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Wednesday 6th February

SPORTING LEGENDS GATHER AHEAD OF VIRGIN ACTIVE SPORT INDUSTRY AWARDS

Former Bafana Bafana captain **Lucas Radebe**, Paralympic heroine **Natalie Du Toit** and French rugby legend **Serge Betsen** came together on Wednesday in Johannesburg to preview the **Virgin Active Sport Industry Awards 2013**. The sport industry's flagship event will be held at Emperors Palace on Thursday evening, with the elite of South African sport set to join the trio at the star-studded Awards ceremony.

The likes of **Oscar Pistorius**, **Bryan Habana**, **Cameron van der Burgh**, **Jean de Villiers** and the globe-topping **Proteas** team will be joined on the Virgin Active Sport Industry Awards red carpet by iconic figures from the history of South African and international sport including **Jomo Sono**, **Bob Skinstad**, **Doctor Khumalo**, **David Campese**, **Mark Fish**, **Colin Charvis** and **Marcel Desailly**.

With the likes of **Kerry McGregor**, **Jeremy Mansfield**, **Liezel van der Westhuizen** and **Derek Watts** amongst the representatives from the worlds of media, fashion and entertainment, the glittering ceremony will once again be the jewel in the crown of South African sport as it celebrates the best work of 2012, with more than 1,200 people set to attend.

"2012 was another year of great success for the whole of South African sport, from the dedicated users of our health clubs right through to the stars who performed so well at London 2012 and the world-beating Proteas. We are hugely proud to be part of the sporting community, and look forward to seeing the best of the best rewarded on Thursday evening," commented **Ross Faragher-Thomas**, the MD of **Virgin Active SA**, who joined Radebe, Du Toit and Betsen on the top table at the event alongside **Nick Keller**, Chairman of the Sport Industry Group, and **Vusi Zwane**, Peermont Corporate Affairs and CSI Executive.

Nominees for prizes at the ceremony include **Orlando Pirates**, **the Blue Bulls**, **the Sharks**, **the DHL Stormers**, **Nike**, **Powerade**, **Absa**, **Vodacom** and **SuperSport**, with Awards up for grabs for the year's best work in sponsorship, branding, advertising, television, marketing, events and more.

Join the conversation and be the first to find out the winners by following **@SportIndustrySA** and using the hashtag **#VASIA13** on Twitter.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

The Sport Industry Group sits at the heart of sport. Through editorial content and a series of high-quality events including the Virgin Active Sport Industry Awards, the Sport Industry Group helps set the agenda for the world's most dynamic industry.

Hi-res images of Wednesday's press conference and the Virgin Active Sport Industry Awards ceremony will be available on Gallo Images:

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