

## **MEDIA ALERT**

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 27 OCTOBER 2005

ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS/ REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

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**Minister Jeff Radebe and MEC Cele will board the 8am train from  
KwaMashu Station to Durban Station and thereafter attend two major  
Launches in KZN  
Friday 28 October 2005, KwaMashu Station at 8am**

Transport Minister Jeff Radebe and his provincial counterpart MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele will board the train from KwaMashu Station to Durban Station at 8am on Friday 28 October. This forms part of the activities of Public Transport Month to champion the speedy transformation of public transport services in South Africa.

The significance of boarding the train from the notorious KwaMashu Station is for the dignitaries to lead by example in decreasing the bad perception about public transport in general particularly trains when addressing safety measures in our public transport system. The campaign and initiative of encouraging people to utilise public transport will be practised beyond Car-Free Day and beyond Public Transport month so as to major the impact in the long run.

Upon arrival at the Durban Station **Minister Radebe will officially launch the Refurbished coaches, an initiative by the South African Rail Commuter Corporation (SARCC) at 9am**

After travelling on the scheduled train to Durban Station the dignitaries will experience the luxury of the refurbished coaches at the Durban station. The new 10M5 is the first project to be designed, developed and built entirely from scratch by Transwerk. It is a superb example of successful design and development particularly in a developing country.

This initiative is part of the process of rehabilitating and revamping the rail industry as it involves:

- Redesign of coach interiors
- Wall and ceiling cladding panels are vandal and fire resistant
- Seating is practical and comfortable by utilising bucket seats
- State of the art public address system
- New single –handed master controller providing easier and faster driver reactions

**Minister Radebe and MEC Cele will attend the launch of Rossburgh**

**Driver Certification Centre**

**Friday 28 October 2005, Rossburgh Testing Grounds-DBN at 11am**

As part of Public Transport Month activities, Minister Radebe and MEC Cele will officially launch the revamped Rossburgh Driver Certification Centre which is the first High-Tech Computerised system in South Africa. **The Unique Iris Scanner System and the use of CCTV audio and visual recording** are aimed at rooting out fraud and corruption in the issuing of learners and drivers licences.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2005 MEC Cele officially launched the High-Tech Mobile Unit at iNgwavuma to improve accessibility of learners licence testing and to accelerate service delivery programmes aimed at developing the rural poor communities.

The Rossburgh driver testing station is the second largest driver testing station in South Africa and has for many years has been plagued by

allegations of fraud and corruption as well as poor service levels. The high tech computerised system will have a massive positive impact in cutting down backlog on the bookings and issuing of drivers and learners licenses.

The National Department of Transport is currently executing a forensic investigation into learners and driving licence fraud. The cost of the investigation will cost R51 million with an estimated R18 million relating to KwaZulu-Natal investigations alone.

**KUPHELILE FINITO!**

**Ends**

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