

A *FleetWatch* Publication



*Driving the well-being of the industry.*



# TWO DECADES OF GROWTH AND INNOVATION



# NBCRFLI SERVICES



The National Bargaining Council for the Road Freight and Logistics Industry (NBCRFLI) provides an effective service to road freight and logistics industry stakeholders, thereby contributing to labour peace. We achieve this through our various service offerings which are accessible via our 18 offices countrywide to all our employer and employee member.

#### **Funds Administration**

Effectively and efficiently processes all annual leave, sick leave and 13th cheque funds.

#### **Disputes Management**

Resolves disputes over which the Council has jurisdiction.

#### **Enforcement**

The NBCRFLI administers the Industry's Collective Agreements. In addition, designated agents ensure compliance and enforcement of the Collective Agreements within the Road Freight and Logistics Industry through conducting proactive and on-going educational inspections, investigating complaints or by any other means that the Council may adopt.

#### **Exemptions**

An Independent Exemptions Body hears applications for exemptions in relation to the Council's Collective Agreements and an Independent Appeals Body hears any appeals against the decisions of the Independent Exemptions Body. Provision for independent bodies to hear exemptions and appeals applications within 30 days of receipt of valid applications, which now forms part of the amendments to the Labour Relations Act, which came into effect on 1 January 2015, has already been a long standing practice by the NBCRFLI.

#### **Trucking Wellness**

Provides Road Freight and Logistics Industry employees, sex workers and the community at large with education, counselling and testing for HIV/AIDS and related diseases via our Roadside Wellness Clinics and Mobile Wellness Centres. Those who fall within the Council's registered scope also receive primary healthcare and ARV treatment, where necessary.

#### **Wellness Fund Health Plan**

Entitles Eligible Principal Members, together with two eligible spouses (or common law wives), to various healthcare benefits. Access the website for details of these benefits.

#### **Matters of Mutual Interest**

Further to the services that we provide, the following matters of mutual interest that are stipulated in the Main Collective Agreement are an improved version against those in the Basic Conditions of Employment Act:

- Provision of sick bonus
- Provision of 13th cheque
- Leave
- Prescribed minimum wages
- Provision of minimum payments of allowances such as night work, subsistence and Hazchem
- Paid maternity benefits (under certain conditions)
- Compulsory provident/pension fund membership of any registered fund

These matters of mutual interest govern the conditions of employment within the Road Freight and Logistics Industry, thereby promoting labour stability within the Industry.

Contact us for further information about our service offerings and matters of mutual interest, visit our website [www.nbcrfli.org.za](http://www.nbcrfli.org.za) or contact one of our regional offices.

**Registered Office** 31 De Korte Street, Braamfontein, Johannesburg, 2017

**Private Bag** X69, Braamfontein, 2017 **Tel** 011 703 7000 **Fax** 011 403 1555/1726 **Website** [www.nbcrfli.org.za](http://www.nbcrfli.org.za)

# DRIVING THE WELL-BEING OF THE INDUSTRY



**Musa Ndlovu**  
**National Secretary**  
**National Bargaining**  
**Council for the**  
**Road Freight and**  
**Logistics Industry**

## FOREWORD

**MUSA NDLOVU**, NBCRFLI's National Secretary said, "As the Trucking Wellness Programme (TWP) celebrates 20 years, we are reminded of the wonder in providing a world-class service and pushing the health and wellness of the logistics industry forward.

The TWP has had an incredible impact not only on the industry but also on communities throughout South Africa; not only in the fight against HIV and AIDS, but all devastating lifestyle ailments like Diabetes and Hypertension. Our services are comprehensive and holistic. We ensure that our industry members are confident that we provide the world-class service that is expected.

For us, the TWP is about building trust with the industry members, families, surrounding communities and sex workers. If they trust us, they will visit us and receive the information they require to build a better future not only for themselves but the industry as well."

The journey of the past 20 years has firmly placed the TWP on the path of innovation. The lessons of the past have clearly spelt out that the future of the TWP will continue to be driven by innovation, growth and improved quality of service informed by the ever-changing needs of its clients. This exciting journey forward will remain focused on the prevention, treatment and care of HIV, STI's and other lifestyle diseases.

Our sponsors are our biggest champions because they push us to set higher standards and define new paths for other industries to follow. We pay homage to our sponsors because the TWP would not be what it is today without them encouraging us and providing the resources they do.

We truly appreciate all sponsors of the Trucking Wellness Programme, both in the past and present, for the support and commitment to the programme and we welcome future sponsorships."

*Musa Ndlovu*

Watch the videos to learn more about the Trucking Wellness Programme



**WATCH THE VIDEO**



**About Trucking Wellness**  
<https://youtu.be/3a06ssFRW00>



**WATCH THE VIDEO**



**Support from Mercedes-Benz from the late Kobus van Zyl**  
<https://youtu.be/SSZ1zxPB4dc>



**Jasper Hafkamp**  
**CEO Daimler Trucks &**  
**Buses Southern Africa.**

## SHARED VISION AND VALUES

**DAIMLER TRUCKS** and Buses Southern Africa would like to congratulate Trucking Wellness on their 20th anniversary. Thank you for your contribution and service over the last 20 years. Because of our shared vision and values, we recognise the significance of Truck driver safety and wellness, and the positive lasting impact it has on our trucking community. The Trucking Wellness Programme has not only increased the value add to Daimler Trucks and Buses customers, but has strengthened the services available to all stakeholders in South Africa.

We are indeed proud of this association with Trucking Wellness and extend our best wishes to them for the future.

*Jasper Hafkamp*



**Vic Ferreira. Executive**  
**Managing Director -**  
**Reef Tankers (Pty) Ltd**

## DRIVEN BY PASSION

**REEF TANKERS** is a proud sponsor of the Trucking Wellness Clinic situated in Roodekop. The clinic was established in 2011 at one of the busiest Truck Stops in the South of Johannesburg, Reef Truck Stop. This facility was established to provide access to wellness advice, medical assistance and general health awareness. The facility is available to all truck drivers as well as the general community in Leondale.

