



Press Release

For Immediate Release

October 14, 2025

CILTSA Women Empowerment Conference 2025 Highlights Growing Industry Commitment to Advancing Women

The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport South Africa (CILTSA) has hailed the strong and active support shown by transport, logistics and supply chain organisations at its 2025 Women Empowerment Conference.

Centred on the theme “Fuelling Her Rise: Leadership in Motion”, the conference convened senior executives, entrepreneurs and rising professionals for a day of practical learning, candid discussion and targeted commitments.

Forging New Pathways

Programme directors Devlyn Naidoo (Southern African Association of Freight Forwarders) and Shevon Kotiah (Heineken Beverages) guided a programme designed to turn aspiration into action, with a focus on leadership pathways, confidence building and the skills required in an evolving operating environment.

In her keynote, Lyn Chiweshe (MILT), Co-Founder of Parwaringira Enterprises, set the tone by addressing the leadership imperative and the importance of visibility, sponsorship and networks in progressing women’s careers.

This was followed by a compelling session from Galetlowe Semenza, Founder and Managing Director of Matriarch Professional Association, who tackled imposter syndrome and practical techniques for building confidence and claiming space in logistics, transport and supply chain.

Developing leadership pipelines

A high-impact fireside chat brought together industry leaders including Joey Mulaudzi (CEO, Ports Regulator of South Africa), Maphefo Anno-Frempong (CEO, TETA), Nomsa Mokoena (Managing Director, Faithrich Logistics), Maserati Ramokadi (Analyst, Transport and Logistics, Absa) and Garry Marshall (CEO, SA Express Parcel Association).

Facilitated by Ignatia Sekonyela (Founder and CEO, Bathudi Technical Training), the discussion examined leadership pipelines, organisational accountability and the role of sector institutions in enabling women to progress into decision-making roles.

The programme also prioritised professionalisation and future-readiness. Ingrid du Buisson (CEO, Institute for Customs and Freight Forwarding), Anno-Frempong, Ronald Mhalazi (CEO, Commerce Edge) and Olive Gumikiriza (General Manager, Harley Reed South Africa) outlined practical steps to secure professional designations and build recognised capability portfolios.

A session on digital transformation, led by Glenda Maitin (Founder, BBOpEx) with panellists from Liberty Group, Alstom Rolling Stock South Africa and the Kaizen Institute, examined how accessible digital tools can improve operational performance and open new opportunities for women-led teams and businesses.

“The event was an incredible opportunity to learn from industry peers, exchange insights on AI, and engage in meaningful conversations around leadership and resilience in African supply chains,” commented Dayashnee Govender from Centurion Systems. “Some of the key takeaways for us was the importance of accelerating planning cycles, strengthening supplier collaboration and improving last-mile reliability.

“A huge thank you to the organisers for hosting such a spectacular event, the speakers for generously sharing their expertise, and all participants for offering their honest lessons and perspectives.”

Concrete commitments

ActionCoach and the Shevon K Foundation awarded business mentorship, coaching and work readiness programmes to multiple recipients.

BBOpEx, led by Glenda Maitin, pledged a half-day virtual workshop to help eight unemployed youth strengthen their professional profiles and market themselves within the industry. Delegates also engaged with initiatives focused on structured mentorship, targeted coaching and business support for women-owned enterprises.

“This conference showed that our sector is not content with statements of intent,” said CILTSA President, Elvin Harris. “Companies, institutions and leaders are putting their shoulders to the wheel, offering mentorship, opening networks, investing in skills and backing women-owned businesses. Progress will come from consistent action, and we are seeing that commitment take shape across transport, logistics and supply chain.”

The event benefited from robust industry backing, with support from sponsors including Isuzu, Produkta Trucks, PowerFleet, MasterDrive, TpSC, Tendai Mhlanga Photography and BBOpEx.

ENDS

576 words



**The Chartered
Institute of Logistics
and Transport**

About CILTS

The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport supports the professionals who plan the systems, who bring in the raw materials, who manage the movement of people and goods, who ensure safety standards, maintain mobility, and keep the economy working.

We are the leading professional body for everyone who works in supply chain, logistics and transport. We are a global family, representing professionals at all levels across all sectors, with a mission to give individuals and organisations access to the tools, the knowledge and the connections vital to success in the logistics and transport industry.

Founded in 1919 with a mission to improve industry practices and nurture talent, our Institute supports over 35,000 members in 35 countries. Through our educational suite, our strong community and our commitment to high standards, we help professionals at all levels to develop their careers and access better jobs. Visit www.ciltsa.org.za and <https://ciltinternational.org/> for more information

Issued by:

Contact Persons: Catherine Larkin – CVLC Communication

Telephone: 087 822 2858 / 083 300 0331

E-mail: catherine@cvlc.co.za

Postal Address: P O Box 44945, Linden, 2104, South Africa
