NEWS FROM THE **PIPELINE**

MAY 2021

The official newsletter of the Southern African Plastic Pipe Manufacturers Association (SAPPMA)

FROM THE CEO'S DESK

One of the worst dangers in life is stagnation. It can be likened to a stream of water that stops flowing and losing its freshness.

At SAPPMA, we strive to avoid stagnation and are intent on innovation and continuous improvement. It is not always easy and of course it creates work, but it remains our philosophy, because we do it for the benefit of the plastic pipe market in general and our members in particular.

Right now, we are in the process of refreshing a whole number of relevant aspects, which include the following:

- Formation of standing technical committees
- Improving SAPPMA/IFPA interface
- Amending Code of Conduct
- Improving the website, yet again
- Establishing a useful points system for self-evaluation (manufacturers)
- Renewed promotion of SAPPMA to consulting engineers (via CESA)
- Updating Prospectus

We encourage members to give us your comments and suggestions to help us improve. We furthermore appeal for increased participation, particularly with the standing committees or work-groups. Remember, it is all done for your benefit.

I conclude with one of the 'Irish blessings':

Always remember to forget The troubles that passed away But never forget to remember The blessings that come each day.

Until next time, happy reading!

Jan Venter

SAPPMA southern african plastic pipe manufacturers association

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

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AND MUCH MORE!

Disclaimer:

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT SAPPMA'S CODE OF CONDUCT

SAPPMA is an association of leading companies in the plastics piping business, with the purpose of facilitating high standards of ethics, product quality and technical information. It is SAPPMA's mission to create absolute customer confidence in the South African plastics pipe industry, thereby ensuring long term sustainability and dynamic growth in this allimportant industry.

All of our actions and activities are regulated by our Code of Conduct. But do you know exactly what this is Code of Conduct and why it is important?



What is a Code of Conduct?

A company or association's Code of Conduct becomes the most important part of its "ethical framework". It can be best explained as a rule book or guide that contains all do's and don'ts from a legal as well as ethical point of view. It therefore acts as a check list on what companies as well as employees can and must enter into. The main purpose of a Code of Conduct is to provide a detailed description of the legal and ethical behaviour expected from the company, association, and it's members or employees.

Why is a Code of Conduct important?

There are numerous advantages to having a Code of Conduct, including the following:

- It enhances the company's core values, beliefs and sets the right culture
- Gives a vision and a mission to the company
- Builds a reputation of the company in the market
- Keeps the company and its employee's from violating laws and regulations
- Fosters an environment of trust and ethical behavior

A business code of conduct should never be thought of as a burden to the company. In fact, it is the ground on which the company sets its foundation. The better the Code of Conduct and its implementation, the better the company will perform in the market. This rule book also keeps the business on track as it is directly linked to their decision making skills.

A Code of Conduct should be seen as a central guide and reference for employees or members which helps them with their day-to-day decision making. It encourages discussions of ethics and compliance and empowers employees or members to handle ethical dilemmas they encounter in everyday work.

A well-written Code of Conduct clarifies an organization's mission, values and principles, linking them with standards of professional conduct. It articulates the values the organization wishes to foster in leaders and employees / members and, in doing so, defines desired behavior. As a result, written Codes of Conduct or ethics can become benchmarks against which individual and organizational performance can be measured.

SAPPMA'S CODE OF CONDUCT (cont.)

The members of SAPPMA agree to bind themselves to its Code of Conduct, the Memorandum of Incorporation and the production and marketing of highest quality products.

The objectives of SAPPMA's Code of Conduct:

- To ensure members only produce and market top quality products, fully compliant to all relevant standards and specifications
- To promote and ensure ethical business activities in all areas of operation
- To differentiate between quality producers and others



- Being listed under the ISO 9001:2015 scheme, or at least pass a special SAPPMA systems audit. In any event should members work to achieve ISO 9001
- Complying with all requirements of relevant national product standards that are recognized by the Association
- Complying with all internal standards and requirements in addition to the above, which might be introduced after consulting at Technical Committee level
- Not supplying counterfeit products and paying due regard to trade mark, copyright, patent ownership and all other intellectual property rights
- Maintaining the highest ethical standards and refraining from negative marketing, misleading advertising or the spreading of rumours about competitors or their products
- Complying with all national and local laws and regulations, including environmental laws or regulations
- Refraining from any form of corruption with customers, suppliers, competitors, legal authorities and any other persons
- Refraining from any anti-competitive behavior, including the fixing of prices or other trading conditions, the division of markets through the allocation of customers, suppliers, territories or types of goods, or collusive tendering
- Maintaining the highest ethical standards in all areas of operation
- Allowing all SAPPMA factory audits, whether announced or unannounced, including sampling and testing of products
- Bringing to the attention of SAPPMA any suspected quality encountered in the market, who will then have supplied samples tested independently.
- Paying the prescribed membership fees within the stipulated or agreed period, failing which action might be taken in terms of clause

