

SMD Group opens state of the art car showroom in Ballito

Shaun Duminy, Franchise Director of the SMD Group announced that their state of the art, 14 437 m² facility has opened in Ballito. “After months of construction we are proud to announce that we’re up and running and sales have been phenomenal.” said Shaun. Shaun a motor racing enthusiast and known nationally for his passion for exotic motor vehicles had set his heart on creating a first world facility, a few years ago. His vision had always been to have a one-stop facility that is a destination for his clients rather than a motor dealership.

December saw the opening of this five-story building which includes a Jaguar & Land Rover showroom as well as a Ford showroom with entrances on Moffat Drive. Below the showrooms you will find the modern service centres featuring the latest in technology and equipment. “Service is one of the key elements that the SMD Group always focus on” said Ivan Hartley, Dealer Principal. The showroom opens from Monday to Friday at 8am and closes at 5pm and on Saturday’s from 8am to 1pm.

“Our Service & Parts departments can cater for up to one hundred services a day, with two 1200m² service centres offering excellent service and turnaround time, focusing on fixing it right the first time” said Shaun.

“We offer a courtesy car for our customers. We have also introduced transport to and from the airport, for the person who has business meetings in other cities but wish their vehicle to be serviced in their absence. All customers bringing their vehicles in for a service will receive a voucher to be used at Zaras Lite” said Ivan.

Zaras Lite is an 80-seater restaurant and satellite store of Zaras Café, Ballito Lifestyle Centre. Maro Zaroudoukas owner of Zaras Café decided to expand her operation by creating another restaurant getaway. Run by Silvio Beretta, Maro’s nephew, Zaras Lite is suitable for business people who wish to enjoy the air-conditioned comfort whilst conducting meetings in a relaxed environment, surrounded by exotic vehicles like Ferrari’s and Maserati’s as well as used Jaguar and Land Rover vehicles. “I am continuing the winning Zaras formula in an inspired new space” said Silvio.

The restaurant is open Monday to Fridays from 7am to 5pm and on Saturdays from 8am to 1pm. Serving breakfasts and light lunches you can also enjoy their delicious cakes and treats which are baked daily. Or you may just want to come in and enjoy a cappuccino, latte, crushed smoothie or one of their freshly squeezed juices.

With the inclusion of two Formula 1 Simulators, at the end of February, Zara’s will be hosting the Formula 1 Sundays.

The entire building has energy efficient LED lighting with special glazed glass panels that keep the air inside the building cool. Five invertors deliver 30 000 watts of energy which convert to power in the generator room. The rooftop has solar panels that are able to generate 50 % of the power needed to run the entire building. “In the short time that we have been open we have had one full day where we only used the solar panels to power the entire building and this included the air-conditioners. Many people have phoned me saying that we had left the lights on in our building overnight and that

it must be costing us a fortune, however due to this innovative 'green' initiative the cost savings have been tremendous" says Hartley.

Rain water is harvested from the rooftop into fresh water tanks with a capacity of 500 000 litres. The rain water is filtered in the tanks and is used for washing vehicles as well as irrigating the surrounding gardens. Eco Wash have been contracted to wash the vehicles using no more than 1 litre of water per vehicle.

For the Mazda lovers out there we continue with our showroom north on Moffat Drive, where Ballito Mazda, run by Hansie Louw and his team, will be able to assist with your vehicle and servicing requirements. Our Stanger branch, run by Sean Finlay and his team selling the Ford and Mazda brands continues to operate successfully based on the corner of Cato and Mahatma Gandhi Streets.

If you want to take a test drive in one of our new or used vehicles let us know and we can arrange it for you. With a staff compliment of almost 200, the SMD Group is set to handle all your vehicle requirements.

"Selecting the right people has been a major priority. All staff have training throughout the year ensuring that we can bring you first class service in a first world facility". said Ivan.

The SMD Group website is under construction and their social media sites will be up and running shortly.

The Sales team's details are listed below for immediate enquiries:

Shaun Duminy: Franchise Director – Exotic cars – smd@smdgroup.co.za

Ivan Hartley: Dealer Principal - email: ivan@smdgroup.co.za

Bolinka Goldridge, Sales Manager, Ford (New) - email: bolinka@smdgroup.co.za

Walter Wernich- Sales Manager, Ford (Used) - email: walter@smdgroup.co.za

Dave Warren - Sales Manager, Jaguar, Land Rover – email: david.warren@smdgroup.co.za

Kevin Pillay - Sales Manager, Jaguar, Land Rover (Used) – email: kevin.pillay@smdgroup.co.za

Service: Rob Pollock – Service Manager – robin@smdgroup.co.za

Parts: Theo de Beer – Parts Manager – theo@smdgroup.co.za

SMD Group™

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