

NEWS RELEASE

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UPDATE ON WORK STOPPAGE AT IMPALA RUSTENBURG

EMBARGO: For immediate release

Ticker symbols:

JSE: Imp LSE: Ipla ADR: Impuy

Queries:

Johan Theron +27 11 731 9043 +27 82 809 0166 Following the meeting with NUM and Cosatu on Friday and the decision to re-hire discharged workers on their previous benefits and conditions of service, Implats is encouraging workers to return to work as soon as possible. We believe that most people want to return and we are attempting to make this as easy as possible, by allowing them to retain their previous benefits and by working with the SAPS to maintain law and order. Although there were no violent incidents over the weekend, there were assaults on four people last night and early this morning, with one severely injured. Implats deplores this violence and intimidation and calls on the SAPS to continue their vigilance in dealing with this criminal activity.

Implats remains committed to explore employee demands and grievances but these can only be resolved when workers return to work, allowing worker demands to be formally heard. Implats welcomes the call, by Thandi Modise (ANC Deputy Secretary General) and Julius Malema (ANCYL President) during their visit to the area today, to the workers to refrain from violence and intimidation, to return to work and to engage through the formal union structures with management to resolve their issues.

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Management is still of the opinion that this is not a conventional wage strike and remain concerned that this illegal stoppage is a direct attack on the NUM's position as the majority employee representative, as well as an attempt to destabilise the company. It is clear that there are criminal elements taking advantage of this sensitive and volatile situation.

Implats has noted with concern the continued reporting that the illegal strike is directly linked to the recent increase afforded to the Miners. This was one aspect of a multi-faceted zero harm safety strategy that was robustly discussed and agreed with the union at mine level. One of the other aspects was the upgrading of 2,000 workers to an intermediate supervisory position. It is regrettable that the Miners' increase has been used in isolation to rally support for the illegal work stoppage on the one side and to apportion blame on the other side.

The strike has now entered its sixth week and Implats has lost 100,000 Pt oz which is equivalent to a loss of revenue of around R2 billion. This will impact our operational ability to restart all the previous work areas, and clearly, the longer it takes to resolve this illegal work stoppage, the more jobs will be impacted.

Implats is working with the Department of Mineral Resources in order to resume production as soon as practically possible, but it is dependent on operational turnout of staff. The 15,800 employees who did not join the illegal work stoppage and most of the 9,800 employees who have re-applied for their positions are involved with mining activities such as cleaning, establishment, critical end development and making-safe in anticipation of resumption of production. Third party material deliveries continue to be processed as normal.

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