

"Tackle a Block at a Time".

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No 1. Engineering Council of SA; News. ECSA Council.

Due to Technical and Legal reasons the current ECSA Councils' term of office will end earlier than expected later this year.

It is expected that ECSA will ask for nominations for a new Council sometime around July this year. Your association will keep you advised and also publish the required forms etc as it is imperative that our group nominate persons to serve on ECSA and its various committees.

The current committees will continue to function until the new committee members have been finalized. All current committee members may be asked to be re-nominated for a new four year cycle.

Watch this space!

No 2. An Update on Identification of Engineering Work

What is ECSA's view on competition issues surrounding identification of engineering work?

Engineering work involves actions that exploit the forces of nature, try to control the forces of nature, exploit natural resources and control complex processes. Doing this work without proper education, training and experience creates risks to health, life, property and the environment. It is hardly debatable that persons who have not been certified competent should be prevented from undertaking work having such risks. ECSA does not see identification of work as a competition issue between registered and unregistered persons; rather the vital issue is the effectiveness of work, the mitigation of risk and the accountability of the persons doing the work.

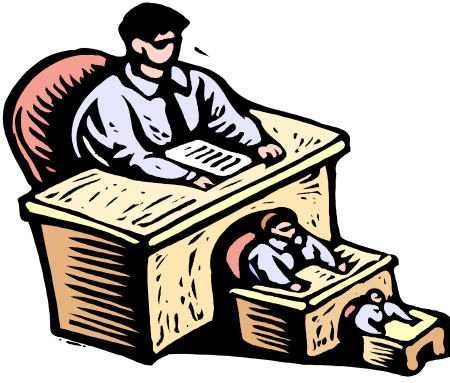
What is the process for identifying engineering work?

Two acts, the Engineering Profession Act (EPA) and the Council for the Built Environment (CBE) together define a process that is not without difficulty. ECSA must first define identified engineering work for all categories of registration and submit it to the CBE. Secondly, once the CBE has received the submissions from all six built environment councils, it must formulate its identification of work policy. The CBE is required to consult with the councils and with the Competition Commission. This step is not intended to seek permission from the Competition Commission; rather just consultation -- presumably to ensure that the CBE's mind is applied to competition issues?

No 3. Notice to All Members.

In the process of doing the accounts for 2011 all members who have not paid their annual fees for the past two years have been deleted from the database. The result is that some members have been written off as bad debts! Invoices were posted to all in April 2011. So far only 25% of members have paid this year! A list of members in good standing, with a file date, appears on the Web Sites. This list will be updated again soon.

Please ensure that you have paid your IPET Annual fee!



No 2 Continued. Identification of engineering work.

The final step is for the CBE to identify engineering work: this is the actual decision on engineering work that is identified. Finally, the Minister of Public Works must publish identified engineering work as a Regulation.

Why is Identification of Engineering Work Necessary?

The EPA prohibits persons who are not registered from performing identified engineering work. The reason for this measure is to protect the public by preventing persons who do not have the necessary competence and are not accountable from doing work that has safety, health and environmental risks. It is important to note that this measure is designed to deal with unregistered people in a judicial process.

This public protection measure is distinct from those that apply to registered persons. They must follow the Code of Conduct and, in particular, not undertake work for which they are not competent by virtue of their education training and experience. A mechanism is available to the public to lodge complaints about the conduct of anyone registered with ECSA. All complaints are investigated and if there is a case to answer a tribunal is held. A registered person who is found guilty is then subject to penalties which include being struck off the register.

How has ECSA approached the definition of identified engineering work?

We need to determine the baseline characteristics required to enable the evaluation of work of competence of registered persons in appropriate categories. There are two approaches to a definition. First, one can define the work from the bottom up, for example, specify all the tasks that all types of practitioners do in all possible contexts and at all possible levels of demand. Given the vastness of engineering, this would be a monumental task. We could never be confident that we have a complete definition and there will inevitably be gaps.