Any complaint that a SAPPMA member is in breach of this Code of Conduct shall be reported to the SAPPMA CEO for investigation. Non-compliance with this Code of Conduct may lead to expulsion from SAPPMA. If SAPPMA has information indicating the possibility of a member not complying with the Code of Conduct, SAPPMA shall be entitled in its sole and absolute discretion to take disciplinary action at such member. For more information about SAPPMA's Code of Conduct and disciplinary steps taken against non-compliant members, please visit the About Us page on www.sappma.co.za.



SAPPMA AND IFPA RESTRUCTURE COMBINED MEMBER MEETINGS COMBINED MEMBER MEETINGS

As part of its on-going efforts to improve its overall efficiency and effectiveness, a decision was recently taken by the Executive Board of Directors to restructure certain aspects of the SAPPMA/IFPA interface.

SAPPMA was launched in 2004 and IFPA (evolving from TWISA and initially called SAPPFIA) in 2007 as part of SAPPMA, in order to cover the whole value chain of the plastics pipe industry. Even though we have tried to handle the two entities separately, SAPPMA and IFPA have always in effect been one organisation, with one Memorandum of Incorporation, one set of financials and one Board of Directors.



"In the past, we used to host a SAPPMA Technical Committee (TC) meeting and a separate IFPA meeting. In future, we will now have one combined "Members Meeting" which will offer a forum and a platform where issues of general interest will be discussed. Members of SAPPMA and IFPA can also table specific topics for investigation and clarification at this single, combined meeting," explains Jan Venter, Chief Executive Officer of SAPPMA.

New standing committees formed

In order to delegate and share the volume of work, specialist working groups will from now on be formed and tasked with the responsibility of executing the decisions that were taken at the meeting in order to report back at the main meeting. Three standing committees have been formed, namely:

- HDPE committee headed by George Diliyannis
- PVC committee headed by Renier Snyman
- IFPA committee headed by Renier Pieterse

Jan highlights that whilst the new structure means less time will be spent on meetings, it also creates the opportunity for a more homogenous and harmonised decision-making.

"The reality is that SAPPMA decisions and initiatives ultimate also influence IFPA and vice versa. This also means, however, that we are going to need all members to participate in the meetings and step up by making themselves available to serve on working groups. This is the best way for members to influence decisions that have a direct impact on their businesses," he says.

There will be four Member Meetings per year. Mike Smart has requested to be released from his responsibilities at IFPA, but will continue to participate in the activities of the Association. Jan Venter has thanked Mike for his hard work and commitment during his tenure as IFPA Chairman and has welcomed Renier Pieterse of Barona who will be taking over from Mike as the IFPA Coordinator/ Facilitator.

SAPPMA RELEASES NEW LIST OF AUDIT REQUIREMENTS



- A quality management system / ISO 9001 and up to date Works Instructions to be in place.
- Copies of the relevant standards available in production and/or QC.
- Adequate Production Planning with clear Works Orders.
- Raw Material Storage and Control segregation to prevent accidental usage and / or contamination.
- Certificate of Compliance and Certificate of Analysis to be obtained and validated prior to being filed for all raw materials and a validated procurement process needs to be implemented.
- HDPE material (SANS 4427) to be pre-compounded (No natural material and in-house batching) / Pre-mix Control of PVC material – verification, formulation, works instructions, marking, handling and storage.
- Reworked Material Control to prevent contamination and use of 3rd party material is prohibited.
- Reworking preferably on site with auditing of external recyclers to ensure compliance to SAPPMA requirements.
- Usage of Reworked Material in line with SAPPMA / SANS requirements.
- Mass Balance to be kept.
- Certified material / material from recognised suppliers

 raw materials, rubbers, etc. No prohibited items –
 Lead based stabilisers, 3rd party reworked, etc.
- Die Store controls and procedures to be in place to ensure consistency of product (minimise lines, etc.) and prevent theft of tooling.
- Annual maintenance of machines and equipment extruders, mixers, dryers, etc.