Reef Tankers is passionate about Trucking Wellness and will continue to make a difference in the lives of the community and drivers that visit our facility. Congratulations to Trucking Wellness on 20 years of making a positive impact in our communities.

*Vic Ferreira*



◀ Opened in 2012, the Reef Truck Stop clinic operates 5 days per week (8-5) with a full-time nurse. Open to anyone in Leondale plus all Tanker Reef drivers and staff.



## MAY YOU CONTINUE TO TOUCH LIVES

**WE LIVE** fast-paced lives – always on the go – with little time or consideration to our own well-being and health. This is even more true for truck drivers who earn their bread and butter in high-stress environments, always on the move and facing unique challenges whilst doing their jobs. The work our truckers do and the occupational demands placed on them are often under-appreciated. For drivers, their long hours of work can be exhausting and detrimental to their health and work/life balance. This is where Trucking Wellness comes in.

Almost a decade ago, N3 Toll Concession entered into a partnership with Trucking Wellness to support truck drivers to take care of their general health and well-being. From humble beginnings, our partnership developed into a full-blown joint venture to provide truck drivers and various aligned communities better access to healthcare along the N3 corridor.

Trucking Wellness has made a tangible difference to the expansion of the N3TC Wellness Clinics, allowing us to reach thousands of people, including truckers, with basic primary healthcare services.

In just three months last year, our joint wellness clinics tested more than 1000 clients and more than 2200 patients were treated.

From starting out with a visionary approach 20-years ago, Trucking Wellness has proven its success rate, noticeably touching the daily lives and well-being of its many beneficiaries.

Trucking Wellness deserves our recognition and respect. They go beyond the call of duty to support our country and its people.

N3TC congratulates Trucking Wellness on this milestone celebration. May you continue with perseverance and strength through the next decades.

*Praveen Sunderlall*



**Praveen Sunderlall**  
**Manager, N3 Toll**  
**Concession (N3TC)**  
**Road Incident**  
**Management Systems**  
**(RIMS)**

▼ N3TC Trucking Wellness Day on the N3





## SHARING A PASSION FOR SAFETY, HEALTH & VITALITY

**IMPERIAL LOGISTICS** extends its heartfelt congratulations to Trucking Wellness on their 20th anniversary. As a longstanding partner and substantial contributor to the Trucking Wellness Programme, we share their enduring passion for driver safety, health and vitality. We recognise the positive impact that access to primary healthcare services has on our drivers - and the subsequent benefits for their families, communities and the transport community at large. Imperial will thus always work tirelessly alongside all stakeholders to ensure that such services are of the best possible quality and that they remain accessible and relevant.

*Nico van der Westhuizen*

**Nico van der Westhuizen**  
**CEO Imperial Logistics,**  
**South Africa**



# AVAILABLE FREE AT ANY ROADSIDE OR MOBILE WELLNESS CLINICS!



- HIV awareness, information, education, counselling and testing.
- Blood Pressure testing
- Glucose testing
- Cholesterol testing
- Body Mass Index calculation
- TB awareness, information, education, screening and referrals for treatment and care.
- STI screening. Treatment and education available at Roadside Wellness Clinics.
- Enrolment onto Wellness Fund Treatment Programme (ARV's) - Industry members
- Referrals to appropriate service providers for ART as well as HIV and AIDS treatment and care - Non Industry members.
- Condom distribution
- Primary Healthcare - only available at Roadside Wellness Clinics.

## VISITING OUR ROADSIDE WELLNESS CLINICS OR MOBILE WELLNESS CLINICS COULD CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

### PARTNERS



### TRUCKING WELLNESS

Unit 1, 18 Top Road, Anderbolt, Boksburg  
P.O. Box 1188, Boksburg, 1459



Tel: 011 914 1610/1  
Fax: 011 914 3463 / 086 693 3997

Email: [info@truckingwellness.co.za](mailto:info@truckingwellness.co.za)  
Mobile Wellness Clinic Requests: [chris@coremp.co.za](mailto:chris@coremp.co.za)

# CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

## 1999

- Trucking Against AIDS Programme is launched focusing on education and training within transport companies.



## 2000

- First Wellness Centre established in Beaufort West (N1).



## 2001 – 2002

- Two Wellness Centres established in Harrismith (N3) and Beit Bridge Border Post - Musina (N1).
- Programme employs full time Project Co-ordinator – Tertius Wessels.
- Three Wellness Centres established in Ventersburg (N1), Tugela (N3) and Port Elizabeth (N2).
- Imperial Logistics and UTI commences sponsorships of these Centres.



▲ Trucking Wellness has a total of 22 permanent clinics plus 8 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Mobile Wellness Clinics to promote education and awareness, administer essential primary health care and medication to truck drivers across South Africa.

**FleetWatch stands privileged in being selected by the National Bargaining Council for the Road Freight and Logistics Industry (NBCRFLI) to produce a celebratory supplement on Trucking Wellness Programme (TWP) - initially Trucking Against AIDS - as the organisation this year celebrates its 20th anniversary. From small beginnings, this organisation has grown into a giant - not only in terms of its size but more so in terms of the positive impact it has had on the health and well-being of hundreds of thousands of people in the trucking industry over the years. With its world-leading programme, TWP stands as an example to the world of what can be achieved in bringing hope where no hope existed writes Patrick O’Leary. To charter the course and positive impact of TWP, I ask you to come with me on a journey back to the early 1990s prior to the formation of Trucking Against AIDS. Here we go....**

**D**eath! That is what HIV/AIDS sentenced you to in South Africa in the early 1990’s. There was no chance of bail being granted, no reprieve and no appeal. Your actions had determined the judgement – and it was final.