The next approach adopted by ECSA is to identify the baseline type of work through the competencies required to ensure that the work is performed both safely and effectively. The latter approach lends itself to a generic definition that can be applied in all engineering disciplines. The practice in jurisdictions that require registration for performing engineering work follows a generic approach.

How are the categories of registration handled?

ECSA has professional, candidate and specified categories of registration. The definition of identified engineering work covers the professional categories: Engineer, Engineering Technologist, Certificated Engineer and Engineering Technician. Candidates must not take responsibility for engineering work and must work under the supervision of a professional. It is therefore not necessary to have a special definition of identified work for candidates.

The specified categories, such as Lift Inspector, are established by the ECSA Council and their work is defined in the Government Gazette notice that established the category. Specified categories do not need further definition. Using generic competencies to identify engineering work allows work to be classified as requiring technician, technologist or engineer competencies. This is achieved through internationally benchmarked ways of defining the demands of engineering problem solving and the required underpinning knowledge for the categories.

Where are we in the process?

ECSA completed its identification of engineering work, in the form of a proposed Regulation, in August 2006. Ever since the CBE became active in 2008, there has been a regrettable difference of view on the nature and purpose of identification of engineering work. ECSA has followed the intent of the EPA, namely, to prohibit persons who are not competent and accountable from doing engineering work of a type that poses risks to the public interest.

The CBE has introduced other objectives that it expects to be simultaneously fulfilled. Identification of work must also guide persons who wish to procure engineering services by the professions describing the work in great detail. Linked to this, identification of engineering work must be done by discipline.

The CBE also wants the identification of work to demarcate the practice areas of registered persons by minutely defining what may and may not be done by persons in different categories and disciplines. The CBE Act unfortunately refers to scope of work while the other six acts require the type of work to be defined. The CBE promotes scope definitions, driven no doubt by the additional objective of guiding clients in procuring professional services.

ECSCA's position is that the additional objectives are not a legal requirement and cannot practically be fulfilled for the engineering profession within the same definition of identified work. Other objectives will be pursued by appropriate means, where justified.

ECSCA has been in a mediation process with the CBE. An agreement was signed in December 2009 in which the essential purpose of identification of engineering work was recognized as providing a type definition for engineering work that could be used to prevent unregistered persons from doing work that threatens the public interest. While de-emphasizing the other objectives, the agreement left the door open slightly. There may remain a difference of opinion when the CBE finally publishes its policy. Source ECSCA Website.

No 4. Engineering Council of South Africa Fees for 2011/2012.

Your attention is drawn to the fees below and particularly item 4 below.
This means as an ECSCA registered professional IPET member you receive a discount of some R950!
It certainly pays to belong IPET.

| Annual Fees (VAT included) Candidates (2) | | Professional & Registered Categories | |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Partial Exemption (4) | No Exemption | Partial Exemption (4) | No Exemption |
| R 654.00 | R 974.00 | R 1518.00 | R 2468.00 |

Council will grant discount of R50 for Candidates and R100 for Professionals if payment of annual fee is received before 30 June 2011. Amounts are VAT inclusive.

Notes:

- (1) Persons who have paid the Foreign Qualification fee will receive a 50% refund of the Foreign Qualification fee when applying for registration with ECSCA. The refund will be offset against the application fee.
- (2) Persons registered in the **Candidate** category for more than **six (6) years**, pay the same annual fees as persons registered in the Professional category.
- (3) The annual fee for **Retired Persons** (55-70 yrs) is **R160.00**, subject to approval. Persons over 70 are exempted.

(4) Partial exemption is granted to registered persons who are members of a Voluntary Association (VA) recognised by ECSCA. For more information about Recognised Voluntary Associations, view www.ecsa.co.za.

(5) The accepted **methods of payment** are either by cheque from a RSA bank, credit card (Visa or MasterCard only), EFT or deposit made at any Standard Bank branch into ECSCA's bank account. No cash will be accepted at ECSCA's Offices. **Banking details** : Standard Bank Eastgate Branch, Branch Code 018505, Account No. 221285938.

