



**the dti**

Department:  
Trade and Industry  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**DATE: 27 OCTOBER 2015**

**TO: ALL EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS**

### **NOTICE ON THE SUSPENSION OF THE MANUFACTURING COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME (MCEP)**

The Department of Trade and Industry (**the dti**) is temporarily suspending new applications for the Manufacturing Competitiveness Enhancement Programme (MCEP) with immediate effect. This is necessitated by the fact of the very large number of applications across the manufacturing sectors which now far exceed funds set aside for the programme.

Over R5 Billion was originally set aside for this programme and is now fully committed. MCEP was designed as an incentive to support enterprises in the production sectors of the economy soon after the onset of the global economic recession to weather very adverse market conditions, secure higher levels of investment, raise competitiveness and retain employment.

**the dti** is confident that these objectives have been met. The MCEP has supported 1 153 entities with acquisition of capital equipment and reengineering of business processes to improve their competitiveness. All assisted enterprises have retained jobs and are committed to Black Economic Empowerment.



The department will continue to honour all approved applications.

A new application window will be opened in April 2016 pending availability of funds.

All other incentives of the department will continue as normal.

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## **RE: MANUFACTURING COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME (MCEP)**

Your application under **the dti's** Manufacturing Competitiveness Enhancement Programme (MCEP) has reference. Please note that due to the success of the MCEP in reaching the required objectives, the Department of Trade and Industry (**the dti**) is temporarily suspending (halting) new applications for the programme with immediate effect, as all available funding is fully subscribed.

If your application has been approved by the MCEP Technical /Adjudication Committee; please ignore this letter. However, if your application has not yet been approved by the MCEP Technical / Adjudication Committee; please note that your application will be rejected and you will have to re-apply in April 2016 when the new application window will open.

Thank you for the interest shown in the incentive scheme. We regret the inconvenience this might have caused

Yours sincerely,

**Strategic Partnerships and Customer Care**

**Date: 26 / 10 /2015**