



MEDIA STATEMENT

FREE STATE TO DELIVER FIRST OF ITS KIND 4IR SUMMIT

26 NOVEMBER, 2019

The Free State Provincial Government in partnership with the Central University of Technology (CUT), will on Thursday, 28 November 2019, kick-start the much anticipated, first of its kind Fourth Industrial Revolution Summit in Bloemfontein.

The Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies, Ms Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams will deliver the keynote Address. The summit will also be graced by Prof Chris Adendorff, a futurist Professor at the Nelson Mandela Business School, Professors Henk de Jager, Francis Petersen, Barry Dwolatzky, and Saurabh Sinha from the universities of Nelson Mandela University, Central University of Technology (CUT), the Universities of the Free State, Witwatersrand, and Johannesburg, respectively. The summit, championed by the Premier of the Free State, Sisi Ntombela, will also have speakers such as Professor Deon de Beer who will talk to about the Centre for Rapid Prototyping and Manufacturing.

The trailblazing summit has lined up incredible speakers from local and abroad, who will talk on various aspects of the 4IR and how we the Province should start preparing for the new eventualities that will come from this technology driven industrialization.

Companies that will exhibition include:

- Ubuntu Technologies
- Cell C
- AppCentrix
- Headset Solutions
- SIMTEQ Engineering
- Columbus Consulting
- MSG IT Solutions
- Lixil Africa
- Techsec TA The Lab
- Saya-Setona

- Argantic
- Institute for Intelligent Systems
- Huawei, SA
- FNB
- Siemens
- Cisco
- ITIKI
- CRPM
- Smart Bins
- SITA
- Sisglobal
- SawGroup
- CUT
- Gig Culture
- FS Online
- Infoverge
- Khabane
- Microsoft SA
- Morx Online
- PBICT
- WEETALKIN
- VODACOM
- Cooi Innovation Studio

"We are not ignorant to our challenges of the day. The challenges of youth Unemployment; leadership and governance in state institutions; an almost stagnant economy and various service delivery challenges including electricity and bulk water supply as a result of drought", said Premier Ntombela.

"We also recognize that the 4IR brings about a new era of hope and opportunity that can turn our fortunes around if we properly define it within our context. The Free State economy is driven by Agriculture, Mining, Manufacturing, Tourism and Services, which still have the capacity to attract labour and create new types of jobs", Premier Ntombela added.

Come join the discussions and contribute towards uniquely Free State solutions.

Register on: www.freestate4irsummit.org and download the Mobile App on: <https://eur.crowd.cc/s/k8s>

#BuildingTheFreeStateWeWant

#fs4irsummit2019

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