(6) Admin fee for re-instating registrations within a year of being cancelled due to defaulting on payments : R450.00.

(7) **Appeals**. When a person wishes to appeal, a fee equaling twice the current amount of the application fee category is payable, i.e. the appeal fee for an Applicant with uninterrupted registration as a Candidate would be R3,900 and for an Applicants not registered in any of the Candidate categories it would Be R7,800.

If you are an ECSCA registered member and you have not yet received an ECSCA Invoice please contact them direct and not us. It is up to you to ensure your ECSCA fees are paid promptly. Please note that if your IPET annual fee for 2011 has not been paid ECSCA may well disallow any ECSCA discount on their annual fee. So it pays to ensure that your IPET fee is paid.

ECSCA contact details are;

ECSCA
Private Bag X691
Bruma
2026

Tel 011 607 9500

Fax 011 622 9295

E mail engineer@ecsa.co.za

A banker is a person who lends you his umbrella when the sun is shining and wants it back the minute it rains.
Mark Twain.

No 5. Driven Machinery Regulations.

For those who may be affected or interested please see below.

No. 34186

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, 8 APRIL 2011

GOVERNMENT NOTICES GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
DEPARTEMENT VAN ARBEID**

No. R. 299

8 April 2011

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY, 1993

DRIVEN MACHINERY REGULATIONS, 2011

CORRECTION NOTICE

Government Notice No. 34052 published in the government gazette dated 4 March 2011 is hereby corrected as follows.

The Minister of Labour intends, in terms of section 43 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 on the recommendation of the Advisory Council for Occupational Health and Safety to repeal the Driven Machinery Regulations, 1988 and supersede it by wording in accordance with the schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations on the proposed regulations to the Director General, Department of Labour, Private Bag x 117, Pretoria, 0001 (for the attention of the Chief Inspector: Occupational Health and Safety), within 90 days of publication of this notice.



No 6. Is Our Mail in the Junk?

Please add the following addresses to your **SAFE SENDERS list**.

jjconsultancy@gmail.com
jameshellerjhb@gmail.com
206on8th@gmail.com
engineer@netactive.co.za

As the Internet becomes ever more invasive, computer savvy members and companies are using **SPAM FILTERS** to separate legitimate email from the hoard of promotional messages that invade the email **INBOX** every day. These filters are very smart and useful but sometimes are a little too smart for their own good. They can shift essential emails into your Junk mail folder and cut you off from critical and essential information.

So to ensure you receive our newsletters add us to your safe senders list!

Just because you get E-mails that are sent to you **INDIVIDUALLY** from us does not mean that you receive bulk E-mails.

Some Companies and Internet Service Providers block E-mails when they are addressed to more than a few people as they suspect that these E-mails are Spam.

Members who supplied E mail addresses which end in Spoornet, Transnet, Eskom and Gov (Government) are warned that our E News is often blocked as it is suspected of being Spam.

Although the worst cases are Eskom, Government, Spoornet and Transnet, Absa and Telkomsa.net also sometimes block our E-mails.

This unfortunately also applies to some other firms and consulting companies.

Members must sort this out with their IT people at work or their Internet supplier. Your own Computer settings also need to be checked and set especially if you have filters of any sort in your machine. It is not something we can do from our end!

Your co-operation in this will be beneficial to you and the Association.



No 7. Business unusual for SETAs

To help the country realise its target of having a skilled workforce, which will ultimately contribute to the creation of jobs, the Department of Higher Education and Training has extended the operation of all SETAs for the next five years, as from 1 April 2011.

The term of office of the Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs), certified in 2005, expired on 31 March 2010, but was extended by Higher Education and Training Minister Blade Nzimande to 31 March 2011.

The minister announced that for the next five-year term, all 21 SETAs will now function with improved standards of governance under new constitutions.

SETAs have in the past faced negative public perceptions around their challenges on financial management, administration and ability to deliver the required services.

