



MEDIA BRIEF

Kroonstad is likely to become the hub of medical devices such as bandages, gauzes, abdominal swabs, hospital linen, uniforms, linen savers, etc. This factory is the much needed shot in the arm for job creation in an area that has experienced high unemployment in the recent past. The Free State Provincial Government has secured an investment of up to R10 million of capital for this venture.

This venture has attracted the international investors such as Europe and Germany. The Foreign Direct Investment from Qatar Germany Medical Devices will ensure that the local facility matches the international standard, thereby ensuring quality safety products. Initially, the venture is estimated to create about 150 jobs, but in full production, this number will be increased to 1000.

The Kroonstad entity will be the pilot for other manufacturing entities to be set up in Parys and Sasolburg which forms part of the Free State manufacturing triangle. These entities are deemed to be best located within the Free State because of the central situation of the province which lends to ease and cost efficiency with its excellent infrastructure.

The establishment of these manufacturing entities will have long term benefits for the Free State province. Amongst others will be transfer of new skills into the local community, numerous new micro and small entities will evolve from these manufacturing entities from logistic support to supply and also the contribution to the currency circulation within the province is estimated to be in excess of 4 times, resulting in increased contribution to the provincial fiscus.

The project will be officially opened by President Jacob Zuma on the 17th and 18th September 2010.

END

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Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs**

For more information please contact Elsie Ntsane, Josial Ramokoena and Lebogang Maloale on 051 400 9550 or alternatively e-mail ntsane@detea.fs.gov.za, ramokoenam@detea.fs.gov.za or maloalel@detea.fs.gov.za.

COMMUNICATION & ICT

34 Bojanala Building
Markgraaf Street
Bloemfontein
9300

Private Bag X 20801
Bloemfontein
9300

Tel +27 (0)51 400 9542
Fax +27 (0)51 400 9541
e-mail: tauk@detea.fs.gov.za

www.detea.fs.gov.za