I first came across this reality in late 1994 when visiting a trucking company in

Lusaka in Zambia. In conversation with the managing director, he informed me that he had a 100% driver turnover every two years. I asked what the reason was for this. Why did they leave? He said: “They don’t leave. They die of the sickness.” I was shocked. “What sickness? Malaria?” He replied: “No, it’s AIDS.”

I had heard of HIV/AIDS but had



# DRIVING THE WELL-BEING OF THE INDUSTRY



absolutely no knowledge of the disease or its potentially devastating impact on society. The conversation with the Zambian operator was a wake-up call to reality.

On returning to South Africa, *FleetWatch* started researching the subject and what we found was truly terrifying. AIDS was with us and yet few people in the trucking industry were talking about it. Worse was that according to research conducted at the time by the World Health Organisation, it was hitting the trucking industry hard as HIV/AIDS was spreading via the trucking routes from north down south into South Africa. Aside from the general population of South Africa, our truck drivers – and thus our industry - were facing a huge threat as were the local commercial sex workers. Something had to be done – and fast.

Assuming that trucking companies were aware of this, we ventured into the market to find out how they were dealing with this threat. They weren't. One operator told us it wasn't his problem. Rather, it was a Department of Health issue.

“Never,” he laughed back. “They’ll always be there.” He just didn’t get it – and he was proved wrong. The day of the empty pavements did arrive. The driver ranks were being depleted.

As proof, let’s leapfrog eight years ahead and I quote Louis Hollander from an article featured in *FleetWatch* in September 2002. “The impact of the driver shortage is already being felt. The usual queues of drivers looking for work have vanished. I think this is due to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.”

Hollander was at that time Human Resources Director of what was then known as Imperial Logistics and Transport, a company which got involved in Trucking Wellness at an early stage – and is still involved to this day. Louis, who is now retired, still serves as an executive on the board of Trucking Wellness.

As we continued to investigate, we discovered huge obstacles to advancement – the biggest being the lack of urgency spurred on by ignorance. We also found



▲ Beitbridge/Musina Wellness Centre – the busiest border post in Southern Africa with thousands of trucks and drivers passing through daily.

“I know we’ve lost drivers to AIDS – and we probably have a number of others living with HIV/AIDS - but it’s not a problem for us. We are transporters not health workers. If a driver dies, we merely hire another driver.” In those days, truck drivers would hang around on the pavements outside trucking companies waiting for a job.

“The day will come when there won’t be any drivers outside. And those that might be there, will be HIV positive,” I said to him.

that the knowledge bank on HIV/AIDS was housed in a few research departments and yes, the Department of Health (DoH) had been involved on a wider basis but there was not much getting out to the public – and certainly not to the trucking industry.

## Awareness but no action

There was awareness but no wide-spread action. In fact, the apartheid Government had been involved for quite a few years following the formation of

## 2003

- Road Freight Association in conjunction with the National Bargaining Council for the Road Freight and Logistics Industry (NBCRFLI) sponsors the establishment of both centres.
- First Mobile Wellness Clinic introduced into the programme, sponsored by Daimler Chrysler.



- Development of industry specific HIV/AIDS policy.
- Two Wellness Centres established in Hanover (N1) and Komatipoort (N4).



▲ Komatipoort (N4)

## 2004

- SIDA funds Programme. Imperial Logistics sponsors Mooi River (N3) Wellness Clinic.



▲ Mooi River (N3)

# CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

## 2005

- Themba Mthombeni joins the project as a Project Co-ordinator.
- Two Wellness Centres established in Zeerust (N4) and East London (N2).



▲ Zeerust launch

## 2006

- Two Mobile Wellness Clinics and a caravan introduced.



- National Mobile VCT service introduced at the Zeerust launch – an industry first.
- Corridor Empowerment Project established with industry approval.
- Wellness Centre established in Kokstad (N2), sponsored by TNT International.



▲ Kokstad Wellness Centre

## 2008

- Corridor Empowerment Project receives funding from SIDA. ▶

what was called the AIDS Unit and National Advisory Group which had been set up in the Department of Health in 1988 to promote awareness about AIDS. It was manned by a small group of people but alas, it had little impact and didn't get very far as evidenced by the fact that by 1990, it was estimated that up to 74 000 South Africans were living with HIV. The first recorded death from HIV/AIDS in South Africa was in 1985.

In early 1991, a national conference was held and a new body called the National Advisory Group (NACOSA) was established to develop more comprehensive government policies for HIV/AIDS. NACOSA was meant to bring a range of sectors together to develop a cohesive response to the crisis. The government's AIDS Unit was dismantled later that spring, and replaced with the National AIDS Programme.

And so it went on. Between then and 1994, a lot of noise was made but little action was implemented. Meanwhile on the political front, much had been happening. On February 2, 1990, then President F W De Klerk announced the release of Nelson Mandela from prison and the unbanning of the ANC and other organisations such as the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) and the South Africa Communist Party.

This led to South Africa's democratic elections being held four years later - on April 27, 1994 - which, as expected, resulted in the ANC winning the elections. With the late, great Nelson Mandela being the country's first democratically elected President, we would surely now see things move on the HIV/Aids front.

### National AIDS Plan

A bright light was switched on - or so we all thought – later that year when the Department of Health (DoH) under the leadership of the first Minister of Health, Dr Nkosazani Dlamini-Zuma, launched the National Aids Plan (NAP) at the National AIDS Convention of South Africa. This was to be the new Government of National Unity's vehicle to tackle HIV/AIDS on all fronts.

A budget of R256,8-million was allocated for the implementation of the plan. These were the main points of implementation: 1. To prevent the spread of the epidemic

through, especially, the promotion of safer sexual behaviour, the adequate provision of condoms and the control of sexually transmitted disease (STDs).

2. To reduce the personal and social impact of HIV/AIDS through providing counselling, care and social support including social welfare services for persons with HIV/AIDS, their families and their communities.
3. To mobilise and unify local, provincial, national and international resources to prevent and reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS.