The department said all that is about to change, with renewed focus and the agenda of skilling the nation taking higher precedence than before.

In order to strengthen the Sector Skills Plans, all SETAs will now have to ensure they understand their sector environment, and must develop plans specific to this to help them achieve their outcomes.

"The big change that was introduced was that there was no longer a one size fits all plan for all SETAs, but a customised needs-based plan. SETAs were also encouraged to ensure that they consult with sector experts as to the needs of the sector," said the department.

The department is now also required to ensure that the relevant government departments are consulted in the Sector Plans, and that the Human Resource Development Council is also involved in the process.

The Quality Council for Trades and Occupations has also been established to improve occupational qualifications, against which learnerships and apprenticeship programmes are developed.

To get the SETAs started on their new lifecycle, a model and standard SETA Constitution has been formulated as a best practice guideline to improve accountability and performance of SETA boards.

The SETAs have also been armed with new boards with independent chairpersons, a move the minister believes will make SETAs more efficient.

Among other steps to be taken by the department to make SETAs work better are:

- * reducing the size of boards
- * participation of the government and ministerial appointment to the SETA boards, in line with similar practices in other public entities
- * having a standard remuneration rate for board and committee members
- * holding accountable board members who do not carry out their duties as required
- * ensuring the members of the board and the management of a SETA do not participate in any tender processes where they may have an interest

Nzimande has thanked all outgoing SETA boards and chairpersons, especially in their role in holding the reins during the transition phase, and cooperating and engaging with the new phase.

Source – BuaNews -Compiled by the Government Communication and Information System Date: 05 Apr 2011

Ed;

The above has resulted in a court case and some interesting results may come out of the case and subsequent developments. The results so far are stalled progress in many directions!

Time is a great teacher, but unfortunately, it kills all of its pupils – Loius Berlioz (1803 – 69, French composer).

No 8. TV Top Gear in SA.



The recent Top Gear World Tour held at Kyalami in SA had lots of highlights, stars, stunts and cars. Jeremy Clarkson, James May and Richard Hammond had a full programme including the inevitable argument over which was the best super car. Over 3 laps of the circuit the winners were declared as;

1. James May's Ferrari 458.
2. Richard Hammond's Porsche 911.
3. Jeremy Clarkson's Mercedes SLS.

All sorts of racing took place and some of the stars attending included David Coulthard, the Stig, Jody Scheckter, Sir Stirling Moss, Derek Bell of Le Mans fame, and Eddie Jordan.

The engineering highlight of the show was probably the Nissan Micra in the first ever car bungee jump of approx 70m with a brave South African volunteer, Sasha Maritengo, in it. The car had been stripped of its engine, airbag and most unneeded items to make it lighter. Weighing around 620Kg with the "driver" it was fitted with a new seat and harness to hold Sasha firmly in place.

Equipped with a radio camera in the place of the normal rear view mirror the falling experience could be shared with viewers worldwide.

A 275t Liebherr LTM 1250-6.1 mobile crane from Johnson Crane Hire was used for its long boom. The car was hoisted onto a sloping ramp in a cradle. Experts from the UK bungee club installed five separate bungee cords in a tape 40 strands wide. One bungee club member Andy Riddle, had the task of going up with the car and cradle and at the correct time release it so the car would roll off the cradle. Two guy ropes pulled back the platform to eliminate swinging. As the car rolled off the cradle, the load is released from the crane only to be taken up again as the bungee starts to stretch. This non-static load caused some movement on the boom, which is however designed to move under load. At the working radius used the crane can support 14t, the actual static load was around 3t and the dynamic load added about another 1.5t so the total was never more than 5.5t all according to Peter Yaman, General Manager of Johnson Crane Hire.

The crane has a long boom of 72m features a 15.5 72 mm hydraulically operated telescopic boom with a maximum lifting capacity of 250t at 3m radius and a 108m maximum lifting height. It has six axles a top travel speed of 80km/h, two engines – an 8cylinder turbodiesel 450kWcarrier engine and an 180kW turbo diesel crane engine to drive the electronics and on board computer.

