

Steel giant helps fund centre dedicated to teaching skills to the jobless

THE GETON Foundation's skills development centre in Pretoria is dedicated to providing ready-for-market job skills and entrepreneurial training with a view to alleviating poverty and ensuring that hundreds of unemployed and unemployable youth receive adequate training to enter the job market and become economically self-sufficient.

ArcelorMittal South Africa, through its foundation, has made an initial endowment of R100 000 available to enable the GetOn Skills Development Centre to continue its work.

ArcelorMittal SA handed over the R100 000 to the GetOn Skills Development Centre at the company's business park in Pretoria West.

"The centre has trained 363 unemployed youth from the nearby township of Atteridgeville and a third of the graduates are women," explains Maggie Mopedi, the manager of corporate social responsibility and external relations at



The general manager of GetOn, Brenton Cryer, received the cheque on behalf of the organisation

ArcelorMittal SA.

"Programmes at the centre include courses in basic computer skills, office administration, point-



Members from GetOn Foundation and ArcelorMittal during the handover, (from left) Themba Nkosi, Maggie Mopedi, Brenton Cryer, Francois Bezuidenhout

of-sale training, baking for profit, entrepreneurial workshops, enterprise development, life skills and basic business skills training."

The centre strives to prepare students for the corporate world. Its courses are designed in accordance with the community's needs,

as highlighted by a study carried out by Learn to Earn.

ArcelorMittal SA's participation in the GetOn Skills Development Centre initiative is in line with the company's strategy of developing and educating underprivileged communities in areas in which it operates.

"We recognise that a large portion of our local communities lack sufficient skills for employment prospects," said Mopedi.

"We have, as a result, prioritised skills and career development programmes as part of our skills transformation strategy."

ArcelorMittal SA is the largest steel producer in Africa.

For more information, call Themba Hlengani at 083 440 0158 or 016 889 2425 or e-mail themba.hlengani@arcelormittal.com or contact Brenton Cryer, chief executive and general manager of the GetOn Foundation, at 012 387 0652 or 072 795 9658. Also visit www.getonskillsdevelopment.co.za.