

MEDIA RELEASE

TNPA WOMEN IN MARINE OPERATIONS INSPIRE FUTURE MARINERS

[Gqeberha, 9 August 2024] In celebration of Women's Day, Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) showcased an all-women marine crew to lead shipping operations while being shadowed by female learners at the Cape Town, Durban and Port Elizabeth ports.

The 15 female Grade 10 learners are studying Maritime Studies as a subject at Soqhayisa Senior Secondary School in Gqeberha, Lawhill Maritime Centre in Cape Town and Mowat Park High School in Durban. The female learners received first hand exposure to shipping operations during the sailing and docking of vessels at the three ports.

"TNPA is intentional about the introduction and embedding of Maritime Studies in the high school curriculum. This contributes to the building of a pipeline of future mariners not only for the ports authority but the entire maritime industry. Today the female learners were able to link the classroom teaching and learning of Maritime Studies with a practical shipping operation at our three ports. Exposure to the day-to-day shipping operations will positively impact their career paths in the maritime industry and influence the growth of women in these mission critical professions," said Adv. Phyllis Difeto, TNPA Acting Chief Executive.

TNPA has made remarkable progress towards inclusivity and representation, from having only one female in the class of 1999 to now 544 women out of a total of 1671 mariners working in marine operations and shipping. Currently, TNPA's Executive Committee boasts 60% female representation, with four out of seven South African commercial seaports led and managed by women.

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About Transnet National Ports Authority

Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) is responsible for the safe, effective, and efficient economic functioning of the national port system, which it manages in a landlord capacity. It provides port infrastructure and marine services at the eight commercial seaports in South Africa – Richards Bay, Durban, Saldanha, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Mossel Bay, and Ngqura. It operates within a legislative and regulatory environment and is governed by the National Ports Act (Act No. 12 of 2005).

For more information visit www.transnetnationalportsauthority.net

Issued by Transnet National Ports Authority on behalf of:

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