**PRESS RELEASE**

Multiple life-threatening gases can be detected in minimal time

***11 March, 2014:*** *Industrial workers in Africa are being afforded critical time in life-threatening situations, thanks to advanced multigas detector technology available locally through the African division of MSA - a global leader in the development, manufacture and supply of sophisticated products that protect people's health and safety.*

MSA Africa product manager for portable gas detection **Tshepo Lebona** notes that the Altair 4X and Altair 5X multigas detectors are designed to be tough and durable, making them suitable for any work environment. “Both multigas detectors have a large, glove-friendly design with high-contrast display, making them easy to use in any working environment, including low-light conditions.”

The Altair 4X multigas detector has the lower explosive limits (LEL) and oxygen(O2) sensors as standard. It can take two more sensors with the options being;

- Carbon monoxide (CO) and hydrogen sulphide(H2S)
- H2S and sulphur dioxide (SO2)
- CO and nitrogen dioxide (NO2)

The Altair 5X multigas detector is capable of detecting emissions of six different gases at a time; CO, H2S, O2, SO2, chlorine (CI­­2), ammonia (NH3) and more. A polycarbonate casing provides durability on both models, thereby ensuring that the Altair 4X can withstand a 6-m-drop, while the Altair 5X can withstand a 3-m-drop.

Both the Altair4X and 5X multigas detectors boast a MotionAlert safety feature, which activates an alarm when the user is disabled or motionless."What's more, a feature called InstantAlert allows the user to manually alert others of potential dangerous situations with the push of a button. These two safety features are ideal for applications such as confined space entry,” Lebona continues.

Another major benefit of these two multigas detectors is that they come standard with patented XCell sensors, which are engineered using MSA’s proprietary application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC) design. Lebona continues: "By miniaturising the sensors’ controlling electronics and placing them inside the sensor itself, MSA XCell Sensors offer superior stability, accuracy and repeatability."

MSA XCell sensors are a breakthrough in chemical and mechanical sensor design, enabling faster response and span calibration times. Lebona indicates that with less time spent on calibration and bump tests, the user saves calibration gas, maintenance costs and, in turn, overall costs. "Most importantly, the faster response time can also mean saving lives,” he concludes.

***Ends***

**Notes to the Editor**
There are numerous photographs specific to this press release. Please visit [http://media.ngage.co.za](http://media.ngage.co.za/) and click the MSA Africa link.

**About MSA**
MSA been the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality safety products since 1914. MSA products may be simple to use and maintain, but they’re also highly-sophisticated devices and protective gear - the result of countless R&D hours, relentless testing, and an unwavering commitment to quality that saves lives and protects thousands of men and women each and every day. Many of MSA's most popular products integrate multiple combinations of electronics, mechanical systems, and advanced materials to ensure that users around the world remain protected in even the most hazardous of situations. MSA's dedication to safety has been the key to its impressive year-over-year growth. In eight of the past ten years, MSA has achieved record growth numbers, with annual revenues of more than US$1 billion.

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