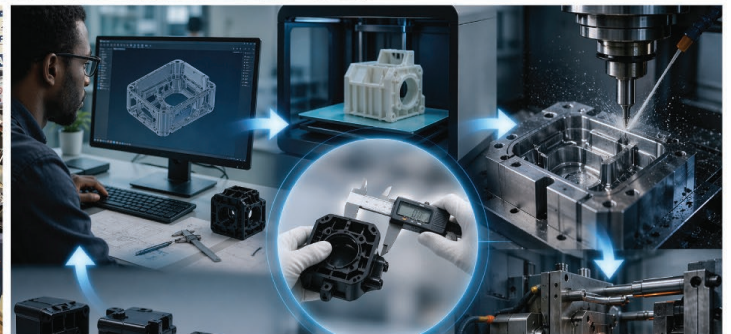


NEWSLETTER

10 JULY 2026

REFLECTING APRIL - JUNE 2026



Inspired by people, driven by innovation...

REFLECTING ON PROGRESS AND PURPOSE

Dear Valued Clients and Stakeholders,

As we reach the halfway point of 2026, it is encouraging to reflect on a quarter filled with meaningful connections, shared learning, and opportunities to make a tangible difference. At PDTs, every engagement reminds us that innovation is not created in isolation. It grows through listening, learning, and working alongside those we serve.

This quarter, we strengthened our engagement with industry through a stakeholder visit to Busamed Hospital, where we gained valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities within the healthcare sector. We were also proud to exhibit at the National Advisory Council on Innovation (NACI) Policy Dialogue Exhibition under the theme, "Industrial Innovation for Inclusive Growth and Competitiveness." These platforms allowed us to showcase the capabilities of PDTs while contributing to important conversations on the role of innovation in advancing South Africa's industrial growth.

Developing people remains just as important as developing products. Through our Sketching and Drawing and SolidWorks training programmes, we had the privilege of equipping students, innovators, entrepreneurs, and industry professionals with practical skills that will support their innovation journeys. Investing in people today helps shape the solutions of tomorrow.

Another memorable highlight was engaging with educators, therapists, parents, learners, corporate teams, and community members at Midstream Ridge Primary School. Opportunities like these remind us that innovation has the greatest impact when it reaches beyond the workshop and into the communities where it can improve lives.

Behind every project, engagement, exhibition, and training initiative is a dedicated team committed to excellence. Their professionalism, technical expertise, and commitment to quality continue to ensure that PDTs delivers innovative solutions that create lasting value for our clients and partners.



As we look ahead to the remainder of the year, we remain focused on building meaningful relationships, sharing knowledge, and developing solutions that address real-world challenges. We are grateful for the trust you continue to place in PDTs, and we thank you for being part of our journey. Together, we look forward to creating even greater impact in the months ahead.

Warm regards,

Dr Shelly Mona

Deputy-Director: PDTs

CUTTING-EDGE WELDING TECHNOLOGY

At the Product Development Technology Station (PDTs), we leverage cutting-edge technology, technical expertise, and industry best practices to deliver high-quality engineering, product development, and manufacturing solutions. Our advanced facilities are equipped with state-of-the-art machinery and specialised equipment that enable us to transform concepts into functional, market-ready products with precision and efficiency.

From product design and prototyping to advanced manufacturing and short-run production, our workshop is designed to support every stage of the product development journey. By combining innovative technologies with skilled technical teams, we ensure exceptional levels of accuracy, repeatability, and consistency across every project. This integrated approach allows us to meet the highest quality standards while providing reliable, cost-effective solutions that help innovators, researchers, entrepreneurs, and industry partners bring their ideas to life.

We offer a wide range of advanced manufacturing services:

- **CNC Tube Bending** - Accurate and repeatable tube forming for complex designs
- **Laser CNC Notching** - Clean and precise tube profiling for perfect fit-ups
- **Laser Sheet Cutting** - High-speed, high-precision cutting for various materials
- **TIG Welding** - Precision welding, quality finishes
- **MIG welding** - Efficient and strong welding for structural fabrication

For any inquiries related to projects and services, please do not hesitate to contact us.



