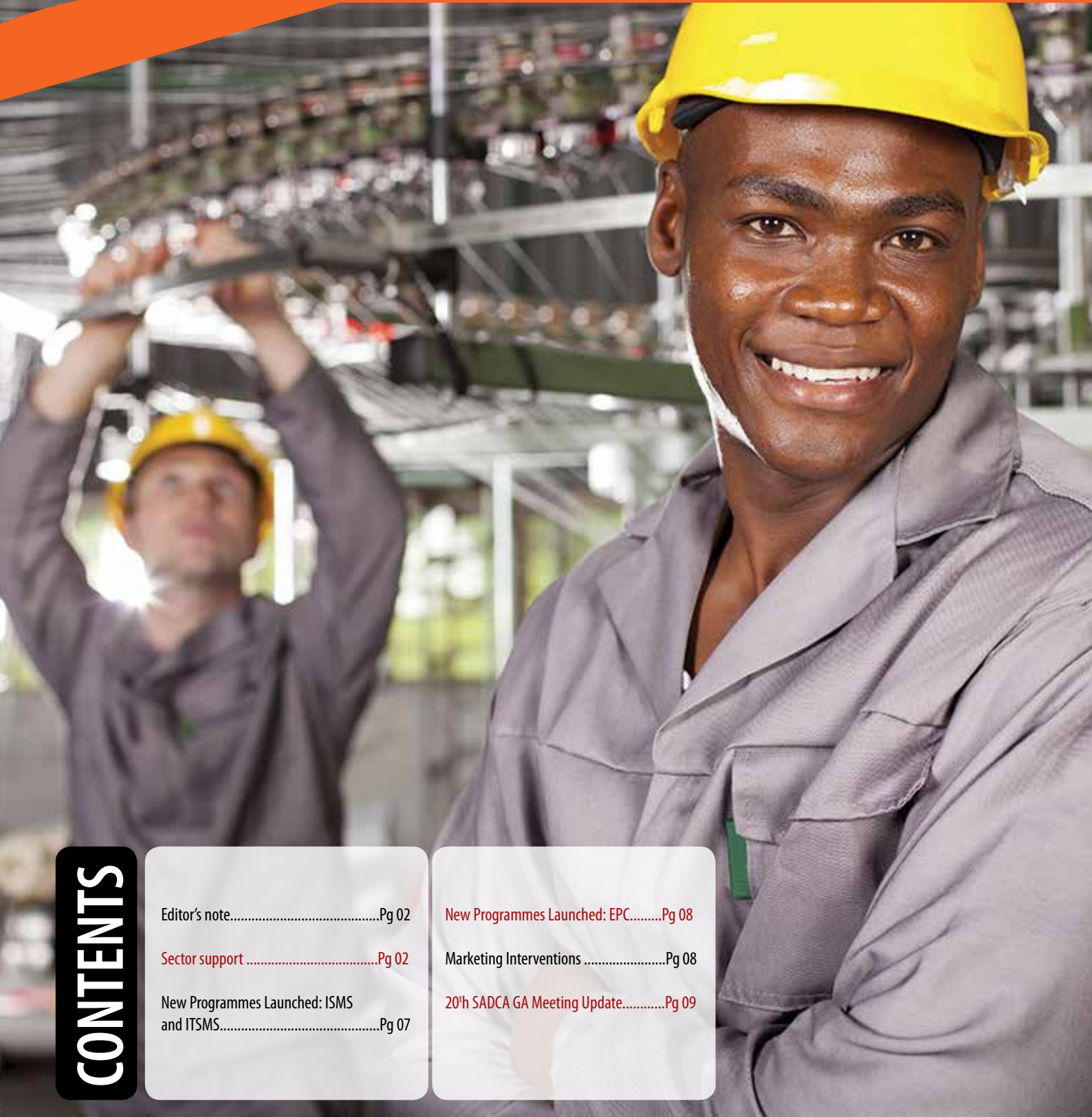


WhatsUP @ f sanas

South African National Accreditation System

Newsletter of the South African National Accreditation System

April 2016



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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Whatsup@SANAS – highlights the activities that took place since the last issue.

This issue profiles the various accreditation programmes and summarizes information on how these SANAS accreditation programmes supports the various sectors in the South African economy.

