

Press Release – For Immediate Release
23 October 2024

BDC Officially Opens Delta Automotive Technologies Facility – Strengthening Botswana’s Role in the Global Automotive Supply Chain

Lobatse– Botswana Development Corporation (BDC) proudly celebrated the official opening of Delta Automotive Technologies’ state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Lobatse today, marking a significant moment in Botswana’s drive towards industrialisation and economic diversification. Delta is a leading automotive component manufacturer specialising in the production of electrical wiring harnesses for global automotive giants, with a strong focus on innovation, technical expertise, and local economic empowerment.

In his remarks, Mr Cross Kgosiile, BDC Managing Director, underscored the Corporation’s key role in Delta’s success. “BDC’s strategic investment in Delta Automotive aligns with our mission to foster industrial growth and support private sector development. Through investments in high-impact industries, we ensure Botswana remains competitive and appealing to international investors, while also creating sustainable employment opportunities for Batswana.”

Delivering the keynote address, Honourable Mmusi Kgafela, Minister of Trade and Industry, hailed the facility’s opening as a major milestone in Botswana’s journey towards industrial advancement. “This facility marks a new chapter in our nation’s efforts toward economic diversification, job creation, and industrial growth. Delta Automotive Technologies plays a critical role in integrating Botswana into the rapidly growing global automotive sector, bringing long-lasting economic benefits to our people,” Minister Kgafela stated.

The Minister further highlighted Botswana’s strategic location near South Africa, home to Africa’s largest automotive market and exporter. He noted that Botswana’s proximity to South Africa, combined with competitive delivery times and duty-free access to key markets, positions us as a natural hub for automotive component manufacturing.

Delta Automotive Technologies is already making a significant contribution to the local economy, currently employing over 330 people, with plans to create an additional 650 jobs. Herald Keichel, CEO of Delta Automotive Technologies, praised the company’s growth and reiterated its commitment to the Lobatse community. A significant development for Delta Automotive is the recent award of a five-year contract to supply wiring harnesses for the Nissan Navara pick-up truck. This deal not only enhances Botswana’s standing in the Southern African automotive supply chain but also opens the door for further partnerships and reaffirms the country’s competitiveness in the global market.

The achievements of Delta Automotive reflect Botswana’s Vision 2036 and the Reset Agenda, both of which aim to reduce reliance on traditional industries and diversify the economy. Delta Automotive exemplifies Botswana’s transformation into a knowledge-based economy with the capability to compete globally. The success of the automotive sector will spur further value chain development and open new opportunities for local businesses, including small and medium-sized enterprises.

Delta Automotive's growth is a testament to Botswana's industrial potential. His Worship, Jomo Mosimanegape Dithebe, Mayor of Lobatse, lauded the facility's contribution to the local economy. "This development goes beyond job creation. Delta is fostering an ecosystem of growth by empowering local businesses, stimulating entrepreneurship, and driving economic activity in Lobatse and beyond. The positive impact on our community cannot be overstated."

As Botswana continues its industrialisation efforts, sustainability remains a key focus. Projects like Delta Automotive are executed with a strong emphasis on environmental responsibility. Incorporating energy-efficient technologies and promoting waste reduction are essential for building a sustainable and resilient economy.

For more information, please contact the following:

Boitshwarelo Lebang-Kgetse

Head - Corporate Affairs

Tel: +267 365 1339

Email: boitshwarelo@bdc.bw

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

ABOUT BDC

Botswana Development Corporation Limited, or 'BDC,' is the country's main agency for commercial and industrial development. Established in 1970, under the Companies Act, BDC is a company Limited by Shares and fully owned by the Government of Botswana. BDC is mandated to provide, facilitate and support funding of commercially viable enterprises that contribute towards building a sustainable and diversified Botswana economy; stimulate the growth of the private sector; to invest in the region and internationally; whilst generating wealth for the Shareholder.

The Corporation invests in commercially viable projects across all sectors of the economy except large-scale diamond mining. These include Energy, Manufacturing, Industry, Property, Services, Tourism, and Technology locally.

Throughout, BDC intends to promote best practices in business, governance and environmental standards in the funds or companies they choose to invest in. BDC conducts its business on a commercial basis and exercises special care and regard to economic and commercial merits.