In accordance with SAPPMA's Code of Conduct and relevant South African National Standards, the following revised list of requirements for manufacturing members has recently been released which need to be in place during audits. Members will be subject to announced and unannounced audits. These are not punitive, but aims to assist members in reducing, or eliminating, non-conformances and achieving improvements.

- Machine conditions to be checked regularly to minimise water and hydraulic leaks, ensure safety, etc.
- Extrusion Control production records complete, in line with Specific Permit Conditions and properly filed.
- Correct material to extruders and recording of relevant batch numbers.
- Visual Standards to be available to show acceptable standards of workmanship, pipe ends, etc.
- In-Line Tests (workmanship, colour, dimensions, etc.) in line with Specific Permit Conditions and filing of records.
- Product Marking comply with standard and not influence quality of product.
- Product Marking Durable.
- Handling of products forklift / handling damage.
- All pipes to be properly ended and socket dimensions to comply with standards.
- Adequate laboratory equipment up to date calibration / verification file.
- Laboratory operator skills.
- Tests and frequency to comply with Specific Permit Conditions of certification body Test matrix.
- Laboratory Records filing and failures.
- Proven traceability of products
- A "Non-conformance File" shall be implemented and maintained.
- Storage of Pipe and Fittings stacking heights, UV damage, etc.
- General housekeeping.
- Participation in SAPPMA meetings and working groups.

Please note these are the current SAPPMA minimum audit requirements. End-users may have more stringent requirements that will take precedence. This document will be revised as necessary to conform to standard revisions, procedures and audit findings to ensure the longevity of our members' businesses.

SAPPMA QUALITY WORKSHOPS CONTINUE TO ADDRESS KEY ISSUES

SAPPMA continues to address key issues that relate to thermoplastic pipe systems and installations with the hosting of regular Quality Workshops. Each month, these free-to-attend information sessions attract a great number of delegates, which include end-users, specifiers, consulting engineers, suppliers, certification bodies, testing houses, SAPPMA members, students, industry experts and the media.

Apart from focusing on product standards and long-term quality, SAPPMA also fulfills an indispensable need for technical marketing and problem solving within its own membership and throughout the industry.

This is done by providing reliable and objective design information to the market by way of consultations, conferences and technical literature. According to Ian Venter, SAPPMA's Technical Manager, it is clear that these virtual quality workshops address a major need for updated technical and practical information. Moreover, delegates are eager to offer topic suggestions for future webinars, as they know where the skills gaps exist and where the difficulties lie.

"SAPPMA members and non-members alike are given the opportunity to be trained on aspects that are important to ensure long lasting effective pipe systems, thereby minimizing costly failures. Our March workshop was entitled *Jointing the dots: PE Pipes & Fitting*, related to effective jointing and welding, and our April webinar focused on *Buried Thermoplastic Pipe Behaviour*. Both these subjects play a significant role in ensuring that pipe systems perform to design assumptions and specifications as well as meet client expectations.

> SAPPMA invites you to its 2nd Webinar for 2021 DATE: 24 March 2021 TIME: 9:00 to 10:30 (Registration from 8:45) PLATFORM: ZOOM

'Jointing the dots' PE Pipes and Fittings

Ian Venter, SAPPMA's Technical Manager, will touch on various jointing methods, standards, welding processes and procedures. He will take a closer look at the importance of understanding the various jointing standards and procedures have been validated prior to commencement of site jointing. Reference will be made to actual case studies and field events.



Buried Thermoplastic Pipe Behaviour

This webinar will be presented by lan Venter, Technical Manager at SAPPMA. He will share a video clip on the design of buried thermoplastic pipes and will take a closer look at pipe soil interaction. Some international Standards will be referenced, which will assist with the understanding of this important subject.

This event is free of charge To register, click on link below or send an e-mail to admin@sappma.co.za You will receive the Zoom link upon registration.



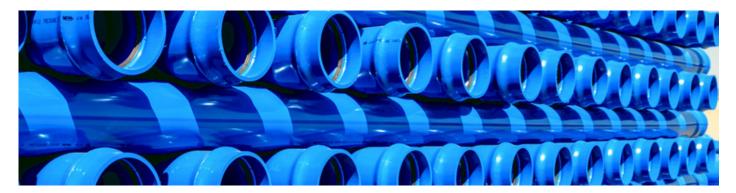
However, substantial changes and improvements to standards and design approaches have taken place during the last two decades which need to be clearly communicated and understood," Venter said.

