

### VISIT TO HIT'S INDUSTRY INCUBATION UNIT - VERIFY ENGINEERING AT FERUKA OIL REFINERY



Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, Hon. Prof J. Moyo, Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe Governor Dr J. Mangudya, HIT Vice Chancellor Eng. Q.C Kanhukamwe (Back row) and other delegates visiting the Verify Engineering Gas Project at Feruka Refineries in Mutare.

A delegation from the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) Governor Dr John Mangudya, Vice Chancellors from all universities, Harare Institute of Technology and Verify Engineering management team visited Verify Engineering gas project at Feruka in Mutare on Sunday 2 April 2017 where it was unveiled as HIT's Industry and Business Incubation Unit.

The Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, Harare Institute of Technology and Verify Engineering Private Limited entered into a Memorandum of Agreement to effect this arrangement on 23 March 2017.

The objective of the agreement was to make Verify Engineering an integral part of HIT as a strategic business unit, focusing on coal and coalbed methane to liquid fuels and chemicals (XTX) Projects.

The agreement came against the backdrop of government policy to ensure that higher and tertiary education is driven and underpinned by science and technology, and the need for universities to come up with tangible research outputs, vital for national development.

Verify Engineering which is now an integral part of HIT was established in 2005 by the

government as a Special Purpose Vehicle to pursue alternative sources of energy.

Over the years, the company has designed a pilot plant that produces 5 000 litres of liquid oxygen a day, synthesized an iron based catalyst and commissioned an air separation unit before constructing an acetylene plant which is yet to be commissioned.

Once the XTX plant becomes fully operational it will produce direct products such as fuel, tar for roads, liquid gas for domestic and industrial use, sulphur, ammonia for fertiliser production, carbon dioxide and electricity.

Speaking at the occasion, the Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development Professor Jonathan Moyo challenged HIT and all other universities to embrace the industry incubation model as a way of wealth creation and rapid industrialisation.

Addressing the delegation, Dr Mangudya challenged Zimbabwean universities to rise and rebuild the economy. He said Verify Engineering's liquid fuel project fits well with the value addition and beneficiation cluster of ZIMASSET that will lead to import substitution.

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## INNOVATION

## LEADERSHIP

## INTEGRITY

## COMMITMENT

## PROFESSIONALISM

## STUDY VISIT BY THE JOINT COMMAND AND STAFF COURSE NUMBER 30 OF THE ZIMBABWE DEFENCE COLLEGE



A delegation from the Zimbabwe Defence College Joint Command and Staff Course Number 30 visited the Harare Institute of Technology on Wednesday 5 April for a study visit to familiarize themselves with the operations of the Institute.

Over 25 participants and instructors of the Joint Command and Staff Course Number 30 drawn from the Zimbabwe Defence Forces, Zimbabwe Republic Police, Zimbabwe Prisons and Correctional Services, Office of the President and Cabinet, and SADC countries comprising Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania, South Africa, and Zambia. Participants were given an overview of the Institute's establishment, structural functions, mandate and overall contribution to the nation by Eng. P. Muredzi (Dean - School of Industrial Sciences and Technology), Mr T. Mutema (Director – Communications and International Relations) and Mr L. Duri (Director of Production – Technology Centre.

The delegation was also shown some of the laboratory and workshop equipment as well as some products from the Institute's business units including various Capstone Design Projects by HIT students and graduates during a tour of the campus' departments, laboratories, workshops and Centres of Excellence.

Speaking after the presentations and tour, leader of the delegation Group Captain J.D Ngundu said they have achieved the purpose of their visit. "As the military we have learnt some aspects which we can also apply in our military environment. We are going to use all the information that we have gathered here to improve our national security and to come up with our own innovations in our military

fraternity" he said.

Group Captain Ngundu commended the Institute for the acquisition of new and state of the art equipment in the Industrial and Manufacturing Department; vital tools for the implementation of its mandate.



## EMBRACE ICT'S, SMALLHOLDER FARMERS URGED MODERN TECHNOLOGIES - A LIFELINE FOR SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS PROJECTS



Ms Thabani Dundu  
Teaching Assistant: TDC

Smallholder farmers should embrace Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to access information on latest production techniques and connecting to markets.