At last! This was the news we were all waiting for - an action plan with admirable objectives being steered by the DoH, along with organisations and individuals whose sole aim was to highlight, educate and possibly suppress the spread of the AIDS epidemic in the country. Although the trucking industry was not part of that group, this move marked a great early start but alas, the race was not well run.

To give an example, when we revisited the plan in 1997 to determine how the money was being spent and what advances had been made, it was hugely disappointing. It seemed the only 'decent' amount spent over those years was R14-million authorised for a play called Sarafino – which was a disastrous failure. The other area of spend was the hand-out of free condoms. Nothing was directed at the trucking industry and this despite Dr Zuma assuring *FleetWatch* in an exclusive interview published in September 1994, that truck drivers were recognised as a high risk community and would be a definite target group.

### Stalemate

At the time of the announcement, the government did not state where the R256,8-million would come from. The DoH doubled its annual AIDS budget to R42-million that year which meant that R214,8-million had to be found from donors. This obviously did not materialise and in 1997, it seems there was a stalemate - certainly between the Government and the trucking industry.

By this time it became clearly obvious that the trucking industry would have to go its own way in tackling the HIV/AIDS crisis. We were hearing from many truck operators ▶ 30

# DRIVING THE WELL-BEING OF THE INDUSTRY




ROADSIDE WELLNESS CENTRES HCT					
Year	Total HIV	HIV+	HIV-	Inconclusive	Prevalence
2008	881	194	687	0	22.02%
2009	2116	359	1757	0	16.97%
2010	5379	940	4404	35	17.58%
2011	7342	865	6467	10	11.58%
2012	7415	677	6733	5	9.13%
2013	8165	626	7511	28	7.69%
2014	9825	692	9062	71	7.09%
2015	8701	479	8079	143	5.05%
2016	10626	516	10069	41	4.86%
2017	12397	556	11841	0	4.48%
2018	14140	531	13608	1	3.76%
<b>Total</b>	<b>86987</b>	<b>6435</b>	<b>80218</b>	<b>334</b>	

Our services are comprehensive and holistic. We ensure our industry members are confident that we provide a world class service expected.

Tertius Wessels

**Congratulations to Trucking Wellness on their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration!**  
Here's to many more safe, happy, and healthy miles together.

**Mercedes-Benz**  
Trucks you can trust.



## CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

The Trucking Wellness Programme is an advocate of change... encouraging people to change mind-sets and values in making healthier lifestyle changes.

ROADSIDE WELLNESS CENTRES			
Year	Awareness Education	Patients	STI Treatments
2008	58912	18292	5899
2009	76993	28097	6793
2010	146318	55275	16647
2011	54569	30854	9180
2012	57130	33435	3487
2013	59242	33877	3075
2014	56152	41125	3651
2015	39415	35881	2853
2016	31497	33440	1834
2017	31691	33974	1653
2018	37810	33751	1736
<b>Total</b>	<b>649729</b>	<b>378001</b>	<b>56808</b>



Celebrating **20** years  
of Trucking Wellness



24-Hour N3TC Helpline  
**0800 63 4357**

 @N3Route  N3Route  
 N3Route  [www.n3tc.co.za](http://www.n3tc.co.za)

# DRIVING THE WELL-BEING OF THE INDUSTRY



▲ The Colesburg Wellness Centre is established on the N1.

of their drivers dying from AIDS – and they were lost as to what to do about it. The trucking industry would have to mobilise its own resources behind some initiative that would target truck drivers - and the industry at large – in a concentrated effort outside of the National Aids Plan (NAP) and outside any other initiatives.

It was thus in 1998 that the seeds for ‘Trucking Against Aids’ were planted at a public meeting held at the Presidential Guest House in Pretoria. It was on this day that the government announced an R80-million HIV/AIDS awareness programme. President Nelson Mandela was absent on the day as he was overseas but Deputy President Thabo Mbeki was there along with a host of other Cabinet Ministers and invited guests – including Health Minister Dr Zuma.

I found myself sitting next to Transport Minister Mac Maharaj and after listening to a number of speeches and input from the floor, I asked for the microphone and publically challenged Minister Maharaj to start an initiative to tackle HIV/AIDS in the trucking industry. It would be for the trucking industry by the trucking industry.

### Taking up the challenge

To his eternal credit, Minister Maharaj accepted the challenge and later phoned to ask if I could get the role players together. I did this and the Minister called for the first meeting at the Department of Transport chaired by the Minister himself. This is was the real break-through we had been waiting for.

Gathered in that room were a number of representatives from various bodies associated with the trucking industry. Geoff du Plessis, then GM of the commercial vehicle division of Mercedes-Benz South Africa (which to this day is still a strong supporter of Trucking Wellness); Mark Esselen and Richard Thompson from Engen; Mike Abbotts, group personnel manager of Imperial Transport Holdings; Nazir Ali, then CEO of SANRAL; the late Barney Curtis representing the Road Freight Association; Bokaba Maluleka, CEO of the Cross Border Road Transport Agency; Randal Howard, general-secretary of the Transport & General Workers Union and others. ▶ 36

## MOBILE WELLNESS CENTRES HCT

Year	Total HIV	HIV+	HIV-	Prevalence
2008	1041	84	957	8.07%
2009	2100	134	1966	6.38%
2010	6192	504	5688	8.12%
2011	16220	1429	14791	8.81%
2012	9055	638	8417	7.04%
2013	8498	606	7892	7.13%
2014	11922	841	11081	7.05%
2015	10182	304	9878	2.98%
2016	9848	450	9398	4.57%
2017	9534	313	9221	3.28%
2018	9650	230	9420	2.38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94242</b>	<b>5533</b>	<b>88709</b>	

## 2008

- Trucking Against AIDS Programme is rebranded as Trucking Wellness.
- Fourth Mobile Wellness Clinic introduced.
- 881 VCT's conducted.
- Attended with a show stand and presented Programme at the World AIDS Conference in Mexico.
- Wellness Fund Treatment Programme officially launched.
- Wellness Centre established at Marianhill (N3), sponsored by CMRA.

