



epa news brief

The Engineering Professions Association of Namibia

April / May 2011



We wish all
our members a
Happy Easter



Mechanical & Materials Cluster - SA Bureau of Standards

The Mechanical & Materials Cluster provides accredited conformity assessment services to the mechanical and metallurgy industries, building and construction industries, civil engineering industries, timber and forestry industries, paper and packaging industries, clothing and textile industries.

The services consist of:

System Certification

ISO 9001 – Quality Management Systems Certification

ISO 14001 – Environmental Management Systems Certification

OHSAS 18001 – Occupational Health & Safety Management System Certification

FSC / COC Certification

SABS works under the direction of the Woodmark team to deliver relevant certification in SA, Swaziland and Namibia.

SABS provides support within the region for the development of Woodmark certification schemes.

SABS works in association with SA Woodmark an FSC/PEFC accredited Certification Body.

SABS delivers FSC services as in association with the Soil Association Woodmark Programme which is accredited by FSC.

Product Certification

SABS Mark – Approved Performance to National/International Standards

JASWIC – Joint Acceptance Scheme for Water Installation Components

Consignment Inspection

Inspection and testing of consignments (e.g. leather, textile, footwear)

The Mechanical & Materials Cluster also provides accredited product testing to national and international standards through our various accredited laboratories.

We offer the following certification:

ISO 9001 - Quality Management Systems

FSC / COC Certification:

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ISO 14001 - Environmental Management Systems

OHSAS 18000 - Occupational Health and Safety Systems

to read more: www.sabs.co.za/index





BCA Training

engineering & construction contract consultants & trainers



COURSES OFFERED IN MAY 2011:

Delay Disruption & Extension of Time
Validated for 2 CPD Points – SAACE-056-12/02

- A two-day seminar
- A must for anyone associated with contract administration

Course dates: 23 & 24 May 2011
Venue: Safari Hotel & Conference Centre
Cost: N\$7,500 for EPA members
N\$8,000 for non-EPA members

register by 13 May 2011 - epa@africaonline.com.na - please send full name and surname, ID no and contact details.

2 Day Advanced FIDIC Training

Course dates: 26 & 27 May 2011
Venue: Safari Hotel and Conference Centre
Cost: N\$5,000 for EPA members
N\$ for non-EPA members–

register by 13 May 2011 - epa@africaonline.com.na - please send full name and surname, ID no and contact details.

SAIMechE
By Knowledge We Advance



Courses scheduled by the SA Institute of Mechanical Engineering - 2011:

05 May 2011
E5511 - Rapid Prototyping Technologies Workshop
Location: East Rand, Gauteng

Gautrain Technical Site Visit - Afternoon Session
Location: Johannesburg Time: 11h00 to 16h00
27 May 2011

E4811 - Mechanical Seals: Pre-determining Pump Reliability Workshop: Part 1
Location: East Rand, Gauteng
03 August 2011

Beltcon 16 - International Materials Handling Conference
Location: Johannesburg, Gauteng
13 September 2011

International Pump User Conference (IPUC)
Location: Johannesburg
16 November 2011

South African Energy Efficiency Convention (SAEEC 2011)
2011/11/16 » 2011/11/17
Location: Johannesburg

to register for any of the above, visit the website:
www.saimeche.org.za/events



SAICE president on the 'Credo of the African Engineer'

Seetella Makhetha has been inaugurated as the 109th president of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE) in Johannesburg on 8 February 2011. In his presidential address 'Credo of the African Engineer for a Sustainable Future' Makhetha emphasised the engineer's role in finding a fine balance between development and sustainability through an ethical leadership approach to service delivery and infrastructure creation.

"Just like doctors have the Hippocratic Oath to guide their actions to provide medicine to the sick, engineers should have a credo which would guide them in providing the fundamentals of human life, such as clean water, access to sanitation, roads and so on, in an ethical and moral manner," asserts Makhetha.

He expressed the hope that the 'Credo of the African Engineer' would be embraced with enthusiasm by South African as well as fellow African engineers to be used as a tool towards achieving moral and ethical behaviour at all times.

SAICE's obligations

"Universities are instrumental in creating the highest knowledge, expertise and innovation. Universities must also ensure that knowledge and expertise promote the welfare, culture and sustainable development of the surrounding society. However, adhering to ethical principles becomes increasingly difficult when faced with the realities of the working environment. It is in this area that learned societies such as SAICE, can make a huge contribution by providing the impetus for morality and sustainability through the introduction of a credo," stated Makhetha.

As far as the Africa Engineers Forum is concerned, he aims at making operational the forum's ideals to the extent that a challenging and achievable three-year programme of action would be developed through SADC and other regional organisations.

Anti-corruption initiative

Makhetha explained, "In order to enhance moral and ethical conduct, SAICE has embarked upon an anti-corruption campaign that includes a drama, performed by the Young Members' Panel, as well as a training course focusing on ethics and corruption. The drama, adapted from the American Society of Civil Engineers' Ethicana, depicts most facets of corruption in the civil engineering industry and provides solutions for its eradication. This drama was performed so successfully that the group was invited to perform in Tanzania in November 2010. Subsequently requests have also been received from Ghana and Zimbabwe as well as our own National Science and Technology Forum."

