHNICAL SKILLS PROGRAMMES

More than 100 KZN youngsters have been given an opportunity of a lifetime by joining a multimillion skills programme offered by the SAPREF oil refinery in Durban.

A total of 175 learners have been recruited to join different skills programmes offered by SAPREF through its refinery college as well the Sapref-funded Durban South Training Trust (DSTT). The youngsters were selected through a process that saw over 21000 applications for the various programmes.

The multimillion-rand skills programme includes 19 Grade 11 scholarships, 14 bursaries for university studies in engineering, 70 in SAPREF's in-house learnerships, apprenticeship, in-service and internships programmes. One lucky recruit is Qiniso Vumisa, a former cleaner at SAPREF. Qiniso has been recruited to do his in-service training in Mechanical Engineering. He is thrilled to be awarded an opportunity to finish his studies, which had ground to a halt when he could not find a company to host him for in-service training. He became aware of the in-service opportunity when he saw it being advertised as he went about his cleaning duties at the refinery. He advises other young people to love education, study hard and work hard.

In addition to the refinery college, SAPREF supports the development of young people through the Durban South Training Trust (DSTT), an artisan school in Isipingo. This year 72 learners joined the DSTT. DSTT offers boiler making, fitting and welding learnerships. A total of 55 trainees from DSTT are graduating this year.

SAPREF Managing Director, Ton Wielers says the 2018 intake is in line with SAPREF's philosophy of growing its own talent by investing in skills development. "We are particularly proud that this year's intake is 70% females, in line with our diversity agenda," said Wielers.

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About SAPREF?

- SAPREF is Southern Africa's largest crude oil refinery.
- It is jointly owned by Shell SA Refining and BP Southern Africa.
- We are located in Prospecton, Durban.
- We make a variety of petroleum products, including petrol, diesel, paraffin, aviation fuel, marine fuel oil and many others.
- We have approximately 700 employees.
- We are proudly a level 2 BBBEE contributor and are ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certified.

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