



## **Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) for buildings (SANS 1544)**

### **SANAS New Accreditation Programme for Inspection Bodies**

South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) in response to the requests of the interested parties such as the Department of Energy (DoE) and Department of Public Works (DPW) of the Republic of South Africa, has launched a new accreditation programme for the Inspection Bodies (IB) that are going to issue Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) for buildings in accordance to a National Standard, SANS 1544. This new accreditation programme is a national programme that is geared towards supporting the South African government in the achievement of the national energy efficiency strategy for DoE and the green building framework policy for DPW.

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.

Stakeholders that were invited included energy auditors, energy management companies, measurement and verification bodies, the green building rating agency and relevant government representatives.

### **Launch Workshop**

On 17 March 2016 SANAS conducted a workshop to interested parties, informing them of the new programme within SANAS geared towards companies that will be accredited as inspection bodies in line with the ISO/IEC 17020 standard, and the technical protocols encapsulated in the National Standard SANS 1544.



During the workshop the accreditation process of SANAS and applicable standard and documents were presented and explained. Dr Rodney Milford, Programme Manager at Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB), an agency of the DPW, presented the draft Green Building Framework Policy of the DPW. A representative from the South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI), Dr Ulrich Aversch, took the delegates through the Building Energy Performance Register (BEPRegister) to be established and maintained by SANEDI. He presented a case study from Europe on their energy performance register and how that data is utilised in the improvement of energy efficiency in buildings.



Dr Rodney Milford



Dr Ulrich Aversch

### **Accreditation by SANAS**

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.

### **Benefits of Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) for building**

EPC allows landlords to systemically analyse their building stock's energy performance. Such analysis can then be used by landlords to guide the implementation of interventions that will decrease energy use and also reduce the greenhouse-gas emissions of the building. In addition it may also lower energy costs which will give them a competitive advantage over other landlords when leasing out they are buildings.

Ends

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