MEDIA RELEASE

13 JUNE 2017

Knysna fire aid: Partners in rebuilding Knysna

York Timber's CEO, Pieter van Zyl confirmed that a donation of shutter plywood to the value of R350 000 is on its way to Knysna. Shutter plywood is a versatile product which can be used to rebuild houses, lay floors and erect roofs for any structure.

“York is in the timber industry and has undergone a long process of restructuring its business for strong, sustainable growth following the devastating Sabie fires in 2007. York owns forestry plantations and understands the impact and the commitment it takes to rebuild, a task now faced by Knysna and the surrounding villages. “

The intense fires at Knysna last week saw 10 000 people evacuated from the Garden Route. To date it was reported that the 30 fires have killed nine people. "Our hearts go out to all victims of this disaster. We have been in touch with the Knysna Disaster Emergency Fund which has been set up by the authority for residents in the wake of the fires and we will contribute directly to the municipality."

York Timbers is the largest vertically integrated solid wood processor in Southern Africa and is listed on the JSE with its head office in Sabie. York has a staff compliment of close to 5 000 people. This plywood gift arrives with a spirit of camaraderie from the York team.

The interlink with the load of almost 1000 shutter plywood sheets donated to the larger Knysna community is expected to arrive on 14 June 2017 at the Knysna Municipality Housing Division.

Knysna brandbystand: Vennote in die heropbou van Knysna

Die HUB van York Timbers, Pieter van Zyl het bevestig dat 'n donasie van sluiter laaghout, ter waarde van R350 000 op pad is na Knysna. Sluiter laaghout is 'n veelsydige produk wat vir die herbou van huise, die installasie van vloere en die oprig van dakke vir enige struktuur gebruik word.

“York is in die houtbedryf en het self na die vernietigende Sabie brande van 2007 'n lang proses van herstrukturering ondergaan vir sterk, volhoubare groei. York besit bosbou plantasies en verstaan die impak en die toewyding wat vereis word om, soos dit Knysna en omliggende dorpe nou te doen staan, te herbou.“

Tydens verlede week se intense brande in die Knysna-omgewing en middedorp moes sowat 10 000 mense uit die Tuinroete ontruim word. Tot nou toe is berig dat nege mense omgekom het in die sowat 30 brande wat gewoed het. "Ons harte is gevul met omgee vir alle slagoffers van die ramp. Ons het met die Knysna Rampnoodfonds geskakel wat deur die owerheid op die been gebring is vir inwoners en ons sal direk tot die munisipaliteit bydra."
York Timbers is die grootste vertikaal geintegreerde soliede hout verwerker in Suidelike Afrika met sy hoofkantoor in Sabie. Die besigheid is op die JSE gelys. York verskaf werk aan bykans 5 000 mense. Hierdie laaghout skenking word in die gees van eensgesindheid deur die York-span aan Knysna gelewer.

Die vragmotor met bykans 1 000 sluiter laaghout planke wat aan die gemeenskap van Knysna geskenk word, word môre (14 Junie 2017) by die Knysna Munisipaliteit se Behuisingsafdeling verwag.

ENDS

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