SANAS is mandated to assist government in achieving strategic goals. In line with this mandate, during the month of March we rolled out new accreditation programmes some in response to the requests received from government departments. Read more about these new programmes on page 7 and 8.

One of our responsibilities is to ensure that the public is aware of **the dti** and its agencies' products and services, we participate at the **the dti's** annual open day. This annual event provided SANAS officials an opportunity to interact with the public and to promote the brand.

SANAS continues to provide regional secretariat services and we have included in an update of the SADCA meetings.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of the Whatsup@SANAS as much as we enjoyed putting it together!

Best wishes

Tshenolo Molamu
SANAS Communications Manager

ACCREDITATION SUPPORTING VARIOUS SECTORS IN SOUTH AFRICA

By Elsabe Steyn

1. ACCREDITATION PROVIDES ASSURANCE AND CONFIDENCE THAT PRODUCTS ARE CERTIFIED AND TESTED/INSPECTED AGAINST DEFINED CRITERIA.

Confidence in the market place and in public services is essential. Often trust is placed in the products and services on offer often without a second thought by the customer.

There are many responsibilities placed on government departments, local authorities and other agencies to ensure that trust is maintained. Whether it is regarding food, consumer goods or transport safety, accreditation provides the framework for assuring that goods and services are safe and the environment we live in is secure.

Companies, big and small, buy independent evaluations of the products that they produce either through choice (for example to reduce the risk of product failure) or as a

consequence of legal requirements (such as health, safety or environmental regulations). Most commonly these evaluations involve calibration of equipment, product testing, inspection of products and services and certification of quality management systems.

SANAS accredits **testing and calibration** laboratories to ISO/IEC 17025 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories for a wide range of products and materials. This accreditation provides confidence to manufacturers, distributors and retailers that testing is carried out competently and impartially to internationally agreed standards.

Accreditation also opens up export opportunities for exporters as it is recognised in over eighty economies. Product safety testing covers a diverse range of materials and includes, toys, chemical products, textiles, leather goods, automotive systems



and components, ceramic and glass wear and articles intended for use with food as well products used in the construction industry.

Certification bodies are accredited to ISO/IEC 17065 – General requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services across a wide range of products and materials. This provides confidence that the certified products meets the requirements specified in product standards and schemes. Using a ISO/IEC 17065 accredited certification body ensures that the products have been assessed in a robust, competent and impartial manner.

Inspection bodies are accredited to ISO/IEC 17020: 2012 – Conformity assessment – Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection across a diverse area of industry, including, approval and inspection of abattoirs and pig farms, meat, food and fish, automotive vehicles and components, personal flotation devices, swimming aids, respiratory protective devices, disinfectants and detergent-disinfectants, diagnostic X-ray and imaging systems, lifts, escalators, passenger conveyors, electronic gambling equipment and electro-technical products.

2. DELIVERING CONFIDENCE IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR

South African manufacturers need to make sure that products are of consistent high quality, comply with regulations and standards, and meet specifications. The use of accredited services in the manufacturing process will help avoid product failure and recalls, as well as support access to new markets. It also assists manufactures that want to save energy and comply with occupation hygiene regulations.

SANAS accreditation ensures that consumers, suppliers, purchasers and regulators can have confidence that products and services placed on the market meets the manufacturers claims made about them.

Testing and calibration laboratories accredited to ISO/IEC 17025; General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories serve a broad range of manufacturing sectors. SANAS uses criteria and procedures specifically to determine technical competence. Laboratory accreditation assesses factors relevant to a laboratory's ability to produce precise, accurate tests and data including the technical competence of staff, the validity and appropriateness of test methods, the suitability and maintenance of test equipment, the testing environment, sampling, handling and transportation of test items, and the quality assurance of test data.

Accredited testing and calibration is performed to support the manufacturing process through component testing, product testing, and calibration and dimensional testing to ensure accurate measurement.

Testing and calibration underpins the production of many products from food products, plastics, fuels and oils, detergents, paints and coatings, toys and consumer goods, automotive systems and components, textiles, glass, cosmetics, construction products, and electronic goods.

Certification bodies are accredited to ISO/IEC 17021; Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems provides certification in a range of areas that provides supply-chain confidence for those operating in the manufacturing sector. These include ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems (QMS), ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems certification (EMS), ISO 50001 Energy Management Systems (EnMS), OHSAS 18001 Occupational Health and Safety Management systems (OHSAS), (SCSMS), ISO 27000 Information Security Management Systems and ISO 20000-Information Technology Service Management Systems.