With the aid of the crane driver Ticky Mabaso and his two assistants the whole jump was successful. After the car bounced a few times it was carefully lowered to the ground.

Ed. Now we just have to wait how many months before we see it on TV Top Gear!



No 9 Snippets.

Electric roads?

An Israeli company has laid piezoelectric nanotubes under a tarmac road in Italy. These thin cylinders of carbon vibrate when traffic passes over them turning the tiny kinetic energy into electricity which can then be used to power road signs etc.

Glowing roads?

Shell has a patent for impregnating tarmac with phosphorescent material, which soaks up daylight and then slowly releases the stored energy over the next few hours. The resulting glow could then dimly light the road with road markings on dangerous sections like curves etc.

No smoke without fire.

Maldivian, Indian and Swedish researchers have analysed the thick brown fog that clouds the skies of Southeast Asia every winter. They knew that combustion of the biomass and fossil fuels were the root cause of this pollution, but nobody had managed to determine which of the two factors contributed the most. By using the radioactive carbon isotope, carbon 14, used more frequently by archaeologists to date their findings, they were able to get results. The carbon is very present in biomass and much less present in fossil fuels, which are formed over very long periods. The study concluded that the biomass, which is often burned by poor populations living in farming regions or other areas was responsible for two-thirds of the cloud formation. Fossil fuels accounted for the other third.

Source tema techniker Magazine3/2010

Ed. One wonders how much of SA pollution is caused by fires in the informal living camps?

No 10 Office Tel / Fax & E mail Faults.

We apologise to members who could not get through to us in February. The Telkom service was out of order from 09/02/2011 to 21/02/2011.

We currently still have a problem with E mail where from time to time the service is not functioning for most of the day. The faults have been reported.

Ed. We may soon consider using carrier pigeons!



No 11. The Joke Column.

Warning / Disclaimer.

Sensitive readers are warned that the following may erroneously be taken to contain sex, violence, strong language, gender, race, ethics etc. Readers are warned not to read or have any of the following read to them. Recommended readers age is limited to 120 and 121 years of age. A further requirement is you must have a sense of humour.

Warning / Disclaimer.

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Two old guys talking.

One said to the other: "My 71st birthday yesterday. Wife gave me an SUV".

Other guy: "Wow, that's amazing! Imagine, an SUV! What a great gift!"

First guy: "Yup. Socks, Underwear and Viagra!"

'Government is like a baby: An alimentary canal with a big appetite at one end and no sense of responsibility at the other.'

Ronald Reagan

'Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it'

- Ronald Reagan

Venezuelan President **Hugo Chavez** said capitalism and imperialism may have caused the downfall of civilisation on Mars. No other experts on extraterrestrial life willing to comment on the theory could immediately be found.

- Wall Street Journal

Nog Enetjie?

Rum en ys beskuldig jou lewer

vodka en ys beskuldig jou pancreas

brandewyn en ys beskuldig jou brein

cane en ys beskuldig jou sig

wyn en ys beskuldig jou stappie

whiskey en ys beskuldig jou beursie

gin en ys beskuldig jou reputasie

dit lyk vir my,

YS IS BLERRIE GEVAARLIK!

**POLITICIAN: *One who shakes your hand before elections
And your confidence later.*



No 12. Small Adverts - Policy.

IPET is prepared to place very small text only adverts in the Newsletter if they are deemed to be of direct interest and value to members. The Editor and Executive's decision on any particular advert is final. The adverts may not exceed 100 words and are, for the time being, free. Adverts that just advertise companies and / or their products are excluded from this offer. Other adverts, for which payment will be required, may be entertained in the future.

