



# Press Release

## **South African Disabled Golf Association (SADGA) welcomes Frenchman George Mecs to the Open field**

**Johannesburg, South Africa. March 2017** - The South African Disabled Golf Association (SADGA) and Canon South Africa are pleased to announce that French amputee George Mecs will be in the field of local and international golfers competing in the 2017 Canon South African Disabled Golf Open in May 2017.

This is the first time that Mecs will compete in the prestigious tournament. Hosted annually by SADGA, the South African Disabled Golf Open incorporates the world's top golfers with disabilities. In 2016, 30% of the field boasted single figure handicaps and more than half of the competitors have handicaps of 18 or lower. Mecs himself boasts a handicap of 18.

The Canon South African Disabled Golf Open, will take place from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of May in Cape Town. Canon South Africa, which has been a proud sponsor of the South African Disabled Golf Association (SADGA) for many years, has proudly taken the reigns as the official sponsor of the South African Disabled Golf Open for 2017.

Reinard Schuhknecht, Brand Ambassador for SADGA, says: "We have some great names in disabled golf confirming their participation in this year's tournament. It is tremendous to see so many familiar faces returning to compete as well as welcome new participants such as Mecs."

Mecs lost his hand in a poorly executed operation in 2012. He has been playing golf on the disabled golf circuit in Europe for five years. Dedicating most of his leisure time to golf, he continues to rise through the ranks. In 2016, he achieved an impressive second place at the illustrious French Open (3<sup>ème</sup> série). He has competed in numerous disabled golf events in Italy, England, Germany, Spain, Denmark, the Czech Republic and Mauritius. He is looking forward to travelling to South Africa and competing in the spirited 2017 Canon South African Disabled Golf Open for the first time.

SADGA is recognised and respected for opening up a world of interaction, opportunities and competition for golfers with disabilities. In addition to the South African Disabled Golf Open, SADGA organises about 40 provincial golf days around the country each year, which culminate with the SADGA Provincial Challenge.

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About Canon Europe

Canon Europe is the regional sales and marketing operation for Canon Inc., represented in 116 countries and employing 17,000 people across Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA).

Founded in 1937 with the specific goal of making the best quality camera available to customers, Canon's tireless passion for the Power of Image has since extended its technology into many other markets and has established it as a world leader in both consumer and business imaging solutions. Its solutions comprise products, ranging from digital compact and SLR cameras, through broadcast lenses and portable X-ray machines, to multi-function and production printers, all supported by a range of value added services.

Canon invests heavily in R&D to deliver the richest and most innovative products and services to satisfy customers' creative needs. From amateur photographers to professional print companies, Canon enables each customer to realise their own passion for image.

Canon's corporate philosophy is [Kyosei](#) – 'living and working together for the common good'. In EMEA, Canon Europe pursues sustainable business growth, focusing on reducing its own environmental impact and supporting customers to reduce theirs using Canon's products, solutions and services. Canon has achieved global certification to ISO 14001, demonstrating a world-class environmental management standard.

Further information about Canon Europe is available at: [www.canon-europe.com](http://www.canon-europe.com)

About Canon South Africa

Canon South Africa (Pty) Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Canon Europe, came into being on January 4, 2000. Canon Europe is the regional sales and marketing operation for Canon Inc., represented in 120 countries and employing over 11,000 people across Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA). Canon Europe invested in South Africa with a view to growing and expanding its market share in the country.

In South Africa, the Canon brand is today synonymous with consistency, driven by the company's passion, imagination, knowledge and importantly, loyalty to its customers. Canon SA offers a wide range of consumer imaging products and business solutions as well as a variety of large format printers.

Canon technologies are durable, innovative, intuitive, and feature smart and environmentally sustainable designs. Canon invests heavily in R & D and will continue to deliver new and technologically advanced products that cater for a variety of requirements.

In South Africa Canon will continue to support environmental sustainability by operating responsibly, minimizing the impact of its business on the environment and also encouraging a culture of environmental awareness and accountability amongst their staff, business associates and partners. Canon has also maintained its ISO 14001 environmental accreditation since 2007.