Inspection bodies are accredited to ISO/IEC 17020: Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection to provide inspection services to manufacturers such as measurement and verification of energy efficiency, inspection of occupational hygiene at the workplace, valves, pressure systems, storage vessels and tanks and the transport of dangerous goods by rail or road in pressure vessels.

3. DELIVERING CONFIDENCE AND VALUE FROM MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS CERTIFICATION

A management system is the framework of processes and procedures used to ensure that an organisation can fulfill all tasks required to achieve its objectives. A growing number of businesses, from the service sector to the manufacturing and engineering sectors, are seeking to have their management systems certified by a third party, namely accredited certification bodies.

Whether an organisation, in South Africa, is responding to customer demand, looking to inspire shareholder confidence, or seeking internal improvement, management systems certification can demonstrate the competence of management and staff, impartiality when decisions are made and the avoidance of conflicts of interest.



SANAS accredits certification bodies to deliver a range of management system certification schemes:

- **Quality Management Systems Certification (QMS)** - ISO/IEC 17021 Conformity assessment - requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – to deliver ISO 9001 certification;
- **Environmental Management Systems Certification (EMS)** - ISO/IEC 17021 Conformity assessment - requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – to deliver ISO 14001 certification;
- **Food Safety Management Systems Certification (FSMS)** - ISO/IEC 17021 Conformity assessment - requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems, for Food Safety Management Systems (ISO 22000);
- **Energy Management Systems Certification (EnMS)** - ISO/IEC 17021 Conformity assessment - requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems, for Energy Management Systems (ISO 50001);
- **Personnel Certification** - ISO/IEC 17024 Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons;
- **Green House Gas Verification (GHG)** - ISO 14065 Greenhouse gases - Requirements for greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies for use in accreditation or other forms of recognition;
- **Health and Safety Management Systems Certification (H&SMS)** - ISO/IEC 17021 Conformity assessment - requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems, for Health & Safety Management Systems OHSAS 18001);
- **Information Security Management Systems Certification (ISMS)** - ISO/IEC 17021 Conformity assessment - requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems, for Information Security Management Systems (ISO/IEC 27000);
- **Information Technology Service Management System Certification (ITSMS)** - ISO/IEC 17021 Conformity assessment - requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems, Information Technology Service Management Systems (ISO/IEC 20000-1).

4. ENHANCING THE PERFORMANCE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCIES AND IMPROVING ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE, WHILST REDUCING CONSUMPTION OF RESOURCE AND EMISSIONS

The provision of energy involves complex supply chains and processes, the transportation and distribution of volatile substances. The commercial development of alternative renewable sources of energy will need to be environmentally-

friendly, and demonstrate value in terms of cost, reliability, durability and performance.

Products, services, management systems or personnel can be evaluated against specified requirements by testing and calibration laboratories, certification bodies, verification and inspection bodies (collectively known as conformity assessment bodies). Conformity assessment is used to check that products are fit and safe for consumption against a standard, a code of practice or regulatory requirements that bring confidence to the marketplace.

Accredited conformity assessment services therefore provide a means for preventing unsafe, unhealthy or environmentally harmful products from entering the market place. Regulators can set overall policy requirements or detailed technical requirements and rely on laboratories, inspection bodies or certification bodies to check for compliance.

Testing laboratories accredited to ISO/IEC 17025; General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories that carry out services in the energy sector. SANAS accreditation uses the criteria and procedures specifically to determine technical competence, assess factors relevant to a laboratory's ability to produce precise, accurate tests and data, the validity and appropriateness of test methods, the suitability and maintenance of test equipment, the testing environment, sampling, handling and transportation of test items, and the quality assurance of test data.

Accredited laboratories carry out a wide range of testing on gas, fuels and oils in order to ensure that they meet their intended purpose. This ranges from testing the sulphur content or that the correct additives are present in the right concentrations, to the presence of bacterial contaminants or fuel degradation levels.

Laboratory testing is also fundamental to the proving of new technologies such as wind and solar energy. Products such as wind turbines and PPV Solar panels are tested in an accredited laboratory to measure performance, durability, safety, and environmentally-friendly considerations.