"It is important for us to pitch the contents of the quality workshops at the correct level and to offer a practical approach to complex issues. It is exciting to see the great level of interaction that exists between the delegates and presenters, despite the fact that it is an online session. It is this interaction and lively discussions that help to improve the industry's understanding of thermoplastic pipe systems and ensure the industry's sustainability as a whole," he stressed.

Another benefit of hosting a virtual event is that it allow a wider geographic attendance and have the possibility for the selection of local and international experts to present and share their expertise.

For more information about SAPPMA's Quality Workshops, please email Admin@sappma.co.za. Previous event presentations, workshops and webinars are available for download on the SAPPMA website, www.sappma.co.za.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CORRECT HANDLING, STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION OF PLASTIC PIPES



SAPPPMA members go to great lengths to ensure that their products are manufactured according to strict international quality standards. SANS, ISO and SABS have high standards and strict criteria that need to be met to ensure customer satisfaction. Seeing the SAPPMA logo on these pipes give end-users the peace of mind that these pipes will not fail once installed.

But what about the way in which these pipes are stored, handled and transported once they leave the factory floor, or the distribution warehouse? What standards and best practice models should be followed to ensure that these valuable pieces of infrastructure are not damaged en route to their final rest place?

SAPPMA CEO Jan Venter confirms that as much care should go into planning the safe and responsible transportation, storage and handling of plastic pipes as has gone into the manufacturing process.

"The supply of safe and reliable pipes involves the entire supply chain – starting with the raw material suppliers on the one side and ending with installers at the final stage. In-between, transportation and logistics are two very important steps that help drive members' businesses and ensure a seamless service to customers and endusers," Venter explains.

Plastic pipes are durable despite their lightness. Although this makes handling the pipes much easier, it could also potentially mean that they are likely to be mistreated. According to Venter, there are certain reasonable precautions that should be taken during handling and storage to ensure that the pipes are not damaged. These include:

Storage

- Storing plastic pipes in direct sunlight should be restricted to a period of 6 months from their manufacture. Ensure that rubber seals are not exposed to direct sunlight for this period.
- Pipes in storage must be adequately supported at all times. Racks should provide designed support and contact between pipes and sharp edges, burrs, and corners on metal racks should be avoided.
- Flanged pipes must not be stacked in large piles, especially under warm conditions: the lower pipes in the stack may become distorted with consequent difficulty in jointing.
- Socketed pipes (if stacked in layers), should have the sockets placed alternatively at opposite ends of the stack. The ends of pipes should be made safe from damage.
- Pipes of different diameters should not be nested, one inside the other, when stacked.

Supporting

- Lateral supports should be installed at maximum intervals of 1,5 m. These supports should preferably consist of posts at least 50 mm wide. If the pipes are in bundles of approximately 1m × 1m, the lateral supports should be spaced at greater distances of up to 3 m.
- Plastic pipes should be supported evenly over their whole length. If this is not possible, they should be carried on wooden supports of at least 50 mm usable width, the axes of which are at most 1,5 m apart.

HANDLING, STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION OF PLASTIC PIPES (cont)

Stacking

- Pipes of different diameters and different thicknesses should ideally be stacked separately. If this is not possible, the largest and thickest pipes should be placed at the bottom.
- Pipes should be stacked on a reasonably flat surface, free from sharp objects, stones or projections likely to deform or damage them.
- Ensure the stacked piles are in a location where it would not be possible for dirt to get into the pipes. Do not place the pipes in contact with pipes used for fuel, solvents or paints.
- Ensure that the piles are not constructed to such a height where the pipes might be deformed.
- When stacking socket-end-spigot-end pipes, the sockets shall be alternated within the pile and shall project sufficiently for the pipes to be correctly supported along their whole length.
- Make sure all health and safety procedure guidelines are followed. Wind may blow over too high stacks in some areas.

Handling

- When handling the pipes, care should be taken not to damage the surface. This is especially important if the ends have been treated, for example, for spigot and socket joints.
- Pipes should not be dropped onto a hard surface or dragged along the ground.
- Pipes should be loaded and unloaded carefully by hand. If handling equipment is used, make sure that it is used in such a way that it does not cause damage the pipes.
- The impact resistance of PVC is reduced in cold weather and more care needs to be taken in handling during winter. If the temperature falls below -5°C, special instructions should be requested from the manufacturer.
- Avoid direct contact with metal pipes, slings, hooks or chains as this could damage the plastic pipes.