Infrastructure Report Card for South Africa

Following the resounding success of the Infrastructure Report Card for South Africa in 2006, SAICE will launch its latest Report Card on 5 April 2011. Good news for all those who have been enquiring about a new Report Card. The first Report Card was aimed at informing the public and decision-makers of the condition of our infrastructure. It was an awareness campaign that had achieved its goal – namely publicising the facts. Makhetha stated that this is one of the instruments that SAICE would use to spread the message, also among our colleagues in African countries.

Makhetha announced that SAICE is seeking the input of its members, stakeholders and the public to be incorporated into the final SAICE Infrastructure Report Card for South Africa 2011. The details of how to submit your input will be available on the SAICE website soon, www.civils.org.za.

SAICE and conscience

Makhetha affirms, "Engineers are faced with finding a fine balance between development and sustainability. A quick and very visible example is the use of mobile phones and personal computers. In the past two decades the use and increasing digitisation of these two products have not only developed new service industries and created employment for hundreds of thousands of workers world-wide, but has improved communication that has considerably shrunk the world, so much so that every Gogo can now communicate with her children and relatives. These technical innovations have democratised access - be it registering to vote or obtaining examination results. This access increases individual freedom and creates a democracy of consumption. This product-based well-being, extended on a world-wide scale is proving to be intrinsically unsustainable. It creates unsustainable expectations and demand on national resources which the planet simply cannot supply on an infinite basis. For engineers therefore it is an ethical choice to provide an enabling solution which would allow people to acquire and maintain a sustainable and balanced lifestyle." SAICE will have to raise awareness in any circumstance where government or any stakeholder embarks on unsustainable practices or legislation.

The 'Credo of the African Engineer'

Before concluding, Makhetha presented the 'Credo of the African Engineer' which is based on the shared values of the 'Order of the Engineer' first recited in Cleveland in 1970:

I am an Engineer and in my profession I take deep pride. To it I owe solemn obligations.

Since the origins of humanity on the continent of Africa, human progress has been spurred by the engineering genius.

Engineers have made usable nature's vast resources of material and energy for humanity's benefit. Engineers have vitalised, and turned to practical use, the principles of science and the means of technology. Were it not for this heritage of accumulated experience, my efforts would be feeble.

As an Engineer, I pledge to practice integrity and fair dealing, tolerance and respect, and to uphold devotion to the standards and the dignity of my profession, conscious always that my skill carries with it the obligation to serve humanity by making the most sustainable use of Earth's precious resources.

As an Engineer, I shall participate in none but honest enterprises. When needed, my skill and knowledge shall be given without reservation for the public good. In the performance of duty and in fidelity to my profession, I shall give the utmost.

Courses scheduled by the SA Institute of Electrical Engineering - 2011:

South Africa's Nuclear History (Cape Town) 12 May 2011

FINANCE ESSENTIALS FOR ENGINEERS - JHB (CORPORATE CONFERENCE CENTRE) 25 May 2011

Visit to CBI-electric African Cables (Vereeniging) 25 May 2011

ELECTROMAGNETISM - TRANSFORMERS : BLOEMFONTEIN (THE PRESIDENT HOTEL CONFERENCE CENTRE) 14 June 2011

FUNDAMENTAL GENERATOR COURSE -JHB (SA MUSEUM OF MILITARY HISTORY) 22 June 2011

IPUC 2011 CONFERENCE & WISA CONFERENCE (MTN EXPO CENTRE, JOHANNESBURG) 13 September 2011

Energy Efficiency @ Work (Emperors Palace Gauteng) 16 November 2011

view their website: www.saiee.org.za



Wastewater treatment pilot making green-brewing strides at PE plant

Rhodes University's (RU's) environment-friendly wastewater treatment plant has successfully treated about 0,15% of the water used each year by South African Breweries' (SAB's) iBhayi brewery during its pilot phase.

The project, dubbed Project Eden, is a first for the South African brewery industry and was initiated at the Port Elizabeth plant at the end of 2008, with an initial investment of R1-million from the SABMiller Group Technical unit. The wastewater was treated to discharge standards suitable for reuse in irrigation and other second-ary water uses.

RU Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science's Dr Cliff Jones says 75% of the water used in breweries ends up as effluent and its disposal has financial and environmental implications as well as a large energy footprint. It is food-grade water with nutrients in an unavailable, and therefore unusable, form.

The plant is the brainchild of the RU department and recovers water from brewery effluent using high-rate algal ponding (HRAP) built within a greenhouse and a constructed wetland, downstream of the brewery's anaerobic digestion (AD) effluent treatment plant. Once the effluent has undergone AD, it enters the integrated algal ponding system: a primary facultative pond and the HRAP.

to read full article: www.engineeringnews.co.za



Capital equipment supplier expands its range

Capital equipment manufacturer Bell Equipment has started on phase two of its expansion of compaction and road building manufacturing company Bomag's product range into the Bell group.

Bell has been marketing the range of equipment since the company took over from construction equipment supplier Babcock as the sole South African agent of Germany-based Bomag, in 2009, Bell GM of Bomag marketing Izak van Niekerk tells Engineering News.

The first phase was the marketing of the current Bomag equipment offerings, which range from light equipment and soil machines, including refuse compactors, to asphalt machines.

Phase two includes targeting, besides other sectors, the road maintenance and road construction industry with the introduction of Bomag's latest series of paving equipment.

"The road construction and maintenance sector has seen a steady increase in projects over the past year and Bell believes the outlook will remain positive throughout the next year," says Van Niekerk.

full article: www.engineeringnews.co.za/article

