



## NEWS RELEASE

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### Implats' approach to sustainability

***EMBARGO: For immediate release***

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Implats is in the business of mining, refining and marketing platinum group metals as well as nickel, copper and cobalt. Currently the company produces in the region of 25% of the global supply of platinum and employs approximately 54 000 people at its operations located in South Africa and Zimbabwe. As a company Implats acknowledges that its business is an integral part of the larger environment in which we live and operate, and as such, has a responsibility to ensure its sustainability into the future.

Sustainability forms the cornerstone of every one of the company's values

- it drives continued, cost-effective growth
- it underpins their approach to attracting, retaining and developing their people
- it guides their actions in preserving their environment.

David Brown, CEO of Implats comments: "In a regulated industry, compliance has always been our baseline for performance. By integrating sustainable development into our business strategy, we are steadily moving beyond a merely reactive, compliance-driven approach and adopting a more integrated and holistic view, governed by the same rigorous disciplines that guide our other business processes. We also have gained a clearer appreciation of the role Implats plays at different levels in society, both local, national and international, based on the manner in which we do business."

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The following sustainable development issues are most material to the sustainability of Implats' business

### **Safety**

Implats believes it is incumbent on them to ensure a world-class safety environment, particularly as safety performance has a direct impact on production performance and, ultimately, the bottom line.

### **Health**

High HIV prevalence rates amongst its employees have a direct and an indirect impact on the business. It is imperative the company understand the state of health of their workforce and manage it consistently through education and the provision of care and support in order to ensure productive employees.

### **Climate change and SO<sub>2</sub> emissions**

The impact of climate changes has become evident in the scarcity of natural resources such as water. Implats is cognizant of the impact they have and have begun to find ways to improve on water utilization. Strategies are also in place to reduce energy consumption where possible and to reduce the business' impact on the environment through improved emission control.

### **Power**

Given Implats' high operational power requirements, supply remains a key strategic risk. The company manages this through initiatives to reduce consumption and is committed to conserving energy.

### **People**

The company continues to drive relevant programmes that invest in its people. Their pioneering housing and accommodation strategy bears testament to this. Implats approved its Accommodation strategy in 2007 and is currently in the process of implementing various aspects at its Rustenburg operations in the North West province. The company has already spent R1.5 billion to improve the accommodation of its employees, who are also actively encouraged to become first-time home owners.

The various aspects of Implats' housing strategy include:

- the construction of just over 2 000 houses;
- the upgrading of existing company-owned houses;
- the upgrading of and increase in capacity of single quarters; and,
- the conversion of traditional hostels into family units and quality single accommodation.

[more]

Implats facilitates home-ownership for its employees who are unable to access government RDP housing or obtain home loans by assisting them with interest free loans of R75 000. In addition, the company has engaged the NHFC as well as provincial government to assist with loans and housing subsidies. All lower-level Rustenburg employees qualify to participate in the Home Ownership Programme.

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