Transportation

- When transporting pipes, flat bed vehicles should be used. Ensure that the bed is free from nails and other protuberances and that the pipes rest uniformly on the vehicle over their whole length.
- The vehicle should have side supports appropriately spaced (approximately 2 m apart) and the pipes must be secured effectively during transportation. For pipes in bundles of approximately 1m × 1m, the space of the side supports can be increased to 2,5 m to 3 m.
- When loading socket-end and spigot-end pipes, the pipes should be stacked so that the sockets do not take any load.
- When loading the pipes onto the vehicle, ensure that the overhang does not exceed 1m.
- Thicker walled pipes should be loaded before the thinner walled pipes.
- Where the pipes have been "telescoped" for transportation, remove the inner pipes first and stacked them separately.
- Once the pipes are delivered, it is important for the purchaser to carefully inspect the pipes at the place of delivery. The markings of the pipes should be checked to ensure that they correspond to the specifications of the order, and all seal rings are properly in place.

"Plastic pipes should be synonymous with reliability and trust. Whilst SAPPMA regularly conducts audits to confirm the raw

materials that have gone into the pipes and that quality processes were followed during manufacturing, it is important that this same attention to detail and care is extended to the handling and transportation of these pipes. The latter should be reliable as the pipes that our members manufacture".

AFRICA'S NEW FREE TRADE AGREEMENT: Huge opportunities, but much work still needs to be done



The Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement came into effect on 1 January 2021. A total of 54 of Africa's 55 countries have agreed, in principle, to participate in the agreement, and 41 have submitted their tariff offers.

To date, only 34 countries have officially signed the Africa Continental Free Trade Area Agreement, and only four have ratified it. In principle, a total of 15 countries need to ratify the agreement in order to enable its full enforcement on the continent. If successfully implemented, this will be the largest free trade area agreement in the world.

The opportunities that AfCFTA presents for all African countries, particularly after the devastating impact of Covid-19 on trade in most regions, should not be underestimated.

The proportion of trade in Europe that takes place intracontinentally is around 60 %. In contrast, Africa's intracontinental trade currently sits around the 17 % mark. The United Nations has predicted that, on the back of the successful implementation of AfCFTA, that figure could rise to as much as 53 %.

When you consider that the value of trade between SADC countries alone is currently around \$35 billion, the potential for this fare larger free trade area agreement to comprehensively transform trade in Africa is clear – and it could easily be worth trillions of dollars.

The resulting surplus currency will deliver positive knock-on benefits for all Africans, effectively enabling some 1.3 billion people to become more integrally involved in moving Africa along its much-needed sustainable growth path.

Importantly, the value of such intra-continental trade extends far beyond the buying and selling of goods. An effective AfCFTA agreement will also drive significant transfer of knowledge, skills and expertise across the continent. Vital manufacturing and beneficiation capability, and activity, could increase massively and the transport sector should get a significant shot in the arm as well.

What's more, such increased trade between countries in Africa will almost certainly create more efficient value chains, have a stabilizing effect on the price volatility that has thus far characterized much of Africa's trade activity, and build a far more competitive environment overall.

>> continue>>

Africa's new free trade agreement (cont.)

Benefit to SMME's

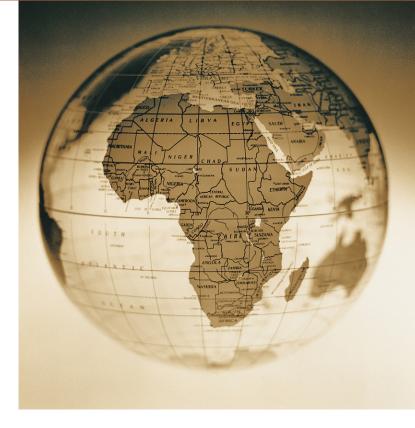
The free trade agreement should also have significantly positive consequences for SMMEs throughout Africa, in that it will help to create a solid platform for smaller businesses to participate in, and benefit from, heightened intra-continental trade.

Of course, the full implementation of AfCFTA is likely to take many years and will require the full buy-in and support of businesses and governments across Africa.

Key components to guarantee success

There are a number of key components that need to fall into place in order to create the momentum needed to successfully implement the free trade area in the coming years.