Inspections are carried out against ISO/IEC 17020 on energy efficiency and energy efficient lighting as well as energy performance of buildings.

Certification bodies are accredited to ISO/IEC 17021 to enable certifying bodies to certify energy management systems certification to ISO 50001. This certification can help businesses improve energy-related performance and identify energy reduction opportunities.



5. UNDERPINNING SAFE ENGINEERING PROJECTS AND PRACTICES

The South African engineering industry has to comply with a number of regulations in the field of quality, health and safety and environmental protection.

SANAS accreditation ensures that consumers, suppliers, purchasers and regulators can have confidence in the quality and safety of goods, and in the provision of services throughout the supply chain. SANAS accreditation demonstrates that all aspects of this process can be evaluated, ensuring public safety and providing assurance that engineering projects are carried out safely.

SANAS accredits **Inspection bodies** to ISO/IEC 17020: *Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection* to deliver services that can confirm legal compliance or safe practice.

SANAS accreditation covers the inspection of energy installations, manufacturing plants, gas pipelines, oil and gas metering, new pressure equipment and assemblies of pressure equipment, lifting equipment, the carriage of dangerous goods and welding,

SANAS accredits **testing laboratories** to ISO/IEC 17025; *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories* to ensure the integrity of materials used in engineering products. These include materials such as metals, alloys, gases, chemical and fuels.

SANAS also accredits **calibration laboratories** to ISO/IEC 17025 to ensure their competence in providing accurate measurements to the engineering sector. Accreditation covers areas such as temperature and humidity, pressure, vacuum and flow, density, dimensional, torque and force, hardness, mass, volume, viscosity, acoustics and vibration, time and frequency.

Certification bodies are accredited to ISO/IEC 17021; *Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems* to provide certification in a range of areas that are relevant to businesses operating in the engineering sector.

These include ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems (QMS), ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems certification (EMS), ISO 50001 Energy Management Systems (EnMS) and OHSAS 18001 Occupational Health and Safety Management systems (OHSAS).

6. SUPPORTING SAFETY AND CONTROL IN THE USE OF CHEMICALS

Chemicals are used in a growing number of sectors namely the pesticides and petrochemicals sector and well the toys and paint sector. SANAS accreditation ensures that consumers, suppliers, purchasers and regulators can have confidence that analysis and determination of the physical parameters of these chemicals is carried out by competent organisations.

SANAS accredits **chemistry laboratories** to ISO/IEC 17025; *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*. These laboratories serve a broad range of industrial sectors.

SANAS accreditation uses the criteria and procedures specifically to determine the technical competence of the staff in the testing and calibration laboratories. In addition to competency laboratory accreditation assesses factors relevant to a laboratory's ability to produce precise, accurate tests and data, the validity and appropriateness of test methods, the suitability and maintenance of test equipment, the testing environment, sampling, handling and transportation of test items, and the quality assurance of test data.

Chemical analysis is carried out on a number of products including food and food products, plastics, fuels and oils, detergents, soils, paints and coatings, waters, toys and consumer goods, air, textiles, metals, wood, glass, cosmetics, and construction products.

SANAS accredits **certification bodies** to ISO/IEC 17021; *Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems* to provide certification in a range of areas that are relevant to the chemical sector. These include ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems (QMS), ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems certification (EMS), ISO 50001 Energy Management Systems (EnMS) and OHSAS 18001 Occupational Health and Safety Management systems (OHSAS).

SANAS accredits **Proficiency Testing** (PT) Providers for a range of chemistry schemes to ISO/IEC 17043: *Conformity assessment - General requirements for proficiency testing*. These schemes involve chemical analysis of food and food products, pesticides, beverages, water portable and raw, clinical and medical, forensics, and consumer products.

SANAS accredits **Reference Material Producers (RMP)** to ISO Guide 34 for a number of materials including drinks, foodstuffs, animal feed, gases, water, ethanol and fluoride in aqueous solutions.



7. DELIVERING CONFIDENCE IN CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, PROJECTS AND PRACTICES

Accredited testing, calibration, inspection and certification provide consumers, suppliers, purchasers and specifiers with assurance that construction projects run efficiently and reliable materials are used. They also provide government and regulators with reliable evidence that completed projects meet regulatory compliance.

