

thyssenkrupp forwards the goodwill on Mandela Day

thyssenkrupp is an ardent advocate for the upliftment and development of disadvantaged communities. On Mandela Day, 18 July 2019, the industrial engineering and technology specialist showcased its commitment to giving back to the underprivileged by participating in the dynamic FoodForward SA Mandela Day food drive packing event, in partnership with Pick n Pay.

According to FoodForward SA, a non-profit organisation established in 2009, one third of all food produced in South Africa goes to landfills, while 14 million people go hungry every day. In an attempt to alleviate this sad reality, the organisation's mission is to help reduce hunger in the country through the safe and cost-effective recovery and distribution of quality edible surplus food from the consumer goods supply chain to a network of 530 community organisations that aid vulnerable groups and those in need, focusing on areas like aged and disability care, Early Childhood Development (ECD), home based care for orphans & vulnerable children, school aftercare programmes, and shelters. Collectively, these organisations reach over 200,000 people a day.

"After researching various Mandela Day programmes, we came across the FoodForward SA packing event and we immediately knew that this was how we wanted to spend our 67 minutes," states Kgothatso Ntsie, Marketing & Communications Manager at thyssenkrupp Industrial Solutions South Africa. "The initiative embodies the thyssenkrupp culture of giving back and, as this year marks the tenth anniversary of Mandela Day, we decided to go all out."

In the weeks leading up to Mandela Day, thyssenkrupp employees generously donated money and non-perishable foods in the spirit of the Mandela Day values of 'Take action, Inspire change'. An enthusiastic thyssenkrupp team gathered at Gallagher Convention Centre in Midrand, Johannesburg, ready to donate their 67 minutes. Sibongile Mtsweni: Senior Procurement Officer, Qhama Tom: Manager Project Management Office, Maria Sorota: Engineering Facilitator Trainee and Tiisetso Tsotetsi: Graduate - Strategy Markets & Development, led by Kgothatso, rolled up their sleeves to assist FoodForward SA in packing collected goods for distribution to the needy.

The FoodForward SA hall was pulsating with excitement as volunteers waited eagerly to start the packing process. Following a brief introductory video and explanations on the do's and don'ts of packing the food items, participants got to work. Team work and respect for the cause were evident as people helped one another.

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Taking it one step further, Kgothatso and her team delivered the food donated by thyssenkrupp employees to the FoodForward SA head office in Germiston, Johannesburg, on 24th July. Kgothatso expresses that it was heart-warming to see the employees band together to support such a good cause. "The event was not only fun but it taught us to appreciate the hard work that goes into food collection and distribution. The joy of knowing that our humble contributions will help to make a positive impact, no matter how small, in underprivileged communities is truly rewarding."

"In the true essence of Mandela Day, thyssenkrupp is proud to be a part of the solution in helping to reduce hunger in disadvantaged communities in our country," notes Philipp Nellessen, thyssenkrupp Industrial Solutions CEO, Sub-Saharan Africa. "This goal is something that we must not only live on Mandela Day but carry it forward each and every day."

Press release ends/

Caption:

1. FLTR Tiisetso Tsotetsi, Kgothatso Ntsie, Sibongile Mtsweni, Qhama Tom and Maria Sorota from thyssenkrupp Industrial Solutions South Africa participated on 18 July 2019 in the FoodForward SA Mandela Day food drive packing event, in partnership with Pick n Pay.

About us:

The Industrial Solutions business area at thyssenkrupp is a leading partner for the engineering, construction and service of industrial plants and systems. Based on more than 200 years of experience we supply tailored, turnkey plants and components for customers in the chemical, fertilizer, cement, mining and steel industries. As a system partner to the automotive, aerospace and naval sectors we develop highly specialized solutions to meet the individual requirements of our customers. More than 21,000 employees at over 100 locations form a global network with a technology portfolio that guarantees maximum productivity and cost-efficiency.

For more information visit: www.thyssenkrupp-industrial-solutions.com

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