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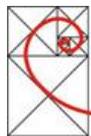
## THE GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS ATTEMPT

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MAHLE Behr South Africa together with NGO, the Centre for the Advancement of Science and Mathematics Education (CASME) partnered with eThekweni Municipality and the University of KwaZulu-Natal College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science to host the Guinness World Record Attempt on the Largest Practical Science Lesson on the 05<sup>th</sup> of Feb 2016 at the Durban Exhibition Centre.

**MAHLE**

*Driven by performance*



CENTRE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

*casme*



UNIVERSITY OF  
KWAZULU-NATAL  
INYUVESI  
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

The Durban's learners smashed the existing record held by Vijnana Bharati, India (Delhi), for 2 000 students. South Africa now holds the World Record for the Largest Practical Science Lesson, with a total of 2104 students simultaneously participating in the World attempt.

The learners that were invited to participate in the event were grade 9 learners from various schools in Durban. Amongst other things the event aimed to

excite the learners on subjects such as mathematics and science, highlighting the importance of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) in the society.

Participating Schools:

Science 2GO Schools

Sithengile Senior Secondary School

Ziphathele Secondary School

Umqhele Public Secondary School

Kwadabeka No7 Secondary School

Sithokozile Secondary School

Ilanga Secondary School

Tholulwazi Secondary School

Inggungqulu High School

Wyebank Secondary School

Reservoir Hills Secondary School

Ogwini Comprehensive Technical School

Westville Girls

St Benedicts

Pinetown Girls

Pinetown Boys

George Campbell

Waterfall College

Inanda High School

UMkhumbane School Project

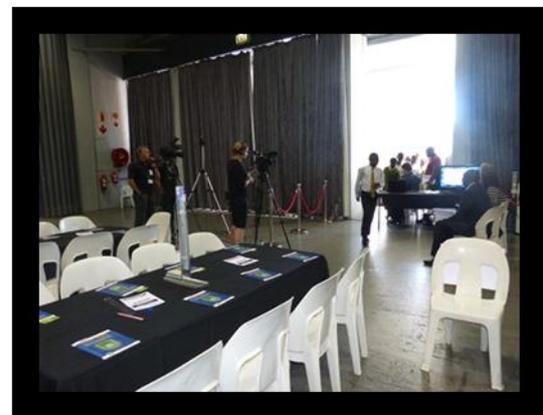
Eden College

Ridge Park College

Lenarea Secondary



Video graphic and Photographic evidence of the event, with the learners participating was also an essential requirement to Guinness standards and regulations, hence the media, Communication Department, Radio stations, the Sunday Times were all present at the event.



Guinness did have a set of rules and requirements stipulated, in order to be recognized into the World Records Book. The venue and set up was very important, so the organizers chose to stage the event at the Durban Exhibition Centre - with the set-up, layout, signage, sponsorships and seating plan represented according to Guinness standards and rules.

Once all 2100 plus learners were seated and eagerly ready, the event began with MC Terence Pillay of East Coast Radio welcoming everyone and telling us more about the World Record Attempt, also introducing song and dance acts, key role players of the event, delegates (including His Worship the Mayor James Nxumalo), as well as other important personnel.



The event started off with a song by the iThemba choir, followed by a dance item by the 'Science 4u' group. It was then onto the experiments and the start of the record attempt.



### The Experiments:

The experiments started at 12pm and were complete by 1pm.



Experiment 1- Pendulum: Scientist of CASME was introduced, as he explained about the experiments and what was required off the students – this test was designed to get students to test the theory relating to pendulams, or objects suspended from a string and swung to and from: students had to observe how many swings a pendulum will take a minute, when two different variables are changed:

- 1) Angle of swing
- 2) Length of pendulum string

Experiment 2 – Hardness Test: Scientist of CASME was introduced to students, as she explained Experiment 2 –This experiment was designed to get students testing the hardness/toughness of different materials by dropping a tapered/pointed weight onto different materials - Aluminum, Cardboard, Wood and Polystyrene from a given height and measuring the size of the dent that it leaves on the material.

Once the experiments were completed, students were asked to hand in their observation record sheets to stewards, the Support Services Team assisted with collecting the sheets and submitting

them to judges/relevant adjudicators to verify that the world record attempt was successful.



During the adjudication process, his Worship the Mayor Cllr James Nxumalo gave a brief speech, he went on to say, “this event will help our youth increase their awareness on science and broaden their scientific horizons. This will go a long way towards contributing in the agenda of youth development.”

The learners also enjoyed a fun science show by UKZN Science Centre Dr Tanja Reinhardt.

The Guinness World Record event was a huge success, and Durban has received a lot of praise and recognition from other countries, delegates and the Guinness World Record Book officials. This has definitely been a great boost for South Africa’s history, their achievements and acknowledgements.

