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MEDIA RELEASE

Ref: No. 281**Kraatz delivers six more skilled workers to the Namibian labour market****WINDHOEK, 07 DECEMBER 2017**

Six (6) more Namibians just completed the 'Learn to weld' program offered by Kraatz – a subsidiary of the Ohlthaver & List (O&L) Group - which has now brought the total of participants on the program since inception more than two years ago, to 20. The latest intake completed their training at the end of October, and is now ready for the labour market.

In partnership with Young Africa Trust, the 20-week program which falls under Kraatz' Welding School includes basic training in welding (theory and practical), as well as basic life skills inclusive of effective communication skills, decision-making and leadership competencies. The program also aims to develop the participants' entrepreneurial skills.

Kraatz Human Capital Manager, Roberto January: "The 'Learn to weld' program has become such an integral part of the journey of Kraatz, because this is our way of giving back to the community in appreciation for the support, as well as our contribution to growth-at-home and building our economy. Vocational training plays a significant role in the future of Namibia's economy, and for the future of companies such as Kraatz. We identified the need for vocational skills in the country, which led to the purchase of a welding simulator more than two years ago, as one of the first steps towards giving back to the community and contributing towards the O&L Group purpose of 'Creating a Future, Enhancing Life'. We take pride, and are excited to teach young Namibians skills that can enable them to grow professionally and in business."

Young Africa Trust is an organization that provides life skills to young people, and Kraatz partnered with this organization to add value to the 'Learn to weld' program by teaching the students how to infuse the skills they have acquired into their own circumstances and everyday life, and make a success thereof. Director of Young Africa Namibia, Yvette Bellens-Bosma: "Young Africa highly appreciates Kraatz' contribution towards empowerment of the young people of Walvis Bay. Together we give them the technical skills, life skills and entrepreneurship skills to give them hope, direction, confidence and determination to build a better future for themselves and their communities. The feedback we get from the students is always very positive and our tracer studies show that they are more likely to find work or continue with further studies than before they joined the programme".

O&L Group Director: Human Capital, Berthold Mukuahima: "If we as Business Namibia do not support government in growing this nation, by doing what we can to develop and nurture, we can forget about growing stronger as a nation. Skills development is a critical pillar in government's Harambee Prosperity Plan (HPP), and indeed can contribute significantly to curbing the high unemployment rate,



and reduction of poverty levels. Kraatz' Welding School for which selected students participate at no cost, is but one of O&L's contributions to assist government in the poverty eradication dream."

Basic requirements to the Kraatz Welding School include a Grade 12 certificate with good results in Mathematics and Physical Science. Hopefuls must be between the ages of 19 and 25 years old. More information on the Kraatz Welding School can be obtained from the Kraatz Human Capital Department.

Ends,



Kraatz Manager: Human Capital, Roberto January (right) and Kraatz General Manager: Marine & Offshore, Kobie Potgieter (left) with the latest intake and graduates from the Kraatz 'Learn to weld' program'. They are Martha Kweenda, Linekela Matheus, Angelo Maasdorp, Emilia Eliaser, Reynold Augustus and Simon Paulus.