Samples, products, services, or management systems can be evaluated against specified requirements by laboratories, certification bodies, and inspection bodies (collectively known as conformity assessment bodies). Accreditation is the independent evaluation of these conformity assessment bodies against recognised international standards to carry out specific activities to ensure their integrity, impartiality and competence.

SANAS accredits construction **testing laboratories** to ISO/IEC 17025; *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories* against a wide range of scopes. These include the testing and calibration of both raw construction materials and construction products for durability, safety, characteristics, and specification.

Accredited pre-completion testing is also provided for air leakage and noise acoustic and sound-proofing testing.

SANAS also accredits **calibration laboratories** to ISO/IEC 17025 *to provide accurate measurements in the engineering sector*. Accreditation covers areas such as temperature and humidity, pressure, vacuum and flow, density, dimensional, force, hardness, mass and volume.

SANAS accredits **certification bodies** to provide certification to ISO 9001 *Quality Management Systems (QMS)*, and ISO 14001 *Environmental Management Systems certification (EMS)* for construction related activities.

Inspection bodies are accredited to ISO/IEC 17020: *Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection* for construction-related activities such as welding and welding procedures, pressure vessels, lifts, escalators and passenger conveyors, electrical safety and transport of dangerous goods in pressure vessels.

8. ACCREDITATION: SUPPORTING SAFE FOOD AND CLEAN DRINKING WATER

Food and water quality and safety is an essential part of everyday life in South Africa. SANAS accreditation ensures that consumers, suppliers, purchasers and specifiers can have confidence in the quality and safety of goods, and in the provision of services throughout the supply chain. SANAS accreditation demonstrates that all aspects of this process can be evaluated, ensuring public safety and providing assurance that food products and water are safe for consumption.

Samples, products, services, management systems or personnel can be evaluated against specified requirements by laboratories, certification bodies, and inspection bodies (collectively known as conformity assessment bodies). Conformity assessment is used to check that products are fit and safe for consumption against a standard, a code of practice or regulatory requirements.

SANAS accredits food and water **testing laboratories** to ISO/IEC 17025; *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories* against a wide range of chemical and microbiological scopes. The range of accredited scopes also includes packaging and environmental testing, sensory analysis, plant health, and veterinary microbiology.

SANAS accredits **certification bodies** to provide compliance to food and water companies throughout the supply chain. These include, GlobalGAP, Organic Agricultural Production and Processing (OAPP) certification and HACCP. SANAS also accredits certification bodies to provide Food Safety Management Systems Certification to ISO 22000.

Inspection bodies are accredited to ISO/IEC 17020: *Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection* throughout the supply chain in the provision of safe food, fish and meat. This includes the inspection of abattoirs and pig farms.

SANAS accredits **Proficiency Testing (PT)** Providers for a range of chemistry and microbiological schemes to ISO/IEC 17043: *Conformity assessment - General requirements for proficiency testing*. These schemes involve food and potable and raw water, contamination and authenticity.



SANAS LAUNCHED NEW ACCREDITATION PROGRAMMES

By Tumelo Ledimo

South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) launched the **Information Security Management System (ISMS)**, ISO/IEC 27001 and the **Information Technology Service Management System (ITSMS)**, ISO/IEC 20000-1 certification programmes on 03rd March, in Pretoria.

Accredited certification bodies will be able to provide their SANAS accredited certification services to organisations that have implemented one of the management systems in their organisations.

The SANAS working group of technically knowledgeable experts in the ISMS and ITSMS, developed the SANAS technical requirements that articulate accreditation criteria for the accreditation of the certification bodies.

ISMS helps small, medium and large businesses in any sector to keep information assets secure. The ISO 27000 family of standards helps organizations keep information assets secure. Some of the benefits of introducing an ISO/IEC 27000 Information Security Management System (ISMS) in your organisation are:

- Organisations are enabled to make informed decisions regarding potential information security threats and risks.
- An ISMS is a defensive mechanism to mitigate the risks arising from external threats associated with the various cyber-crime activities.
- Informed information security decisions may be made based on risk assessments associated with implementing technical, management, administrative and operational controls, which is the most cost effective way of reducing risk.
- Information security is delegated to the appropriate level of responsibility in the organisation. In general everybody in an organization is responsible for protecting information assets.
- Organisations improve their credibility and trust among internal stakeholder and external vendors.