Speaking at a workshop organised by the Zimbabwe Farmers' Union's (ZFU) Young Farmers Club in Lupane on 12 April 2017, Ms Thabani Dundu of the Harare Institute of Technology's Technopreneurship Development Centre (TDC), said modern technologies had become a lifeline of successful business projects.

Ms Dundu encouraged young upcoming farmers to use new Information and Communication Technologies when coming up with business plans for various projects. "For instance, now there is WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter and vending websites and applications such as Tenga, and Ownai. These can help young farmers broaden their market and expand their territories," she said.

She urged youths to subscribe to services that allow them to learn about what other farmers are doing around the country and beyond.

Budding farmers can make great use of the Internet to learn about eco-friendly agricultural innovations that can help them do things better while preserving the environment. Services such as Eco-farmer can be used by farmers to insure their farming or poultry or even livestock projects, so that should disaster strike, they have somewhere to start," she said.

The Young Farmers' Club plays a big role in motivating youths to engage in farming activities as a way of building sustainable income in a harsh economic terrain. Local young women farmers, the banking sector and other stakeholders from different sectors of the economy that are linked to agriculture attended the workshop.

*The Chronicle*

## HEALTH CLUB HOLDS HEALTH AND WELLNESS EXPO

A Second Semester Health Expo for the 2016-2017 Academic year was held from 27th – 28th April 2017 by the Institute's Students' Health Club, under the auspices of the Students Affairs Division running under the theme "Delivering health to the people, Bringing life to everyone around us".

The Club partnered with CIMAS Medical Aid, Cancer Association of Zimbabwe, National Blood Transfusion Services (NBTS), University of Zimbabwe Dental Department, AIDS Council, Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council (ZNFPC), AFDZTO, National Diabetes Team and the HITSAYWHAT Club.

Various activities which include the drug abuse and awareness, family planning awareness, condom distribution, PSI Peer educators training on male circumcision and

good personal hygiene were held. The Health Expo also provided information on the importance of a good diet and proper food preparation techniques. HIV testing, blood donations and an oral health campaign were also conducted.

Health and wellness activities included the provision of information about health and wellness, breast cancer screening, BP checks, weight control (BMI calculations), blood glucose tests, healthy lifestyle and counselling which were conducted for over 2 000 students and staff who constitute the HIT community.

The Health and Wellness Expo is held to conscientise the HIT community about the importance of personal health and wellness in order to save lives through offering health checks and community service through blood donations. It is aimed at delivering health

information and awareness to the HIT community at no cost and to impact their lives. The HIT's Student Affairs Division's Health and Wellness Expo is the Health Club's main event that has been conducted successfully since its foundation in 2015.

The programme is held every semester as a way to alert and improve the health of the HIT Community. This year more activities were carried out as compared to the previous Health Expo events.

The Health Club is a group of about 30 students on campus who work with the Health Centre in health information and education campaigns.



## ALL SET FOR THE VICE CHANCELLOR'S INNOVATION AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 2017 Edition of the Vice Chancellor's Innovation and Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament is set to be held at the Chapman Golf Club on 19 May 2017 in Harare.

The tournament format is the Four Ball-Better Ball Alliance and participants are drawn from the Institute's stakeholders, senior management and staff.

Last year, more than \$10,000 was raised at the second edition with over twenty companies and organisations participating.

The HIT Vice Chancellor's Innovation and Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament is held as a fundraising project and a platform to interact with stakeholders. Funds generated through the Golf Tournament are to fund intelligent but financially challenged students, Capstone Design Projects with the potential for commercialisation as well as procuring equipment for workshops and laboratories.

The inaugural Vice Chancellor's Innovation and Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament was successfully held at the Borrowdale Brooke Golf

and Country Club in Harare on 29 May 2015.

The HIT Vice Chancellor's Innovation and Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament is an annual event.



HIT @ZITF 2017 IN PICTURES



The HIT Stand, the Exhibition Team, delegates and visitors at the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF 2017) in Bulawayo from 23-29 April 2017.