

Car & General Launches a Training Program for Jua Kali Mechanics dubbed 'Cargen Tech-Up' in Kisumu

Car and General Trading Limited has launched a training and empowerment program for technicians in the informal sector dubbed the 'Cargen Tech-Up'. The program aims to equip about 3,000 artisans with mechanical and electrical repairs and maintenance skills for two-wheelers and three-wheelers in Kenya. They will also be empowered with business management and safety skills to boost their technical and entrepreneurial skills. At Car & General, we want to develop and upgrade technical and entrepreneurial capabilities of private garage mechanics for two and three wheelers in Kenya. So far, we have trained 615 three wheeler and 5,377 two wheeler mechanics and we are looking at enhancing this program.

The program, costing over KShs 25 million per year, will expand employment and entrepreneurial opportunities in this sector. It will conveniently give juakali artisans training access at zero-cost. It will also ensure easy access to quality service and parts to our customers that will enhance C&G's philosophy of making customers smile on every street in every town.

Overall, the 'Cargen Tech-up' program will offer training on financial and business management skills necessary for successful entrepreneurship, restore public trust in the sector and promote economic growth.

During the launch of the program in Kisumu at the Royal City Hotel, the Managing Director stressed on the importance of ensuring the efficiency of the boda boda industry in Kenya. "Today, the boda boda industry has approximately 1.2 million riders earning an average income of KShs 1,000, which translates to KShs 1 billion per day and supports 6 million lives daily. Two and three wheeler transport has significantly eased transport challenges, facilitated trade and created employment in the value chain. It is one of the biggest and fastest growing industries in Kenya. The juakali mechanic is at the centre of the entire boda boda ecosystem," he concluded.

For the last month, we trained over 200 mechanics in Bungoma, Kakamega, Busia, Chwele and Webuye. We will be heading to Mbale, Serem and Bondo after Kisumu.

Established 85 years ago in Nakuru and now a listed company on the Nairobi Securities Exchange, Car & General is a franchise-holder of a wide range of leading global power generation, automotive and engineering brands including two- and three-wheeler vehicles, tractors, outboard engines, air compressors, laundry equipment and water pumps. Car & General Limited has subsidiary companies in Uganda and Tanzania, and branches in Arusha and Rwanda where it is the main distributor for Cummins diesel generators, engines and parts.