Implementation of ISMS raises awareness throughout the business of potential information security risks as it involves all employees throughout an organisation and therefore also lower the overall risk to the organisation. ITSMS improves the delivery of information technology service, and it is a discipline that aligns the delivery of the information technology service with the business needs of an organisation. ITSMS 20000-1 standard defines requirements for the Information Technology service management system which will ensure that the service provider consistently delivery of information technology service that fulfil the needs and expectation of the customers.

Some of the benefits of implementing Information Technology Service Management System (ITSMS) in the information technology service provider organisations are:

- Better business and process alignment,
- Enhance agility,
- Improved profitability,
- Reduced information technology cost of doing business,
- Reduced information security risk, and
- Improved satisfaction from client.

SANAS announced at the workshop that they are ready to accredit certification bodies that will offer ISMS and/or ITSMS certification in accordance to ISO/IEC 27001 and ISO/IEC 20000-1 respectively.

Read the **ISMS** and the **ITSMS** full media release is available on the website: <http://home.sanas.co.za/?cat=5>

SOURCE: MEDIA RELEASE PREPARED BY TUMELO LEDIMO, PROJECT MANAGER



SANAS LAUNCHED NEW ACCREDITATION PROGRAMME

By Tumelo Ledimo

South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) launched the **Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) for buildings (SANS 1544)** accreditation programme for Inspection Bodies that are going to issue Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) for buildings in accordance to a National Standard, SANS 1544. The accreditation programme was launched in Pretoria on the 17th March.

This was in response to requests from the Department of Energy (DoE) and Department of Public Works (DPW) of the Republic of South Africa, for Inspection Bodies (IB) that will be issuing the Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) for buildings in accordance to the national standard SANS 1544

This new accreditation programme for Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) inspection bodies is the result of work done by a SANAS working group of technically knowledgeable experts in the energy and building industry, who developed the SANAS Technical Requirements in line with the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Policy 15 of 2014.

During the workshop the accreditation process of SANAS and applicable standard and documents were

presented and explained. Accreditation by SANAS will be required for the EPC inspection bodies to be recognised as competent to produce the certificates in line with the National Standard, SANS 1544. These certificates will be required by DPW and DOE as part of its green building policy initiative to improve the energy efficiency of the public building stock. The responsibility of the accredited inspection bodies will be to determine the baseline and quantify the energy performance of buildings in accordance with SANS 1544.

SANAS's responsibility is to accredit inspection bodies in line with the ISO/IEC 17020 standard, and the technical protocols encapsulated in the National Standard SANS 1544.

The benefits of Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) for building is that it allows landlords to systemically analyse their building stock's energy performance.

Read the **Energy Performance Certificate** full media release is available on the website: <http://home.sanas.co.za/?cat=5>

SOURCE: MEDIA RELEASE PREPARED BY TUMELO LEDIMO, PROJECT MANAGER

MARKETING INTERVENTION THE DTI OPEN DAY

By Nombongo Ngobe

We exhibited at Department of Trade and Industry (**the dti**) open day that took place at **the dti** campus on Friday, 11 March 2016. This was declared an annual event by the Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr Rob Davies, and for the past three years, **the dti** has successfully hosted this open day with an overwhelming attendance of more than 5 000 people.

The open day aims to educate and create awareness about the services and products **the dti** and its agencies

offers to the public as a contribution towards building the South African economy. This event also provides the small, micro and medium enterprises (SMMEs) an opportunity to get more information on the available programmes and advise on how to start, grow and expand their businesses.

This informal platform afforded us the opportunity to interact with public and give clarity on the services offered by SANAS. Nombongo and Kamogelo ensured that our brand was visible and well presented.



REGIONAL UPDATES

20th SADCA GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

By Fikile Skasana

The Southern African Development Community Cooperation in Accreditation (SADCA) is a Cooperation of accreditation bodies in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. SADCA is a Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Cooperation Structure established under the TBT Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade.

The South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) has a mandate to provide an internationally recognised accreditation infrastructure. SANAS provides the Secretariat and Regional Coordinator function of the Southern African Development Community Cooperation in Accreditation (SADCA).

