

# Palabora Copper (Pty) Limited

Registered in the Republic of South Africa, 1 Copper Road Phalaborwa, 1389. Registration No 2007/033694/07  
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## MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Juxtapose's Young Entrepreneur making strides on his home ground

Palabora Copper's Supplier Development Programme (SDP) which commenced in the last quarter of 2013 is continuing to make strides in ensuring that Ba-Phalaborwa small and medium enterprises access opportunities on the mine. Tumelo Mailula, a born and bred young Namakgale entrepreneur is the epitome of the earnest work accomplished by this programme thus far. Mailula's company Juxtapose recently received an opportunity on the mine to design early warning fire detection and suppression system for the Smelter coal yard conveyor network and Power Plant.

Mailula's business path was inspired by passion and talent at a very early age irrespective of lack of resources and limited in-depth information in what would soon be the foundation of his business. His passion for Architecture was ignited by his friend and classmate Benedict Machaba whom he was studying Grade 11 with at Frans Du Toit High School. Through the Palabora Foundation Protec, maths & science programme, Mailula gained access to the necessary resources he needed to fuel his passion even further.



Directors:

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#Executive Director

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Among other people that supported Tumelo in his journey, was Mr. Molapo of Sethakga Shop, a Draughtsman who freely invested his time teaching this young entrepreneur the rules of the game. It is this base that saw Mailula designing Mrs. Makhubedu's house, rendering her as Mailula's first client. Though the business was not registered yet, Mailula never looked back on his business idea. He went on to study Architecture diploma at the then Witwatersrand Technikon.

### **What's in the name, Juxtapose?**

Just as the word Juxtapose is defined, 'my company seeks to put things together in order to complement each other. We deliver outdoor advertising in such a way that it enhances and pinnacle the building rather than stand out from the structure where it's placed. I design a town to complement its communities rather than misplace them,' articulated Mailula.

### **My entrepreneurship story**

After completing his studies, Mailula boarded the corporate ladder for few years until his business minded antenna started tickling again. Though the entrepreneur path he chose to follow was rare especially among black people that did not discourage him to push forward. At just 23 years old, Mailula registered an Architectural Firm, Juxtapose. In six years, Juxtapose had grown from a single house drawing business to an influential company that offers IP, fire suppression systems, town planning and outdoor advertising services. In the process the young founder had matured from a township kid drawing house plans for neighbors, to nationally recognized businessman and role model.

### **Supplier Development Programme**

In the past few years, Juxtapose has gained momentum and continues to grow rapidly. However breaking grounds in his home town has been difficult to virtually impossible. Mailula continued to look for opportunities at home and when Palabora Copper embarked on a Supplier Development Programme in the latter part of 2013, Tumelo did not hesitate to register his company. 'The programme provided me with the business know-how skills my company earnestly needed as I only acquired the technical knowledge in my line of work. Palabora Copper through the SDP managed

to open doors and continues to make opportunities available to Ba-Phalaborwa black entrepreneurs,' said Mailula.

Juxtapose is the latest Supplier Development Programme candidate to secure work opportunity from the mine just few months since the launch of the programme. Mailula added that he attribute this Juxtapose's recent work opportunity to the tireless ground work efforts that have been put in place by this programme. The onboarding part of the programme, which equips candidates with relevant information for working with the mine such as SHEQ standards and procurement procedures, proves essential especially when it's the company's first time to work on the mine.

### **Ploughing back on the home ground**

Together with Khutsiso Mhelembe and Mamakiri Khunwana, Mailula has registered an NPO that will give back to the disadvantaged communities in Ba-Phalaborwa as a start and nationally as it progresses. Bokamoso ICT Development Centre, will invest in primary school kids between the ages of 9 to 12, and introduce them to software, hardware and end-user skills to elevate their appetite to the competitive world of technology. 'We hope this will also elevate the standard of education in our country as a whole' as he adds on. The organization is already in talks with the municipality who have pledge to assist with land for the organization.

**ENDS**

### **Note to the Editor about Palabora Copper (Pty) Limited**

Palabora Copper (Pty) Limited (Palabora) is a copper mine, smelter and refinery complex based in the town of Phalaborwa, in South Africa's Limpopo Province. The mine owes its origins to a unique rock formation in the region known as the Palabora Igneous Complex.

Palabora has been operational since its incorporation in 1956 and is the country's only producer of refined copper, producing approximately 80 000 tonnes per year. Operational since its incorporation in 1956, Palabora Copper is South Africa's sole producer of refined copper, which it supplies mainly to the local market and export the balance. Whilst copper forms the base-load of its business, Palabora also mines and exports other by-products such as Magnetite, Vermiculite Sulphuric acid, anode slimes and nickel sulphate.

### **More than a mine**

Located directly adjacent to the world-renowned eco-tourism attraction, the Kruger National Park, Palabora coordinates several onsite wildlife management and cultural heritage programmes as part of its ongoing sustainability drive. The company also collaborates closely with various communities in the Ba-Phalaborwa district to boost economic development and alleviate poverty.

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