LIMIT RUN INJECTION MOULDING

On 07 May 2026 PDTS presented the Introduction to Sketching and Drawing to 15 CUT students and staff members. As part of the training we also take the participants on a journey of what PDTS does and how we specialize in Medical Device Product Development and niche manufacturing called Limit Run Injection Moulding.

Limit Run Injection moulding is a cost-effective manufacturing approach used to produce smaller quantities of plastic parts without the high expense of building a full hardened-steel production mould.

Instead of manufacturing a complete custom injection mould from scratch, the process focuses on creating a precision-machined aluminium tool insert that fits into an existing set of standard mould bolsters (mould bases). This significantly reduces tooling costs, lead times, and development risk for clients who require low- to medium-volume production runs.



METICULOUS QUALITY CONTROL

From concept to creation; quality is the driving force behind every stage at our Product Development Technology Station.

Our ISO 9001 Quality Management System guarantees that every aspect of the product development process is meticulously controlled, monitored, and subject to continuous improvement.

Ranging from initial design and prototyping to precision CNC machining and advanced plastic injection moulding, we uphold stringent quality standards to provide reliable, high-performance products. By merging state-of-the-art manufacturing technologies with a solid quality framework, we transform innovative concepts into trustworthy solutions; efficiently, consistently, and with excellence at the forefront.

From concept to creation.
Quality is the driving force behind every stage of
our Product Development.



A VISIT TO BUSAMED HOSPITAL

On 22 April, the PDTS team had the opportunity to visit Busamed Hospital as part of our ongoing marketing and stakeholder engagement initiatives. During the visit, we introduced our Medical Device Unit Development services, highlighting PDTS's role in supporting the design and development of innovative medical and assistive technologies aimed at improving healthcare delivery and patient outcomes.

This engagement also formed part of our broader efforts to strengthen relationships within the healthcare sector and explore potential collaboration opportunities with key stakeholders. We appreciate the opportunity to engage with industry partners and remain committed to advancing innovation in medical technology through meaningful partnerships.

We also welcome organisations and stakeholders interested in collaboration or learning more about our capabilities to visit our facility for a tour and engagement session send us an email at pdts@cut.ac.za



HEALTH AND SAFETY ON OUR CNC MACHINES

Working with CNC machines requires precision — not just in machining, but in safety too. A safe operator is a smart operator. Every operation is carried out with care, every detail checked, and every precaution taken, ensuring that quality and safety go hand in hand from start to finish.

Our CNC machine operators wear all the required PPE before doing any work on the machine. Because safety comes first in our organization. All our CNC machine has health and safety working procedure.

SAFETY IS NOT AN OPTION – IT'S A RESPONSIBILITY.

#CNC #HealthAndSafety #Manufacturing #Engineering #WorkplaceSafety #Machining

**Precision in every cut.
Safety in every step.**

Craftsmanship is not only measured by accuracy and performance, but by the discipline to protect the people behind the process.



7i
technology innovation
A G E N C Y

PDTS
Product Development Technology Station

READY TO BRING YOUR IDEAS TO LIFE?

The Introduction to Sketching and Drawing workshop introduces participants to fundamental sketching and drawing techniques used in concept development, project planning, and visual communication. Through a balance of theory and hands-on practice, participants will develop confidence in translating ideas onto paper and using sketching as a practical tool in design thinking, problem-solving, and early-stage project development.

The workshop is a structured, two-day training programme facilitated by PDTS, designed to build foundational sketching skills for concept development across technical, creative, and professional disciplines. The workshop combines theoretical principles with guided practical exercises to ensure participants gain both understanding and applied competence.

Originally developed for Engineering and Product Development students, the workshop has proven value for a broader audience, including professionals in architecture, built environment, medical product development, manufacturing, entrepreneurship, and graphic design. The focus is on using sketching as a thinking and communication tool rather than artistic drawing, enabling participants to visually express ideas clearly and confidently.



