

# New DVD boost for pupils

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A CONSTRUCTION company in partnership with a non-profit company has produced a DVD aimed at addressing the issue of skills shortage in South Africa.

The DVD is a 20-minute documentary that highlights a variety of career options in the field and features interviews with leaders in mathematics-based professions.

Afrisam has joined forces with the South African Mathematics Foundation (SAFM) to encourage pupils to pursue careers in maths.

SAFM spokesman Thabo Ramaboea said the company was registered to advance maths development and education of children and young people. It is an initiative of the association for Mathematics Education of South Africa (AMESA). "Our activities include teacher and pupil programmes, publication of teacher and pupil support materials and popularisation of maths in the country. We are a central office and represent the entire maths community in South Africa."

At the launch of the DVD titled Careers in mathematics, AfriSam corporate social responsibility manager, Tsholo Diale said the shortage of skills in professions that required maths was a nationwide challenge. "As a leading player in the building materials industry, we are faced with the challenge of finding suitable candidates for positions such as engineers, draughtsmen and other similar roles."

He said the company was involved in various educational projects countrywide with the objective of empowering and equipping communities with knowledge and skills.

A total of 10 000 copies of the DVD will be distributed to about 5700 schools across the country for teachers to guide pupils who wish to pursue a career in maths.



**AfriSam corporate social responsibility manager, Tsholo Diale, guest speaker, Professor Mamokgethi Setali and acting chief executive officer of AfriSam, Stephan Olivier at the launch of the Careers in mathematics DVD.**