## 2009

- Two Wellness Centres established, Mthatha (N2) and Colesburg (N1).
- Fifth Mobile Wellness Clinic introduced.
- 2500 VCT's conducted to date.
- National road show introducing Wellness Fund to industry.
- Three members of CEP awarded scholarships by Foundation for Professional Development in HIV/AIDS management.
- EMPOWERDEX audited and accredited as B-BBEE provider.
- Project benefits 98% Previously Disadvantaged Individuals (PDI's).

## 2010

- Took over the management of three Imperial on-site Wellness Centres (Gauteng).

# CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

## 2010

- Formalization of partnership with MBSA through SABCOHA for R3,5 million.
- Additional funding received from SIDA for R22 million.
- Tertius Wessels achieves a Certificate in Advanced Healthcare Management from the Foundation for Professional Development (FPD).
- Total number of VCT's conducted through roadside and Mobile Wellness Centres: 9604 (Nov '10).

## 2011

- Two Wellness Centres established, Villiers (N3) and Epping (N1).



▲ Opening of Epping Wellness Centre

- Project purchased 10 new Mercedes-Benz Sprinters.



## 2012

- Began helping other companies to manage and mitigate the impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic through a variety of governance, assessment, surveillance, planning and monitoring strategies.

### NETWORK ACHIEVEMENT SINCE INCEPTION - SEPTEMBER 2019

Location	Year Launched	Awareness Education: Truck Drivers & Women at Risk	Patients: Truck Drivers & Women at Risk	No of STI Treatments: Truck Drivers & Women at Risk
Beaufort West (N1)	2000	104636	20525	6914
Harrismith (N3)	2001	51703	30723	5525
Beit Bridge Border Post (N1)	2001	119394	42806	10433
Ventersburg (N1)	2002	52650	22918	6132
Tugela (N3)	2002	59463	40859	16597
Port Elizabeth (N2)	2002	58290	33750	6775
Hanover (N1)	2003	49877	20741	3052
Mooi River (N3)	2004	51508	25148	3127
Komatipoort (N4)	2003	61195	45215	10899
Zeerust (N4)	2005	42663	20418	1264
East London (N2)	2005	22880	15039	967
Kokstad (N2)	2006	28823	16093	3845
Marianhill (N3)	2008	25221	15005	575
Colesburg (N1)	2009	5525	13085	821
Mthatha (N2)	2009	25218	9920	841
Villiers (N3)	2010	41638	18877	1522
Gauteng	2010	3925	22544	1326
Cape Town	2010	6827	47929	691
Warden	2011	12984	12234	747
Roodekop	2011	13635	13239	1143
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>838055</b>	<b>487068</b>	<b>83196</b>

**Condom Distribution : 23,311,030 million (estimated)**

**The first Roadside Wellness Clinics were a catalyst in providing access to healthcare for drivers who were unable to do so before without great effort.**

---

# Imperial<sup>™</sup> logistics

“The success of  
your journey and  
your destination  
all depend on  
who’s driving.”

Bruce Springsteen



[www.imperiallogistics.com](http://www.imperiallogistics.com)

---

# CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

## 2012

- Improved current HIV, AIDS, STI and TB information and behaviour change education by providing each Roadside Wellness Centre with an AI laminated training set.
- Implementation of the Wellness Committee.
- Established a Peer Education programme within commercial sex worker communities surrounding Wellness Centres, companies and at Wellness Centres themselves.
- Re-launch of the Port Elizabeth Roadside Wellness Centre.
- Participated in the International World AIDS conference in Washington DC.
- Participated in the National Department of Health key populations workshop at the Health Department in Pretoria.
- The CEP facilitated a Wellness Centre workshop for all clinical employees.
- The Swedish Minister of Finance members of parliament, the foreign ministry to African countries and Sida, visited the Roodekop Wellness Centre in Johannesburg.
- Participated in the MBSA winter collection community outreach.

By the end of that meeting, all left with a firm resolve to link hands and rise to Minister Maharaj's call for a partnership within the road freight industry to tackle the HIV/AIDS pandemic. It was from that meeting that the name 'Trucking Against AIDS' was agreed on as the body that would drive the initiative forward.

It was, in fact, Professor Graeme Addison, a former Professor of Communication at the University of the North West and at the time a facilitator at the Institute for the Advancement of Journalism in Johannesburg, who came up with the name which was accepted by all. Graeme was present at that meeting as a freelance writer for *FleetWatch* after which he penned an insightful and thought provoking article. Here are some of the extracts from that article:

- "I formed the very strong impression that, perhaps for the first time in transport, everyone was just a little on edge and beginning to perceive that Armageddon was bearing down."
- "To their credit, Mac Maharaj and the managers of the transport sector do not fear to know but with respect, they do not know how to fear. They have taken fright at the figures but they are now

trying to find a way to turn fright into fight.

- "Unless or until every driver and every fleet manager has a daily wake-up call to take extreme precautions against spreading or contracting the epidemic, it will continue to encroach on us all."
- "The Starship is fuelling up and by all accounts, it looks from this meeting that the transport industry will be the first to fly."

Another meeting later followed where it was decided now that the initiative was up and running, it be handed over to the Road Freight Association to work in conjunction with the Minister of Transport and the Department of Transport in taking it forward. I must note that not much was done for a while but then, in 1999, a major announcement was made. ▶ 38

**May 2012** – Trucking Wellness in action together with sponsor Engen on the N3 at Harrismith.







We as Reef Tankers pride ourselves in providing industry leading customised solutions to your Fuel and Chemical transportation needs. With safety, innovation and efficiency as one of our foremost priorities.

