**PRESS RELEASE**

84 orphans celebrate Madiba’s birthday in style

***18 July, 2014:*** *In honour of Nelson Mandela Day today, the DCD Group is hosting a birthday party for a group of 84 orphaned children from Vereeniging, in partnership with Matt’s Foundation – a charity that makes a difference to the lives of under privileged children in living in the Vaal Triangle through fundraisers, donations and special events.*

Nelson Mandela Day is held annually on 18 July in recognition of Madiba’s life and legacy. The day is celebrated internationally, and encourages people to work to make the world better by helping others through acts of kindness. In keeping with the birthday theme, DCD has partnered with the Matt’s Foundation to host a special birthday party for 84 orphans from the Vereeniging area.

**Chantel Parkhouse**, a member of Matt’s Foundation, states that Mandela Day is one of the most exciting events of the year for Matt’s Foundation. “It creates the opportunity for Matt’s Foundation, the community and local businesses such as the DCD Group to get involved with a special cause, to support and uplift the underprivileged children in our own community.”

DCD Group PR and marketing co-ordinator **Natacha Templeman** explains that Matt’s Foundation identified three orphanages in the Vereeniging area to participate in the company’s Mandela Day initiative. “In memory of Madiba, all children ranging from toddlers to teenagers are being treated to an all-out birthday party at an events venue that has been generously booked out at no charge.”

Templeman notes that several local companies came on board to help with the Mandela Day celebrations, donating food, stationery and other goods for the children. “With the help of companies like Tribear, Be Different and Waltons, DCD has put together parcels for the children.”

These include an age appropriate backpack and stationery, which can be used by the children at school, as well as toiletries. Other sponsors include; Bread Boyz with McBreads and Balloon Mania. “It was very inspiring to see so many companies wanting to come on board,” she adds.

The younger children are also being treated to jumping castles and face painting, while the older teenage girls will be taken aside during the course of the day for a private discussion on personal hygiene, general safety, and safe sex. “It is a touchy subject, but it is extremely important for these girls to discuss and understand these topics,” Templeman continues.

Matt’s Foundation is based in the Vaal Triangle, and aims to improve the lives of underprivileged children in the surrounding community through various fund raising initiatives. The foundation supports several community-based organisations that care for vulnerable children.

Matt’s Foundation works in partnership with other organisations and companies to supply much needed support to these children’s homes and care centres. Support includes; food, clothing and electricity. For more information call 016 420 2270 or visit [www.mattsfoundation.org.za](http://www.mattsfoundation.org.za)

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**Notes to the editor**
There are numerous photographs specific to this press release. Please visit <http://media.ngage.co.za> and click the DCD link.

**About DCD Group**
DCD Group (Pty) Ltd is an international manufacturing and engineering company providing products and solutions to the rail, mining and energy, defence and marine sectors. As a group DCD is able to offer comprehensive, integrated heavy engineering solutions in addition to bespoke individual solutions. DCD has been an integral participant in South Africa’s infrastructure development for decades and is now playing an active role as a partner of choice to government in the current infrastructure expansion drive.

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**Boilerplate**

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