

FIRST INDUSTRIAL GAS COMPANY TO SUPPLY EASTERN CAPE

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Air Products South Africa has unveiled its R300-million Eastern Cape air separation unit (ASU) in the Coega Industrial Development Zone (IDZ), declaring that it had delivered on its promise to be the first industrial gas company to supply the Eastern Cape from the newly constructed and commissioned ASU.

The state-of-the-art, energy-efficient facility is the first of its kind to be commissioned in the Eastern Cape and is the sixteenth ASU to be commissioned countrywide by Air Products South Africa.

The Coega ASU is the second to be launched by Air Products in South Africa this year, and forms part of its long-term capital investment pipeline of R2 billion. The investment pipeline is aimed at establishing a solid national gas production and supply footprint.

“We committed to supply gas to our Eastern Cape customers by the fourth quarter of 2014. We are actually ahead, with the plant already commissioned in September. We are therefore successfully providing a stable and secure supply of industrial gases to the region,” Air Products General Manager: Central Services, Josua le Roux said.

The newly-commissioned facility will produce 110 tonnes per day of liquid nitrogen and oxygen, with the capacity to scale up production in line with market demand. It supplies industrial gases for a wide range of applications – from welding to freezing – to diverse sectors in the region, including the automotive, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, agro-processing, food and beverage industries.