With over 20 years of industry experience, our professionals have the capacity to meet all your Fuel and Chemical supply chain distribution needs.

Our vehicles are equipped with industry leading technologies to ensure deliveries are on time, in full and handled safely. Our sophisticated geographical footprint, within Southern Africa, allows customers to control costs with efficient access to all major terminals.

**BBBEE**  
ACCREDITED

**51%**  
BLACK  
OWNED

**LEVEL**



ISO 9001  
ISO 14001  
OHSAS 18001



**FUEL**



**CHEMICALS**

[WWW.REEFTANKERS.CO.ZA](http://WWW.REEFTANKERS.CO.ZA)

# CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

2013



- Trucking Wellness and its successes were showcased at the 6th SA AIDS Conference.
- TW employees attended the human trafficking workshop.
- TW nurses started attending the PALS Plus TRAINING Workshop.

2014



- Implementation of a Fleet Owner Workplace Wellness Programme with Mercedes-Benz South Africa (MBSA).
- MBSA included modules on wellness/health seeking behaviour/disease prevention/basic information into their driver-training programme.



▲ Transport Month celebrations hosted by Mercedes-Benz in 2010 - from left to right: Tertius Wessels CEP, Themba Mthombeni CEP, Thando Khaile SABCOHA, and Brad Mears SABCOHA.

## 'Trucking Against AIDS' is officially launched

The National Bargaining Council for the Road Freight and Logistics Industry (NBCRFLI) officially launched Trucking Against AIDS as a partnership between government, employers and employees with the objective being to create HIV/AIDS awareness among long distance truck drivers and sex workers. The goal was to reduce the number of new HIV infections and the impact of HIV/AIDS on individuals, families and communities in the road freight industry.

The Starship had taken off. It was flying and for the many people who had been pushing hard for many years against great odds for such an initiative, it was a dream come true. It was also announced at the time that the NBCRFLI would be injecting funds into the project to get it off the road.

And it didn't take long for the first major step to be taken. Just one year after its launch – in 2000 - the first Roadside Wellness Centre was established in Beaufort West in the Western Cape. An old shipping container was converted into a state of the art clinic allowing for an innovative and proactive approach in the testing, counselling and prevention of HIV/AIDS in South Africa.

This broke ground in the provision of health and wellness services to long distance drivers who spend an average of 12 hours behind the wheel of a truck. This strategy to take health services to the drivers instead of the other way around became

the hallmark of Trucking Wellness as it expanded its services over the years. And the expansion came quick and fast with two more Roadside Wellness Centres being established in 2001 in Harrismith at the Highway Junction in the Free State and another in Musina in Limpopo.

In 2002 three more were established in Ventersburg in the Free State, Tugela in Kwa-Zulu Natal and Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape.

It was also in 2002 that a guy by the name of Tertius Wessels was appointed as the full time project co-ordinator for Trucking Wellness bringing with him a passion for excellence he retains to this day in his position as Managing Director. Joining him in 2005 as Operations Director was Themba Mthombeni, a man who not only speaks six languages but also has a vast pool of passion for the success of Trucking Wellness and for reaching out to truck drivers.

## Eight centres in three years

With six centres established in a mere two years, there was no resting on one's laurels and in 2003, another two centres were set up in Hanover in the Northern Cape and Komatipoort in Mpumalanga. So in the short space of just three years after being launched, Trucking Wellness was running a total of eight Roadside Wellness Centres available to truck drivers driving on the N1, N2, N3 and N14. This was walking the talk in a grand way.

As the services expanded so too did

# DRIVING THE WELL-BEING OF THE INDUSTRY



various sponsors come on board. With the NBCRFLI driving the programme and installing the first three centres, the RFA put funds in with the NBCRFLI to pay for the two centres established in 2003. Over the years additional sponsors came on board with a major one – the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), a government agency of the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs which is responsible for the organization of the bulk of Sweden’s official development assistance to developing countries, linking hands with Trucking Wellness. Their initial contribution was later expanded in 2010 with a R22-million donation to the programme.

This was the same year that Mercedes-Benz SA pledged a R3,5-million sponsorship through the South African Business Coalition on Health and Aids (SABCOHA). Also coming on board over the years was Imperial Logistics, Reef Tankers, FUSO, the N3TC and Unitrans.

Running alongside this copy is a timeline of achievements which sketches out the opening of further centres and other milestone achievements. Follow these milestones to get a true feel for the vibrancy of this organisation.

Suffice to say that from that early start, Trucking Wellness - the programme was rebranded from Trucking Against AIDS to

Trucking Wellness in 2008 - has today in place a total of 22 fixed roadside wellness clinics on all the major routes around South Africa. In addition, there are a number of mobile clinics units which visit depots and various other venues around the country.

The addition of the mobile clinics - the first of which was made possible by the donation of a Sprinter van from Mercedes-Benz in 2003 - was a valuable add-on service to the fixed clinics for they enabled Trucking Wellness to take health checks wider than the main highways and visit transport depots as well as company wellness functions. In 2011, a further 10 Mercedes-Benz Sprinters were added and in 2015, five Ford Rangers and two Mercedes-Benz Vito’s were bought. These mobile clinics are fully kitted out and equipped and are staffed by qualified nurses who take the message of hope and care around the country.

With all this in place – here comes the real punch. Since its launch in 1999 up to September 2019, Trucking Wellness has provided healthcare education to 838 055 long distance truck drivers, sex workers and community members. 487 068 patients have been consulted and have received various forms of treatment and care and some 23,5-million condoms have been distributed to these key population groups. Additionally, 83 196 individuals have received ▶ 40



▲ Trucking Mobile Wellness Day held at Swartkops, Tshwane.

## 2015

- Clinics in Musina, Colesburg, Hanover and Epping were revamped.
- Corridor Empowerment Project formed Public Private Partnership with SACTWU Worker Health Program to enhance Trucking Wellness’ infrastructure. New M&E data collection tools were developed to report as per Government reporting and distributed to all Roadside Wellness Centres.