AN END TO A TWO-DAY WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE

On 08 May 2026, the PDTS Introduction to Sketching Workshop continued with creativity in motion as participants explored the fundamentals of drawing in linear perspective. This is an essential skill in transforming ideas into visual concepts.

From understanding depth and dimension to bringing sketches to life on paper, the session challenged attendees to see design from a whole new perspective. The energy, enthusiasm, and growing confidence in the room made for an inspiring morning of learning and creativity.

A heartfelt thank you to the CUT Hotel School for once again opening their beautiful venue to us and providing the perfect setting for this enriching two-day workshop experience. Their hospitality and support contributed significantly to creating an environment where creativity and learning could flourish.

At PDTS, we believe that every great product begins with a simple sketch—and every sketch begins with imagination, curiosity, and the confidence to put ideas on paper. By equipping future innovators with these fundamental skills, we continue to inspire the next generation of designers, engineers, and entrepreneurs to transform creative concepts into meaningful, real-world solutions.



FREE TRADEMARK SEARCH WITH CIPC

Before choosing a trading name for your product or service, make sure it is available for use.

If your company is registered with the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), you can use your existing CIPC login credentials to perform a FREE Trademark Search on the CIPC platform. This valuable tool allows you to check whether a similar or identical trademark has already been registered, helping you make informed branding decisions before investing in logos, packaging, marketing materials, or product launches.

A trademark search helps you:

- Avoid choosing a name that is already registered
- Reduce the risk of legal or branding conflicts
- Build a unique and protectable brand identity
- Save time and costs before developing packaging, marketing material, or signage

Should you have any questions, contact PDTs by sending an email to our brand development specialist, Miralde Kotze, mkotze@cut.ac.za

BEFORE YOU CHOOSE A TRADING NAME, SEARCH SMART.



If you have a registered company with CIPC, you can use your CIPC login details to perform a **free Trademark search**.

A quick search today can help you avoid costly mistakes tomorrow.
Protect your brand. Protect your future.



“A strong brand starts with the right name and the right research. A carefully chosen name, supported by thorough market and trademark research, lays the foundation for a memorable brand that resonates with its audience, stands apart from competitors, and creates lasting value.”

LEARN SOLIDWORKS ESSENTIALS WITH PDTS!

Take your design skills to the next level with hands-on SolidWorks training at PDTS.

- 3D Modelling
- Product Design Skills
- Practical, Industry-Based Training
- Ideal for students & innovators

Build, design, and create like a professional. For more information, send an email to pdts@cut.ac.za

#SolidWorks #CADDesign #Engineering #DesignLife #3DModeling #Innovation #SkillsDevelopment

CUT
CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY FREE STATE

PDTS is hosted by Central University of Technology, Free State
Thinking Beyond

SOLIDWORKS
ESSENTIALS TRAINING
22-26 JUNE 2026
09:00 - 15:00 | Room 105, ETB Building,
Central University of Technology, Free State, 20 President Brand Street, Bfn

R 10 000 for external applicants
Free for CUT Staff and Students
Payment instructions will be sent via email

*A Beginner's Guide to
Parts, Assemblies & Drawings*

The main purpose of the SolidWorks Essential Course is about transferring design skills to individuals who are interested in the opportunity to master one of the industry's leading CAD software packages.

The training runs over five days from **22-26 June 2026** on campus of Central University of Technology, Free State.

Successful completion of the course is dependent on 100% attendance and completing an online exam on the final day of the course.

ONLY 60 SEATS
Date: 22-26 June 2026
Time: 09:00 - 15:00
Venue: ETB Building, CUT
20 Pres. Brand Street,
Willows,
Bloemfontein,
9300
Bookings: pdts@cut.ac.za
www.pdts.co.za

Book your seat before
19 June 2026 by
sending an email to
pdts@cut.ac.za

PDTS
Product Development Technology Station

WELDING TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION

PDTS hosted a Welding Technology Demonstration for Mathematics 3 students from Central University of Technology, Free State (CUT). The session provided students with a firsthand experience of MIG welding and exposed them to practical engineering applications and innovation within the manufacturing environment.

