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Media Statement

For Immediate Release

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JPC Strengthens Worker Safety Through PPE Rollout at Langlaagte Depot

Joburg Property Company (JPC) CEO, Musah Makhunga, handed over Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to employees at the Langlaagte Depot on Wednesday.

The initiative forms part of the institution's commitment to ensuring that employees are adequately protected while working in hazardous environments and to strengthening occupational health and safety compliance.

Addressing employees during the handover, Makhunga acknowledged historical challenges relating to PPE provision and reaffirmed management's commitment to improving working conditions.

"We are proud of the work we have done to correct what, as an employer, we acknowledge was not done adequately for a very long time. We want to apologise to our colleagues because PPE is not only a compliance issue, but also a safety from hazard issue," he said.

Makhunga said management had worked extensively with internal teams and supply chain processes to ensure the delivery of PPE.

"We challenged ourselves and explored different solutions to get to this point. Today demonstrates that when management is determined to achieve something, a way can be found," he said.

He urged teams to begin distributing the PPE immediately and encouraged supervisors to ensure implementation across all sites.

"Whether at depots, stations, ablution facilities, or elsewhere, we want employees to feel visible, recognised and supported."

Makhunga also welcomed the improved quality and appearance of the PPE.

"When I look at this PPE, I am proud of how visible, appealing and professional it looks. Presentation matters because our employees represent the institution every day." said Makhunga.

Speaking at the event, JPC's Acting General Manager for Facilities Simphiwe Ngejane emphasised the importance of compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHASA).

“In terms of OHASA, employers have a responsibility to provide employees with the necessary protective equipment. This is a non-negotiable requirement for every employee exposed to workplace risks,” said Ngejane.

He acknowledged that workers had experienced delays in receiving PPE and described the handover as the beginning of renewed commitment by the institution.

“Today marks an important milestone and coincides with the close of the financial year. From 1 July onwards, employees will represent JPC visibly across our operations.” he said.

Ngejana encouraged staff to wear the uniforms with pride and professionalism.

“Whether you are travelling by bus, taxi, or working on-site, be ambassadors of JPC. The work you perform while wearing this uniform must reflect the values and professionalism of the organisation.”

Zinhle Dongo, a SAMWU representative from Region F, welcomed the development and described it as a long-awaited achievement.

“It is a significant day as it has taken three years to procure this PPE. Through continuous engagement and advocacy from SAMWU, workers can now receive proper PPE and comply with OHASA requirements,” she said.

“For a long time, workers had to operate without proper boots, with torn uniforms, and without adequate recognition. We are pleased to finally reach this stage.”

Sabelo Mthethwa, a supervisor in the Transport Department in Region F said employees were relieved and grateful to receive the PPE.

“We were concerned that employees could be exposed to accidents while performing their duties. The PPE will improve safety and make it easier to identify our workers across operations,” he said.

JPC remains committed to honouring its commitments to employees going forward.

The End

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