

New plant manager at Ford's Struandale Engine Plant in Port Elizabeth

Ford Motor Company of Southern Africa (FMCSA) has appointed Satyanarayana Banda (Satya) as the new plant manager of the Struandale Engine Plant. He replaces Wallace Yearwood who has been appointed as plant manager of the new Sanand Engine Plant in India.



"It is with great sadness that we bid farewell to Wallace, as he has been the driving force behind the launch of the export investment programme at the Port Elizabeth plant and the successful introduction of the Duratorq TDCi engine that powers the class-leading new Ranger," said Jeff Nemeth, FMCSA president and CEO.

"He has placed the Struandale Engine Plant firmly on the world stage as a global centre of excellence and will certainly contribute a wealth of experience in his new role at the Sanand Engine Plant.

"However, we're very pleased to welcome Satya to the team, as he has extensive manufacturing experience in vehicle and powertrain operations," Nemeth stated. "We wish him every success in his new role as we continue building on the success of the Ranger and the Duratorq TDCi engine programmes."

With Ford India since its inception

Satya Banda was most recently GM - lean manufacturing management at the Chennai Vehicle Assembly and Engine Plant in India. He has 27 years of automotive manufacturing experience, the last 15 of which have been with Ford India since its inception.

Banda has held various leadership roles in programs, launch, production, material planning and logistics, as well as lean manufacturing, thus giving him a wide range of expertise.

He graduated from Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) in Pilani, India and obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Technology.

Banda is married to Mehar Sridevi Banda and has two daughters. He is a cricket enthusiast and enjoys reading.

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