Prior to the demonstration, welding safety protocols and procedures were discussed to ensure a safe and informative learning experience.

A special thank you to Ishmael Hlanganiso, Dr M. Ellis, and Nkosi Matthews for contributing to the success of the demonstration and for inspiring the next generation of innovators and engineers.

#TechnologyDemonstration #Innovation #Engineering #MIGWelding #SkillsDevelopment



SAISI EXPO AT MIDSTREAM RIDGE PRIMARY

On 06 June 2026, PDTS was a proud exhibitor at Midstream Ridge Primary School in Centurion, Gauteng.

The engagement brought together educators, therapists, parents, corporate teams, teenagers, and community members with a shared interest in sensory health, learning, and well-being. The event created a meaningful platform for interaction, awareness, and knowledge sharing around innovative, human-centred solutions.

As a product development and innovation hub, PDTS continues to demonstrate how design and technology can be applied to real-world challenges, supporting education, inclusion, and improved quality of life.

We extend our appreciation to Midstream Ridge Primary School for hosting us and to everyone who engaged with our team.

#PDTS #Innovation #HumanCentredDesign #SensoryHealth

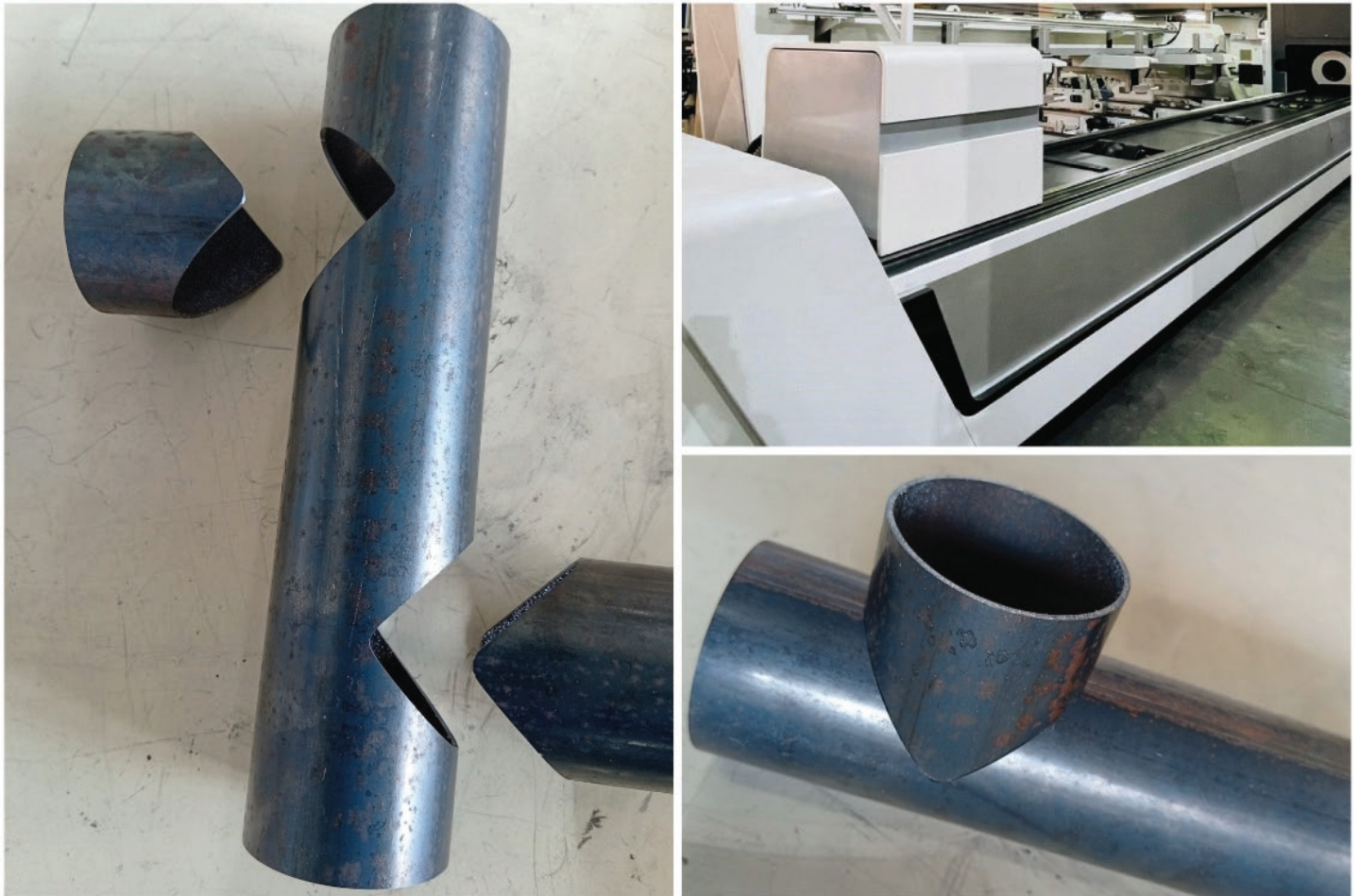


PRECISION LASER TUBE NOTCHING

Where ideas become precision-engineered reality. Our Advanced Machining capabilities bring together innovation, accuracy, and modern manufacturing to produce high-quality components that meet real-world demands. From concept to creation, we support innovators and industry partners in turning ideas into functional, high-precision products.

Precision. Innovation. Performance.

Want to see it in action? Step inside our workshop and experience Advanced Machining firsthand with a facility tour.



95 PARTICIPANTS CONCLUDED TRAINING

26 June 2026 marked the successful conclusion of the **PDTS SolidWorks Essentials Training Programme**, hosted by the Product Development Technology Station (PDTS) at the Central University of Technology, Free State (CUT).

Over five days, 95 participants enhanced their practical engineering and product development skills through hands-on training in:

- 3D Modelling and Assembly Design
- Engineering Drawings
- Product Development Workflows using SolidWorks

We extend our sincere appreciation to every participant for their commitment to continuous learning and professional development. At PDTS, we remain committed to equipping students, graduates, engineers, technicians, and innovators with industry-relevant skills that support innovation and manufacturing excellence.