- For the overall theme of one, industrialisation required to realise many of the potential benefits will only happen if all African countries work together, as a united front on the continent, in order to raise standards and create new manufacturing industries.
- The commitment of all participating countries to stay true to the agreement is also crucial. This is a very real risk given that reducing tariffs has the effect of also lowering earnings.
- And while higher levels of internal trade and increased taxes should offset this, the ability of individual governments to balance these revenue streams, rather than giving into the temptation of increasing import tariffs or looking for other external revenue streams is key to the sustainable success of AfCFTA as a whole.
- intensive focus on large-scale. An continent-wide digitisation is another key success factor. Integrated digital trade platforms are non-negotiable, as are tariff digitized customs codes and technologically advanced customs, excise and border control systems. Clogged border posts due to archaic systems and processes will be a recipe for disaster.



Attracting Foreign Direct Investment

Another fundamental success requirement is the ability of African countries to leverage AfCFTA to continue attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Intra continental trade is not a silver bullet solution to Africa's economic challenges. FDI is still an essential cornerstone of sustainable economic development. Countries on the continent will therefore need to urgently address any hindrances to such foreign investment and do their utmost to create a more investor-friendly environment.

While, as mentioned, the overall bedding down of such an agreement will take years, it certainly need not take that long for the benefits to flow through to participating countries. Growth in trade, skills, learning and efficiencies can, and should, begin to be seen in a relatively short space of time.

And with a shared vision, honest and transparent leadership and effective collaboration, AfCFTA has the potential to be a turning point for Africa that could see it transformed into the global economic powerhouse we all know it can be.

May 2021

Proplastics commissions automated mixing plant



Proplastics in Zimbabwe successfully commissioned its state-of-the-art automated mixing plant at its Harare manufacturing facilities in December 2020.

The automated mixing plant is housed in the new factory complex spanning over 5,300 square meters of PVC and HDPE pipe manufacturing factories. The mixing plant has a consolidated capacity of 1000 tons of raw materials storage at any given time, with the ability to mix over 100 tons of compounds per day. The plant automatically draws recipe portions from the storage silos to the hot and cold mixers, and transfers to secondary storage before issuing the compounds to all the production lines for final processing.

The state-of-the-art mixing facility is an engineering marvel of Proplastics Limited. In partnership with European experts on material handling, Penta S.r.l., this modern engineering ingenious is based on "Industry 4.0 Smart Manufacturing" approach and is one of its own kind in Africa with capital outlay in excess of USD 1.5 million dollars.

Our Borehole Casings are a good investment that will last generations.





INKULU PLASTICS AWARDED ISO CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to Inkulu Plastics on being awarded with the ISO certificates for the following categories: ISO 14001 Environmental ISO 45001 Health and Safety ISO 9001 Management System



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ISO 14001 - Environmental is an internationally agreed standard that sets out the requirements for an environmental management system. It helps organizations improve their environmental performance through more efficient use of resources and reduction of waste, gaining a competitive advantage and the trust of stakeholders.

ISO 45001- Health and Safety is a worldwide accepted Standard which outlines Good Practice requirements for the development and management of an organisation's Occupational Health & Safety Management System.

ISO 9001 – Quality Management Systems

ISO 9001 is the ultimate global benchmark for quality management and a critical tool for boosting a company's success, profitability and market potential.





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IMESA

The value and role of plastic pipe in infrastructure

WEBINAR INVITE SAPPMA southern african plastic pipe manufacturers association

Date: 13 May 2021 | Time: 10:00





Jan Venter CEO, SAPPMA Overview of the SA plastics pipe industry and the role of SAPPMA



Zoran Davidovski Head of R&D and Sustainabilty at Pipelife International Sewer installation time – comparing PVC with concrete



Willem Wegelin WRP Consulting Engineers (Pty) Ltd An introduction to leak detection on plastic pipelines



Alastair Currie Editor, IMIESA Moderator

SAPPMA is excited to partner with 3S Media, the publishers of the very popular IMIESA magazine, who will be hosting a digital webinar on their interactive platform. Join SAPPMA CEO Jan Venter as well as Zoran Davidovski and Willem Wegelin on their panel discussion about the value and role of pipe infrastructure. Editor Alastair Currie will be the moderator. (** Please remember to invite your contacts and customers)

To register please visit: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1923288143834086923

PPXX CONFERENCE GETS GREEN LIGHT TO GO AHEAD 6-8 September 2021

The PPCA Board of Directors met recently and confirmed the decision to move forward with PPXX on September 6-8, 2021 at the Hotel Okura in Amsterdam. There is sufficient interest from sponsors, exhibitors, speakers, and registrants to warrant holding the conference in person following the postponement of last year's conference.

