

- Media Release -

For Immediate Release



**Business Against Crime
South Africa**

Youth Day Celebrations Taken To New Heights

12 June 2008, Johannesburg – The light sport aircraft division of the Aero Club of SA (MISASA) and the National Youth Development Trust (NYDT) are teaming up on 14 June 2008 as part of Aviation Youth Day to raise awareness and interest in the sport and profession among disadvantaged youth from Mamelodi township. Youth selected through the NYDT's Aerospace Rangers programme will have the opportunity of a lifetime to learn about aeronautics, attend an aviation ground school, view movies of aviation adventure flights and draw tickets from a hat for a flight in the eight microlights and two helicopters on hand. Qualified pilots and enthusiasts will be on hand to answer the youth's questions about flying.

MISASA, the Air Traffic Navigation Service and Boeing International, along with a number of other organizations are sponsoring the Aerospace Rangers programme. Saturday's event is an important part of the national programme, and comes with endorsement from Mark Lamberti, Business Against Crime South Africa's Chairperson. Alan Mackenzie, Senior Executive at Business Against Crime South Africa will also be in attendance and participating in the event.

Mark Lamberti will be bringing his High Tech Eurocopter 120, in his personal capacity, for children to draw lots to win a flight to take to the skies.

"These kinds of initiatives are worth supporting, as they help young children to grow into strong, enabled citizens. I am pleased to be in a position to share some of my knowledge at the second Annual Aviation Youth Day which seeks to grow the aviators of tomorrow" says Mark Lamberti, Business Against Crime South Africa Chairperson.

As business, together with NGOs, Government and community-based organizations, we need to work together to create opportunities for the youth. These types of events help us bring hope to the youth and develop new skills. Homework clubs, career guidance programmes, sports days, cultural activities provide us with opportunities to harness the energies of the youth in a positive way at the same time that we are able to give back", says, Mark Lamberti.

Mr Meyer, CEO of the National Youth Development Trust (NYDT) highlights how the Trust was formed: "Approximately 12 years ago, in a conference room in the Reserve Bank, it was the recommendation of Business Against Crime South Africa that a youth organisation be formed to build the youth, our future. This was our guiding motivation. Since then the NYDT has become a world leader in Science-Based Competition. Having Mark Lamberti, Chairperson of Business Against Crime South Africa, participating in this year's Aviation Youth Day closes the circle for us.

Today, the NYDT's Junior Aerospace Rangers Programme seeks to develop youth through the classroom. Assignments to children in the Programme count for school reports. In this way, new opportunities are accessed for their benefit", he said.

Journalists and photographers will have the opportunity to interview and photograph children at the airfield in advance of Youth Day, 16 June 2008.

Time: 07:00 – 12:00
Date: Saturday, 14 June 2008
Venue: Panorama Airfield / Flight Park, off Klip River Road, South of Johannesburg

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