

Contact: Delanie Bezuidenhout
Cell: (082) 444-6866
Email: Delanie@savinyls.co.za
Website: www.savinyls.co.za



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SA VINYLs ASSOCIATION DONATES PVC BEACH WHEELCHAIR

Physically disabled residents of Pearly Beach and Gansbaai
can once again experience the joy of visiting the beach and ocean

Johannesburg, 18 January 2018. As part of their commitment to the environment and community the Southern African Vinyls Association (SAVA) recently donated an imported beach wheelchair, made from PVC pipes, to Cross Home Care based in the Gansbaai area, Western Cape.

According to Delanie Bezuidenhout, CEO of SAVA, the wheelchair was imported from the USA and is the first of its kind in South Africa. It is made of medical grade PVC, has non-corrosive plastic bearings and high flotation heavy duty wheels, which allows the physically disabled to access the water and provides better mobility over unpaved areas.

“Physically disabled people find it quite challenging to move around on the beach – never mind reaching the water. They are usually confined to the paved areas around the beach. This PVC beach wheelchair has the ability to take them all the way to the breakwater and makes it possible for them to spend a day on the beach with friends and family,” Delanie says.

The balloon flotation tyres allow for stability and easy rolling. Because it is made with a high-quality UV protected PVC frame, it can even be taken right into the salty sea water. It won't chip, peel, rust, fade or discolour and can carry a weight of 115kg.

The PVC beach wheelchair was handed over to Sister Tertia Scholtz who owns Overberg based Cross Home Care, runs various community projects and offers free emergency assistance to both residents and visitors to the Pearly Beach Resort.

Commenting on what the donation will mean for the local community, Sister Scholtz said: “We have many community members who are wheelchair bound. Thanks to this novel beach wheelchair, we will now be able to allow them to experience the joy of experiencing the beach and the ocean. The use of the PVC beach wheelchair will be free of charge and we would like to invite anyone who is interested in using the beach wheelchair to contact me and book the PVC beach wheelchair for themselves or a loved one, for their next beach adventure”.

“PVC is extremely versatile and used for a wide range of everyday applications, ranging from water pipes to floors, shoes and medical equipment. PVC is safe to use and extremely durable. We hope that the PVC beach wheelchair will contribute to building many happy, new memories and experiences for the physically disabled! We would be happy to assist local residents and organisations who might be interested in purchasing a similar beach wheelchair for their own use,” Delanie concluded.

For more information, visit www.savinyls.co.za

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Notes to the editor:

- SAVA represents the local PVC industry. Members belong to a product stewardship program that requires them to use safe manufacturing protocol and to recycling PVC products at the end of their lifetime.
- The beach wheelchair contains stainless steel hardware, single motion park brakes, a 1.8 meter umbrella, an adjustable safety belt, cushion seat, storage space (bag included), and a sliding foot rest. The cushion seat is made of tough outdoor fabrics and is available in a variety of different colours and designs.



Captions:

- 1) Delanie Bezuidenhout (left) CEO of SAVA, with Sr Tertia Scholtz (right) of Cross Home Care
- 2) The beach wheelchair made from medical grade PVC
- 3) Sr Tertia Scholtz tries out the wheelchair