

Maestro set to deliver first for Africa at Dwyka Tech*Carnival

Canadian Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) device manufacturer Maestro Digital Mine will launch its MaestroFlex automated regulator to the African market when it exhibits at the Dwyka Tech*Carnival in May.

Maestro will debut MaestroFlex at the Gallagher Convention Centre, in Midrand, Gauteng, from May 17 to 18. The automated regulator, which uses the company's ModuDrive digital IIoT actuator technology, replaces manual drop board regulators that cannot be adjusted from the surface, enabling operators on the surface to control ventilation as required either manually or using Ventilation on Demand software.

"Additionally, we will display our Zephyr air quality stations and Plexus network products, which are installed throughout Africa," says Maestro CEO in training **Jacob Lachapelle**.

These products exemplify the company's commitment to developing cutting-edge IIoT devices and digital networks for the underground mining sector.

"These products represent our ongoing effort to revolutionise the mining industry by enhancing worker safety, productivity, energy efficiency, and environmental sustainability. By showcasing our solutions, we aim to demonstrate our role in increasing mining, production and worker safety as well as decarbonising the planet by reducing

underground mines' electrical energy consumption," he explains.

The Plexus PowerNet is the first gigabit network providing data and power using coaxial cable, and delivers real-time data that enables improved decision-making at mining operations.

Using the network to facilitate power and network advancement enables Maestro to implement its air quality monitoring solutions, which can optimise ventilation, allowing mines to focus on increasing production by getting more time at the working face.

Other benefits include increased equipment uptime, as airflow is directed as needed to necessary areas to enable the operation of more high-capital, required equipment.

"By tailoring your ventilation to the areas where it's required, you can bring down your overall electrical demand on your ventilation system and reduce energy consumption. Thereby, our solutions contribute to a more sustainable and efficient mining industry.

"Moreover, with the rising adoption of battery electric vehicles and underground mining, our technology plays an essential role in addressing the growing demand for that electrical energy and ensuring efficient energy management," explains Lachapelle.

He emphasises that mining companies are investing significant resources into ensuring that their mines continue to operate 24/7,

especially in countries with unreliable power supplies.

Maestro decided to exhibit at the Dwyka Tech*Carnival owing to its longstanding relationship with mining technology platform Dwyka Mining Services, which dates back to 2014.

"Dwyka MD **Jamie van Schoor** and I are both passionate about revolutionising the mining industry with cutting-edge technologies. Our successful collaboration with Dwyka has led to products being deployed at over 25 mines in nine African countries. So, exhibiting at the Dwyka Tech*Carnival allows us to celebrate our shared journey with Dwyka, showcase our solutions and engage with the African mining community."

At its stand, Maestro will offer interactive experiences and live demonstrations that will provide attendees with a memorable sensory experience, enabling them to better understand and appreciate the benefits its products bring to the mining industry. Dwyka mining technologist **Bongani Radebe**, who has installed Maestro's equipment across Africa, will join Lachapelle at his stand to assist with demonstrations during the two-day event.

By exhibiting, Maestro hopes to achieve a deeper understanding of the African mining industry's challenges and opportunities, and engage in meaningful discussions with professionals in the field, fostering collaboration and potential partnerships.

"We want to raise awareness about the importance of technology and promoting safer, more sustainable and efficient mining practices and showcase our commitment to making a positive impact on the industry overall," elaborates Lachapelle.

As part of Maestro's participation in the Dwyka Tech*Carnival, the company is giving away VIP tickets to the event. The first 10 people to email events@dwykamining.africa with the code #MaestroTC23 will receive these exclusive VIP passes.

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