- Five Ford Rangers and two Mercedes-Benz Vito’s were purchased for the project and customised with Trucking Wellness Branding.

## 2016

- Finalization of revamped Roadside Clinics: Marianhill, Warden, Villiers, Kokstad, Port Elizabeth, East London and Roodekop completed.



- ▲ Roodekop Wellness Centre
- Trucking Wellness attended the World Aids Conference in Durban.
- Establishment of Quality Assurance Nurses Committee.

# CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

2017

- CEP arranged and paid for 5 nurses to attend a dispensing course (Zeerust, Hanover, Kokstad, Warden and Colesburg) which they successfully passed.



- A cloud based capturing system was introduced to the Wellness Mobiles and started producing reports as at end September 2017.
- Trucking Wellness attended the Southern African AIDS Conference in Durban.
- CEP revamped and installed newly developed branding for the Roadside Wellness Clinics.
- Patrick O'Leary from *FleetWatch* Magazine was appointed as a Non-Executive Board member.



STI (Sexually Transmitted Disease) treatment. If that is not a big WOW, then I don't know what is.

You will notice that 'community members' are mentioned in the above paragraph. Although initially targeted at truck drivers, the services of Trucking Wellness clinics have been opened to community members around the various venues where they operate. So Trucking Wellness is today catering to a much broader sector of society than originally intended providing an holistic approach to health and wellness which encompasses a wide range of client specific, easily accessible and free primary health care services.

### Rising above the noise

All these achievements are amazing. They make the Trucking Wellness Programme stand out not only as world class but rather, as world leading. What makes it more admirable – and I need to linger on

► Keeping sponsors informed and up-to-date re the Trucking Wellness project is crucial. Mercedes-Benz Trucks and Fuso joined Trucking Wellness to visit centres along the N3 in October 2018.

**Top right:** Staff members from TWP with Maretha Gerber, Head Mercedes-Benz Trucks and Buses SA (second right) and Jasper Haffkamp, CEO Daimler Trucks and Buses Southern Africa.

**Below:** Ziyad Gaba, Head, FUSO Trucks SA.

this as huge tribute needs to be paid to the people who drove this programme forward – is the absolute determination to rise above the noise and get desperately needed health and education services to the truck drivers. To illustrate this, I once again need you to journey back with me in time - to 1999, the year Trucking Wellness was launched as an initiative of the NBCRFLI.

Without any measure of doubt, it can be clearly stated that the HIV/AIDS programmes embarked on by the government at the start of Nelson Mandela's presidency had, by 1999, fallen far short of expectations. They were, in fact, miles behind in making significant impacts.

When the NBCRFLI thus launched the Programme, they went into an arena where ignorance abounded, some of it



# DRIVING THE WELL-BEING OF THE INDUSTRY



▲ **2015** – Rebranded and modern. The Wellness Clinics are fully equipped to cope with all required health tests and to enable TWP staff to dispense and provide top class treatment.

hugely dangerous and misleading. Due to the fact that there was a lack of awareness around the subject of HIV/AIDS, people living with AIDS were marginalised. They were distrusted. In some instances, the stigma attached was such that families would disown a son or a daughter. They would be kicked out of the family circle and on top of that, be discriminated against by their former friends. They became isolated and lonely. And because HIV/AIDS was originally associated with homosexuality, there was also a social stigma attached to a man living with AIDS.

To avoid such stigmas, thousands of people who were ill would avoid going for HIV tests for fear that, if found to be positive, they would be pushed to

the outskirts of society. In the trucking industry, they would surely lose their jobs, their friends, their status, their income.

To add to the woes, there were a number of fallacies surrounding the subject. As an example, it was widely believed that you should never hold hands or hug a person living with AIDS. Also, let them use separate eating utensils, plates and mugs – and keep those separate from the rest of the family's. Even wash their utensils in separate water. The prejudice and discrimination was huge – and all due to a lack of awareness and knowledge.

### Myths and denial

There were also a number of myths surrounding the cure for AIDS. Perhaps ▶ 42

## 2018

- Trucking Wellness attended the International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam, Netherlands.



- Trucking Wellness applied for dispensing licenses for all nurses in April 2018.
- Unitrans became a partner of the Trucking Wellness Programme.
- Partnership formed with *FleetWatch* Magazine "Your Truck Your Gym".



All Wellness Centres are situated along the country's major routes with high volumes of trucks.



# DRIVING THE WELL-BEING OF THE INDUSTRY



Trucking Wellness has, over the years, persevered in finding new paths and solutions and in so doing has built trust, openness, family support and human solidarity between itself and the truck drivers of South Africa. Perhaps the last word should be left to some of the truck drivers who visited the clinics at truck stops and were tested HIV positive. From being initially being scared and lonely, they are today productive and happy truck drivers. Here's what they have to say:

- "If it wasn't for Trucking Wellness I wouldn't be alive. My family would have lost me. Because of Trucking Wellness, I am alive."
- "Trucking Wellness clinics are a blessing, especially to us truck drivers. If it was started earlier, we could have saved the lives of the drivers who have passed away."
- "I'd like to thank the Trucking Wellness

health workers for helping me to get ARVs and giving me life. Even when you find out you are HIV positive, it's not a death sentence. Life can still continue."

- "When I started treatment I felt better. Had I not gone to the Trucking Wellness clinic, I don't think I would be alive now."
- "The support I got from Trucking Wellness was great. Because of their support, it helped me not to feel scared but to feel free."

"It helped me not to feel scared but to feel free." That says it all. On this, the 20th anniversary of Trucking Wellness, the industry stands together in saluting all the men and women behind this magnificent organisation for making this industry a better and healthier place in which to thrive. South Africa is indebted to each and every one of you. SALUTE!