Missed this training? The response has been outstanding, and we are planning future SolidWorks training opportunities. To join our mailing list or express your interest, email pdts@cut.ac.za.



DYNAMIC GRAPHIC DESIGN AND BRANDING

The PDTS Graphic Design and Branding Unit continues to play a pivotal role in supporting innovation, communication, and product development through a diverse portfolio of projects spanning branding, education, healthcare, and institutional development.

Our multidisciplinary approach enables us to combine strategic thinking, creative design, and practical product development to deliver solutions that create lasting value for our clients and partners.

One of our key focus areas this year is the branding of two prestigious annual industry events that celebrate excellence, creativity, and technological advancement. We are proud to once again partner with the **Intervarsitybrew™ Brewing and Tasting Challenge**, where our team is responsible for the design and production of the event's visual identity, including conference materials, certificates, proceedings, and other branded collateral. In addition, we continue our long-standing collaboration with the **RAPDASA International Conference**, providing comprehensive branding support for one of South Africa's leading additive manufacturing and 3D printing events.

We are collaborating with the **Department of Design and Studio Art**, presenting a guest lecture on the introduction of sketching and drawing.

We are developing two new product prototypes in the health and hygiene sector, and we are creating signage and restaurant branding for our university, assisting in building spaces that reflect identity and pride.

CREATING. COLLABORATING. INNOVATING.

Our Graphic Design and Branding Unit is currently driving multiple dynamic projects spanning branding, product development, education, and prototyping in the health and hygiene sector.



Meet the creative and skilled team



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Ronald Masheane
Lead Engineer
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Thato Moloi
Project Coordinator
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Quality
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Hlulani Baloyi
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Meet the creative and skilled team



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Engage with us on Social Media

Click on the arrows to visit our social pages



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PDTS Marketing, Social Media, Graphic Design and Branding

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