As our country is experiencing a difficult economic and financial crisis your organisation is trying to assist members where practical. Those seeking permanent positions in industry or younger persons who need experiential training in order to complete their degree or diploma may advertise their requirements with their contact details in a mini advert which will be included in the regular E Newsletter. As we also have requests from ECSA "Candidates" for Mentors, this request will also be covered in a mini advert. This is a free service to members.

No 13. Adverts.



ECSA Looking for Volunteers for Committees.

The registration committees at ECSA require suitable registered persons to assist on the following committees:

Professional Engineering Technologist
Professional Engineering Technician
Registered Lifting Equipment Inspector.

To improve the representivity of registered persons

Females and especially non-white volunteers are sought. This does not mean that white volunteers will not be accepted.

The disciplines required include but are not limited to, Civil, Electrical (Heavy Current), Mechanical, Chemical, Mining, Instrumentation etc.

The work involved requires some homework and attendance of some 11 working group meetings a year.

Reasonable travel expenses etc may be paid.

Here is a chance to influence policy, decisions and to give something back to your profession!

Interested persons please send your name, registration number, discipline details and contact details to our office.

The association nominates the volunteers to ECSA for the committees and vacancies.

Our contact details are on the letterhead above.

No 14. Publication Policy.

Our policy is to be informative but not to compete with Newspapers or Engineering Journals. We try to give a selective rational overview of the engineering scene relative to our members. We endeavour to cover matters of importance that might not make it into the general press. While we publish regularly, we may not always have the latest scandal!

Articles/ Letters to the Editor.

We encourage members to submit articles or letters to the Editor for publication.

Articles and pictures submitted should be non-commercial in their content and intent, and relevant to the scope and target audience of the association, namely the engineering and science field. This includes all disciplines from Electrical, Mechanical, Civil, Telecommunication, IT, Computers, Lifting Equipment etc.

Appropriate subject matter comprises:

Awards, achievements and good news

Open industry events

Failures, disasters and bad news

Dangers to workers and the public

Poor maintenance

Public and occupational health and safety

Non-compliance with compulsory or safety standards

Environmental non-compliances

Consumer and quality issues

Unfair business practices

Corruption and fraud

Exposé's and whistle-blowing

Views, comment and opinion

In general articles / letters submitted to us anonymously will not be considered. However it is recognised that in some cases there may be good reason why the confidentiality of the author(s) should be maintained. In such cases, such good reason must be provided

The Editor reserves the right to shorten and edit letters / articles or reject them for publication where he deems it fit to do so.

What do you think of this newsletter?

If you have any comments or suggestions on how we can improve this newsletter, please email us at

engineer@netactive.co.za

Criticism is easy, creativity is harder. Jon Foster-Pedley



Teamwork!

No 15. Faulty E-mails.

The following members' E News deliveries do not work.

This is due to changed addresses, blocked, rejected, etc, etc.

Members are requested to check, change limits & advise us please.

| Members Number | Members Name | Initials |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 2985 | Naidoo | DP |
| 2603 | Bartens | H |
| 2855 | Boshoff | J |
| 2460 | Krige | JG |
| 2892 | Swarts | JH |
| 2792 | Trowbridge | KA |
| 2226 | Botha | LP |
| 3002 | Abbot | MW |
| 2131 | Jooste | PJ |
| 3194 | Myhombeni | RD |
| 3200 | Sibiva | PM |
| 2051 | Stocken | RW |
| 1305 | Kemm | A |

In general E News to E mail at aurecongroup.com are blocked!

We Also Have Membership Certificates that have been returned Unclaimed Or Unknown.

JJ Daly
GT Mathebula
DW Schwenke
K V Mabesa
MJ Leotlela
SA Strauss
J Van Niekerk
M Shongwe
A Nandlal
M Tshioli

No 16. Unsubscribe.

As a member of IPET you should want to receive the E News. If however you do not want to receive the IPET E News as an E Mail then you have the option to unsubscribe.

To unsubscribe send an email with ""IPET unsubscribe"" in the text to engineer@netactive.co.za

Number 17.**E. & O. E.**

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No 18. DISCLAIMER

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