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Commitment to local assembly pays off

Employees and plant management gathered at the FAW plant in Coega in the Eastern Cape recently to celebrate the local assembly operation producing its 2,000th truck.



Image Source: FAW Trucks

Local and international FAW management praised and thanked employees for maintaining a highly compliant quality production process since the plant's start-up in July 2014. "With such a large workforce, our aim has been to keep the manufacturing logistics simple, yet in line with strict built standards as well as safety, health and environmental regulations," says Jianyu Hao, FAW SA CEO.

"Thanks to a disciplined and dedicated workforce, we have maintained our standards and have even received an international FAW award in recognition for our outstanding quality."

The company says that in the relatively short period since opening its \$60m plant in the Coega IDZ, it is seeing growing returns, despite the sluggish markets. This is mostly evident in the steady advance in the number of exports.

Adjacent to the vehicle manufacturing plant, FAW made a further multimillion-Rand investment, less than a year after the plant opened, in a truck bodybuilding facility which includes a fully-fledged paint shop.

Sales of its trucks have tracked strong upward growth year on year over the past few years (2013 to 2016). To date, the

FAW medium-weight 8.140FL range was ranked second in the five-tonne truck segment, according to the company.

"FAW SA is resolute in having chosen SA as its base for the Southern African region. We have become a proud business citizen of SA and positively affirm our original assessment of SA with the motto - 'Built in South Africa, for Africa'," says Hao.

Source: Business Day

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