Country and hotel guidelines for social distancing and other COVID-19 guidelines are under development and will be communicated in the coming months for those attending the conference. Speakers not able to attend in person, due to specific travel restrictions or company policies, will be offered alternative options.

Also, the PPCA Board of Directors launched "Conference Partners". This significant new initiative acknowledges the valued efforts of plastic pipe trade associations already actively involved with our conferences. We are pleased to announce and recognize the following organizations for their support as ambassadors for the PPCA conferences in encouraging the submission of papers, participation on the organizing committees and for those that have hosted spin-off conferences.

Conference Partners:

- China Plastics Piping Association (CPPA)
- European Council of Vinyl Manufacturers (ECVM)
- Plastics Industry Pipe Association (PIPA)
- PVC Pipe Association (PVCPA)
- Southern African Plastic Pipe Manufacturers Association (SAPPMA)

The Technical Program will be posted to the PPCA site in the coming weeks so please check the PPXX website for future updates. We look forward to hosting this exciting technical conference.



Plastics SA (Plastics Federation of South Africa)

Gauteng Thermoplastic Welding Programmes - 2021

NB: Prices for 2021 are per learner and exclude VAT; Dates are subject to change

*Member companies that belong to one of the Plastics|SA Associations (see below) enjoy a 5% discount

Thermoplastic Welding Programmes - Contact: Renée on Tel. +27 11 653 4797, E-mail: renee.mclean@plasticssa.co.za

Thermoplastic Welding NQF Level 2 (24215)

Learning Programme	Days	Credits	*Member Company	Non- member Company	Contact Person	Dates
Geomembrane Lining / Overlap Welding (includes Heated Wedge Overlap, Hot Air Overlap and Hot Air Extrusion Overlap Welding)	5	23	R9,616	R10,122	Renée	02-06 Aug
Butt, Hot Air, Hot Air Extrusion, Electro-fusion, Socket, Solvent Welding	Days	Credits	*Member Company	Non- member Company		Dates
						22-26 Feb
One Process, for example, butt welding	3	13	R5,745	R6,047		01-05 Mar
						29-31 Mar (Butt)
Two Processes, e.g., butt and electro-fusion welding	4	18	R7,678	R8,082	Renée	03-07 May
Three Processes, e.g., butt, hot air, hot air extrusion welding	5	23	R9,616	R10,122		31 May-04 Jun 28 Jul-02 Jul 02-06 Aug
See below for renewal of welding certificates						30 Aug-03 Sep 27 Sep-01 Oct 25-29 Oct 22-26 Nov
Renewal of certificates	Dura- tion	One Process	Two Processes	Three Processes	Member Company	Dates
Welding certificate renewal - One day refresher + Test Piece/s	1 day	R1,445	R1,767	R 2,089.00	5% discount on these prices	27 Jan; 24 Feb; 24 Mar; 14 Apr; 27 May; 10, 24 Jun; 22 Jul; 19, 25 Aug; 09 Sep; 20 Oct; 03, 24 Nov

Thermoplastic Fabrication NQF Level 4 (24218)

Learning Programme	Days	Credits	*Member Company	Non- member Company	Contact Person	Dates
Maintain the Quality of Thermoplastic Welded Products	2	24	R3,439	R3,620	Renée	19-20 Jan; 07-08 Jun

Thermoplastic Welding Inspection Course (Non-NQF)

Learning Programme	Days	Credits	*Member Company	Non- member Company	Contact Person	Dates
Thermoplastic Welding Inspection	4	0	R6,878	R 7,240	Renée	17-20 May; 04-07 Oct

Plastics|SA Associations (*Member Companies):

*ARMSA, EPSASA, IFPA, MLPF, PETCO, PSPC, PCA, POLYCO, SAFRIPOL, SAMPLAS, SAPPMA, SAPRO, SASOL POLYMERS, SAVA

Other services offered by Plastics\SA: Pre-assessments, assessments, recognition of prior learning, learnerships, as well as in-house training of the above learning programmes (provided a minimum number of learners per session is available), etc.

Please contact us for further information and detailed proposals.



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