

Engen Driver Wellness campaign reaches Kimberley

The Engen Driver Wellness campaign, in partnership with Trucking Wellness, visited the truck stop on N12 route Cape Town Road in Kimberley last week. The initiative is aimed at raising awareness around health issues that have a direct impact on road safety, by helping drivers to manage their wellness better.



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In 2011, more than 400 drivers were screened at four truck stop sites. The Wellness Days, run from truck stops and some retail sites, targeted long distance truck drivers who are sometimes on the road for up to two weeks at a time. In mobile clinics, qualified nurses and counsellors screen drivers and the public for blood pressure, diabetes, tuberculosis, BMI (Base Mass Index) and HIV/AIDS. They provide counselling and a referral service where required.

"We believe it is pertinent to be part of these efforts to create awareness about the well-being of truck drivers in general and those that represent the company on the road. Such initiatives form a substantial part of our CSI objectives and our commitment to be a responsible, caring company," says Khanyisa Balfour, corporate social investment manager at Engen.

This truck stop is one of many around the country where drivers rest overnight after spending long hours on the road during the day. "It is reassuring to note that most drivers are screened for their personal well-being and for the safety of fellow road users," added Balfour.

The Engen Kimberley dealer, Jody Van Wyk said, "We are grateful to be part of this initiative, which aims to educate truck drivers around the importance of health and wellness. It enables drivers to make well informed decisions with a direct bearing on their well-being."