DEDAN KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
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SPEECH DELIVERED BY PROF. NDIRANGU KIONI DURING LAUNCH OF THE MACHINE BUILDING DIVISION OF SEMICONDUCTOR TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED, ON MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2022, AT DEDAN KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

- Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya, His Excellency, Hon. Rigathi Gachagua
- Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, Hon. Ezekiel Machogu
- Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of ICT, Mr. Eliud Owalo
- Principal Secretary, Ministry of Education, State Department for University Education and Research, Dr. Beatrice Muganda Inyangala;
- Ag. Chancellor and Chairman of the Dedan Kimathi University of Technology Council; Dr. Jane Nyakang'o;
- Managing Director, Semiconductor Technologies Limited, Eng. Anthony Githinji;
- Members of the Dedan Kimathi University of Technology Council;
- Deputy Vice-Chancellors of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology;
- Members of the Dedan Kimathi University of Technology Senate;
- Distinguished guests;
- The Alumni Association;
- Parents and guardians;
- Graduands;
- Ladies and gentlemen;

Good morning?

- Your Excellency, I take this opportunity to welcome you to Dedan Kimathi University of Technology. I welcome you to your first visit here and look forward to many visits from you. We have a close relationship with Semiconductor Technologies Limited (STL). STL is an anchor client of DeST-Park. Through this relationship, the University has been able to attract more interest from technology companies and onboard some of them, gain access to the international technology market, particularly the semiconductor space, as a first in the entire African continent and also gain access to international research centres.

- We are happy to celebrate this milestone that has been achieved in a very short period of time through the company's establishment and its subsequent expansion of lab facilities, it has been able to employ 80 people and offer training opportunities to over 185 trainees as well as give opportunities to our postgraduate students to use cutting-edge opportunities in their research.

- We look forward to expanding the scope of this partnership.

- We have established postgraduate programmes with STL, our academic departments that leverage on the company's strengths in the STL space and aligned technologies.

- Through this partnership, we have also gained access to US partners with whom we are exploring areas of cooperation, and we look forward to many more.

- We have developed specialized centres that leverage on this partnership. To name but a few, we have; Nano Technology Centre, Mechatronics (Machine Automation Centre), Virtual Control Centre, among others. Through these centres, we can leverage cutting-edge technologies and use industry 4.0 technologies for the benefit of the country.

- We are also able to create high-paying jobs.

- To achieve all this, we have allocated space for the company to expand its facilities, and we are looking to expand this partnership by providing more

space and facilities.

- Therefore, the University looks forward to completing the infrastructure to facilitate DeST-Park, horizontal infrastructure, water sewerage, and fiber optics to get more companies on board.

Thank you.