**Members and sponsors. Without this combination TWP would not have had the environment to achieve this kind of success.**

A Daimler Brand

## THE FUSO TRUCKS TEAM WISHES TRUCKING WELLNESS A HAPPY 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!

We admire your dedication to the well-being of drivers, passengers, and pedestrians alike, and for ensuring health and safety for all on the road.

Here's to the next 20 years of Trucking Wellness!



Simply Better Trucks.

**FUSO**

# DRIVING THE WELL-BEING OF THE INDUSTRY



Driving the well-being of the industry.

## Trucking Wellness

Unit 1, 18 Top Road  
Anderbolt, Boksburg 1459

P.O. Box 1188  
Boksburg 1459

Tel:  
011 9141610/1611/2104  
Email:  
info@truckingwellness.co.za  
Website:  
www.truckingwellness.co.za

## Mobile Wellness Clinics

To book a visit to your offices  
contact Chris or Thobela on  
011 9141610/1611/2104  
Email  
info@truckingwellness.co.za

## National Bargaining Council for the Road Freight and Logistics Industry (NBCRFLI)

Call Centre: 086 177 7996

To find out more about the  
Wellness Fund Health Plan:  
0861 00 11 31

Email:  
info@nbcrflihealth.co.za  
Please call me:  
079 409 1834



## THE TRUCKING WELLNESS TEAM



Tertius Wessels  
Managing Director



Themba Mthombeni  
Operations Director



Ryan Goosen  
Financial Director



Zelma Williams  
General Manager



Chris Wessels  
Operations Co-ordinator



Marcia Williams  
Project Administrator



Thobela Bahula  
Project Co-ordinator



Willie Coetzer  
Operations Co-ordinator



Annalien Du Toit  
Data Capturer



Cynthia Ravele  
Nurse



Padmani Turpin  
Bookkeeper



Sylvester Maluleke  
Office Assistant



▲ The Trucking Wellness Programme Roadside Clinics team – Celebrating 20 years!



# TRUCKING WELLNESS PROGRAMME

## A UNIQUE AND SUSTAINABLE RESPONSE TO DRIVER'S WELLNESS



Under auspices of the NBCRFLI, Trucking Wellness has been able to be an active growing contribution to the community since 1999, culminating in 19 years of growth and change for South African Road Freight and Logistics industry.

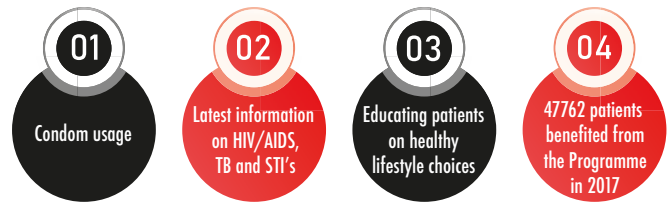
The Trucking Wellness Programme prides itself on delivering a high quality HIV/AIDS, STI's and TB prevention service.

Trucking Wellness is determined to make it our mission to educate, care, treat and prevent new infections.

A key cornerstone of the Trucking Wellness Programme is training. The success of training has made positive impacts on the overall wellness of drivers, sex workers and communities.

The Programme continuously implements annual training for the 20 coordinators and 23 registered nurses based across the Trucking Wellness Programme.

The training insures that all staff are up-skilled to provide necessary information on:



### Roadside Wellness Clinic HCT - 2017



### Mobile Wellness Clinics



The Trucking Wellness Programme, through its illustrious 19 years has assisted and supported up to:



- ① | 22° 14' 22,84" S | 29° 59' 07,33" E
- ② | 25° 32' 30,6" S | 26° 6' 24,06" E
- ③ | 25° 26' 32,63" S | 31° 55' 44,43" E
- ④ | 26° 17' 39,76" S | 26° 7' 42,09" E
- ⑤ | 26° 19' 44,90" S | 28° 07' 52,95" E
- ⑥ | 26° 17' 46,2" S | 28° 10' 33,2" E
- ⑦ | 26° 58' 41,38" S | 28° 35' 21,86" E
- ⑧ | 27° 52' 06,5" S | 28° 57' 31,3" E
- ⑨ | 28° 17' 16,27" S | 29° 7' 51,04" E
- ⑩ | 28° 27' 11,44" S | 29° 33' 56,94" E
- ⑪ | 29° 13' 30,85" S | 30° 0' 12,06" E
- ⑫ | 29° 49' 35,88" S | 30° 49' 56,46" E
- ⑬ | 30° 34' 8,18" S | 29° 26' 14,16" E
- ⑭ | 31° 36' 46,63" S | 28° 44' 0,48" E
- ⑮ | 33° 2' 3,62" S | 27° 52' 55,51" E
- ⑯ | 29° 13' 30,85" S | 30° 0' 12,06" E
- ⑰ | 33° 45' 45,29" S | 18° 45' 45,29" E
- ⑱ | 32° 21' 40,53" S | 22° 33' 32,30" E
- ⑲ | 31° 4' 15,74" S | 24° 26' 40,40" E
- ⑳ | 30° 42' 5,21" S | 25° 7' 34,29" E
- ㉑ | 28° 5' 18,13" S | 27° 8' 24,61" E



If you require or seek further information on Trucking Wellness please contact us on:  
 Tel 011 914 1610 - Fax 011 914 3463 / 086 693 3997  
 Email [info@truckingwellness.co.za](mailto:info@truckingwellness.co.za)

Trucking Wellness is an initiative of the National Bargaining Council for the Road Freight and Logistics Industry



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We wish to express our appreciation to all those involved within the Trucking Wellness Programme. It is because of the commitment and excellent work that we continue to provide a world-class health service to the Road Freight and Logistic Industry. We wish to extend gratitude to the staff for their continuous dedication. Last but not least, we thank the stakeholders, beneficiaries of our programmes and our partners for the support they have provided.

Our success is driven by the passion and dedication of all those involved within the Trucking Wellness Programme.

## PROJECT SPONSORS



## PARTNERS

