



# Grant laying the foundation for a progressive brick making industry

TNA REPORTER

THE Black Business Supplier Development Programme (BBSDP), developed by the Department of Trade and Industry, has received support from Pan Mixers South Africa (PMSA) – the largest manufacturer of concrete brick, block and paving making machinery and related technology in Africa.

The BBSDP is an incentive grant that provides entrepreneurs with a 50% grant on business purchases up to the value of R2m, to help black owned businesses in improving their competitiveness and sustainability, while creating long-term employment.

PMSA marketing and sales manager Quintin Booysen says the company supplies a range of quality machinery that is suited to qualifying brick manufacturing and construction companies.

“Self-loading concrete mixers, and concrete brick-making and block-making machines are available to buy under the scheme and they are below the R2m mark,” he says.

Booyesen says the Fiori self-loading mixer is ideal for mixing quality concrete, especially in rural areas, as it eliminates the need for a concrete batching plant.

“These diesel-powered, standalone machines are able to scoop, load, mix, transport and place concrete independently, while being operated by a single person.”

Customers can also opt for the onboard electronic weighing system that provides certifiable concrete and ensures that every batch is consistent in quality due to the weighing system, with a receipt printed out for every cycle to keep as a permanent record.

Booyesen says the PMSA range is ideal for small start-up companies. To qualify for the supplier development programme, a company must:

- Have at least a 51% black majority shareholding.
- Generate an annual turnover of between R250 000 and R35m.



**CONSTRUCTION SCHEMES:** A brick maker lays out a fresh batch of bricks from a quality machine available under the scheme to create long-term employment. PICTURE: GALLO IMAGES

- Be in operation as a trading business for at least one year.
- Have half of management positions held by black or historically disadvantaged individuals.
- Be formally registered for VAT.

Companies that meet these criteria are eligible to obtain up to R2m in funding, which is subdivided into R800 000 for tools, machinery and equipment

on a 50/50 cost-sharing basis, and R200 000 on an 80/20 cost-sharing basis for business development and training interventions that are designed to improve corporate governance, management, marketing, productivity and use of modern technology. Pan Mixers’ brick-making machinery, in the Johannesburg area alone, produces 2 million bricks a day, says Booysen. – 701068