SADCA held its 20th General Assembly Meetings from 13 - 17 March 2016 at the Phakalane Golf Estates Hotel in Gaborone, Botswana. The SADCA meetings were held as part of the 31st Southern African Development Community (SADC) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Cooperation Structures Annual meetings and were hosted by the SADC Secretariat. The meetings included meetings of the Executive Committee (EXCO), Technical Committee (TC), Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) Committee, Marketing and Communication Committee (MCC) and the General Assembly (GA).

The TC meeting was held on 15 March 2016, eight (8) resolutions were adopted and a Work Plan for 2016/17 was drafted and approved by the GA. The TC established a Technical Publications Working Group to establish a Technical Publication in support of the SADCA MRA, Mr Mahesh Koolwont - (Mauritius Accreditation Service - MAURITAS) was appointed as the Convener for the Working Group. The TC resolved to develop a questionnaire to establish the status of accreditation and needs for accreditation within SADC, the questionnaire will be distributed to the Member States National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) representatives to distribute to the Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABS).

The MRA Committee meeting was held on 16 March 2016 a 2016/17 MRA Committee Work Plan was drafted and approved by the GA. The MRA Committee Work Plan is focused on Peer Evaluations, exposing and qualifying

trainee Evaluators and international documentation adoption at SADCA. The meeting discussed the following Peer Evaluations that SADCA Accreditation Body members underwent in 2015:

- Joint Peer Evaluation of the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) by the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) from 25 - 29 May 2015 for the Testing and Calibration scopes. SADCAS achieved Signatory status to the ILAC and AFRAC MRA for the Testing and Calibration scopes.
- Peer Evaluation on SANAS by ILAC and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) on 24 - 28 August 2015 for the Testing, Calibration, Certification, Inspection and Medical scopes. SANAS still maintains its recognition to the IAF Multi-Lateral Arrangement (MLA) and the ILAC MRA.
- MAURITAS applied for a joint Pre-Peer Evaluation by SADCA-ILAC-IAF-AFRAC which took place from 21 - 25 March 2016.

The following SADCA trainee Evaluators took part in the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) Peer Evaluators Training Course which took place from 1 - 3 October 2015 in Tunis, Tunisia:

- Mrs Hellen Morokane (SANAS);
- Mr Shadrack Phophi (SANAS);
- Mr Victor Mundembe (SADCAS);
- Mr Xavier Mugari (SADCAS);
- Mrs Jeanne Ranorovelo (SADCAS); and
- Mr Mahesh Koolwont (MAURITAS).

The abovementioned trainees successfully passed the course and were added to the AFRAC and SADCA Peer Evaluators register as Trainee Evaluators. Peer Evaluations are important milestones towards SADCA providing evidence to the ILAC and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) that it can run a regional accreditation cooperation, as well as exposing its trainee evaluators in order to qualify and register them as Peer Evaluators.

The MCC meeting took place on 16 March 2016, eight (8) meeting resolutions were adopted at the meeting and Work Plan was drafted and approved by the GA. the MCC Work Plan included the development of the SADCA Corporate Identity (CI) Manual, the drafting of brochures to market SADCA and the publishing of the SADCA Newsletter on a bi-annual basis. The MCC appointed Mr Edward Mmatli from the Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) as the editor of the first cycle of the SADCA Newsletter.

The 20th SADCA General Assembly meeting was held on 17 March 2015 and attended by SADCA Members and delegates the SADC Region. The General Assembly approved the 2015 SADCA Annual Report which was published on the SADCA website (www.sadca.org). A

panel discussion also took place and the theme was: Accreditation: A Global Tool to Support Public Policy.



Panel members from left to right: Dr Monnane Monnane (SADC), Mr Mahesh Koolwont (MAURITAS), Mr Ron Josias (SANAS) and Mr Viki Kanama (SADCA Chair).

Elections were held during the General Assembly Meeting for the following Office Bearers:

- Mr Ron Josias from SANAS was re-elected as the MRA Committee Chair for a term of two years (March 2016 – March 2018);
- Mr Pilot Masunga from BOBS was re-elected as the Technical Committee Chair for a term of two years (March 2016 – March 2018); and
- SANAS – South Africa, was re-elected as the Secretariat for a term of three years (March 2016 – March 2019).

Upcoming SADCA meetings

Meeting	Date	Venue
SADCA Executive Committee Meeting	December 2016	TBC
21 st SADCA General Assembly Meetings	March 2017	TBC