

## NEWS RELEASE

7 March 2008

### Impala hero saves two lives

**EMBARGO: For immediate release**

<p><b>Ticker symbols</b></p> <p><b>For Implats:</b> JSE: Imp LSE: Ipla ADR: Impuy</p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.implats.co.za">www.implats.co.za</a></p> <p><b>Shadwick Bessit</b> <b>(014) 569-6560</b></p>	<p>Gabriel Letageng, a boilermaker at Impala Platinum Limited (Impala) in Rustenburg recently saved the lives of two of his fellow employees at the company's Concentrator at Mineral Processes.</p> <p>While Gabriel was inspecting repairs to a tank he smelt fumes from the tank and discovered that one of the two contractors doing the work had lost consciousness inside the tank. The other contractor was attempting to rescue his fellow worker, but was struggling to breathe.</p> <p>Gabriel pulled the first man out of the tank. He then inserted an air hose into the tank to ensure proper ventilation before entering and rescuing the second man. Both men were treated for inhalation and have fully recovered.</p> <p>Shadwick Bessit, Executive Director: Rustenburg Operations says: "We are proud to have Gabriel as a member of our team. His quick response and appropriate action saved the lives of these contractors. This event highlights the value of following the correct procedures in the workplace at all times."</p> <p>The contracting company doing the rubber lining was dismissed for not following the safety procedures of firstly, completing an entry permit and, secondly, ventilating the tank.</p> <p>[Ends]</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[more...]</p>
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## **Background information**

### **Biography**

Gabriel Letageng is 35 years old. He is a Boilermaker, who obtained his N4 Boilermaking qualification at Grootgeluk Coal Mine in Ellisras. He joined Impala in 2005.

He is married to Fortunate and they have four children - two boys and two girls.

On 22 February 2008, Gabriel received a Platinum MERIT award from Bishen Mistri, the operations manager, for saving the lives of the two contractors.

### **Safety**

Safety is Implats' number one priority. Leadership remains the key issue and as such Implats continues to focus on visible-felt leadership with a high emphasis on training. Any initiative that has the potential to improve safety, such as the Presidential Audit, is welcomed.

The primary cause of fatal accidents at Implats remains falls of ground (62%), followed by explosives (23%) and gassing (15%).

### ***Safety achievements during FY2007***

**Impala Rustenburg** – 5 shafts achieved one million fatality-free shifts during FY2007.

**Marula** was awarded the Millionaire Shield by the Mine Health and Safety Council on 11 October for achieving one million fatality-free shifts. This took a period of 20 months to achieve.

**Zimplats** received a number of safety awards including the Mining Gold Shield for the best safety achievement among all mines in Zimbabwe, the Premier Gold Zimbabwe award and the EMCOZ Rothmans Gold Shield for the best company in the country in respect of safety.

The LTIFR in December 2007 of 1.65 is an all time low reflecting the positive impact of visible felt leadership