

## **Workshop Reveals Mechcal Fans Offer Best Savings**

*Pretoria, 3 February 2015: On 30 January leading mining and engineering sector experts gathered at Forever Centurion Hotel, Pretoria for a successful workshop on fan development by internationally recognised MechCal, manufacturer of advanced fans.*

Gavin Ratner, managing director of MechCal, says the main goal of the workshop was firstly to gather information from the ultimate users of ventilation systems and to understand what is important to MechCal target market and secondly to generate awareness about energy efficiency of their fans, their innovative shared savings model and the wide range of Centrifugal, Jet, Vane Axial and Custom Designed Fans they have available for the mining and engineering industry.

Top mining and engineering delegates from across South Africa which included Impala Platinum, Anglo Ashanti, De Beers, Glencore, Golfields, Sibanye Platinum, Worley Parsons and Rawlins Mining Engineers gathered for the workshop to find out about MechCal's unique and technologically superior products.

Ratner says since November 2013, a new tax incentive has been introduced (Section 12L Income Tax Return Act), and the management team at MechCal want to ensure the mining and engineering industry experts are aware almost two thirds of the cost of MechCal fans can be paid through a tax rebate

He says many companies and mines are buying fans based on the savings the fan will generate. "AS taxpayers can claim deductions of 45 cents per kilowatt hour or the kilowatt hour equivalent of energy efficiency savings made against a baseline measured at the start of each year of assessment in the first year of implementation," says Ratner.

The energy efficiency of MechCal fans reduces operating costs improving bottom line costs for mines and firms. The Mean Time Between Failures (MTBF) of their fans is also longer than competing products and noise generated by their fans is significantly lower than traditional fans.

Professor Jan Du Plessis, industry expert at the workshop, says when purchasing a new fan, buyers should consider affordability based on life cycle costing (not from a capital perspective); energy efficiency and operating expense; reliability, low maintenance; quick repair turn-around and affordability of repairs.

"MechCal offers efficient designs that are simultaneously optimised for function and noise and can be custom designed for each individual solution required. Their noise suppression techniques and developments include reducing the size and length of noise silencers," he says.

Prof du Plessis says when it comes to energy efficiency, new buyers should look at Variable Speed Drive (VSD) controllers which control the airflow volume delivery of fans; alternative fans to cover the full fan range used as auxiliary fans; full exchange offers of main fan

systems; and the exchange of energy inefficient fans through leasing schemes where new fans are financed by savings from the use of energy efficient fans.

“Irrespective of the material the impellor is made of, an energy efficient fan will result in energy savings. From a reliability and energy efficiency perspective the best auxiliary fans in the 45 kW range currently available for the mining and engineering sector are MechCaL’s 45 kW fans as used at Sibanye Platinum,” he says.

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#### **About MechCaL:**

MechCaL Pty Ltd was established in 2002 to design and manufacture industrial fans. The company has developed proprietary software that allows for high efficiency designs to address the much-needed green economy to reduce CO2 emissions to the atmosphere through using less energy while providing the same performance. At their manufacturing facilities in Pretoria, MechCaL focuses on developing specialised fans made from advanced composite materials. Every fan is designed for a specification application tailored to suit the needs of each client by matching the required performance with maximum efficiency. MechCaL has been awarded the prestigious Technology Top 100 award five times and has been a runner up three times. We have also won the Enabling Award from Frost and Sullivan. All of this success was garnered from reinforcing the advances in technology to enable the savings.

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