

Engineering Technology Keeps Your World Working!
See www.engineeringchamber.yolasite.com

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No 1. Membership Statistics.

These details are often requested by Government, State & Municipalities.

Asians	3.3%
Blacks	7.9%
Coloureds	2.3%
Whites	47.2%
Unknowns	39.3%
Only 1.3% are female!	

No 2.

ECSA. Related News.

ECSA has reduced the discount offered to our members as ECSA appears to be spending more money than they receive. This reduction was apparently hotly debated at the Council meeting as it affects all Voluntary Associations.

The actual fees for 2017 and the discount have now been finalised but not yet announced.

There is a move from ECSA to revise the functions etc. of the Voluntary Associations and it has had some road shows to explain their thinking.

The legal challenge to some procedures in electing the new ECSA council has resulted in lawyer's letters to both ECSA and the Minister. A response has now been received and the lawyers will be taking the next step soon. This initiative is being driven and administered by SAICE. Some 10 + organisations, including COET have or are to contribute to the cost (R10 000.00 for COET). The recent ECSA Council meeting has resulted in some outcomes.

The most interesting one is about ECSA Fees and Charges (To be uploaded on ECSA website and gazetted soon). Meanwhile ECSA CEO has sent out yet another statement.

No feedback from the very recent Presidents Forum has been received yet

(See www.ecsa.co.za).

No 3. Of This and That.

Invoices and statements for the fees for 2017/ 2018 were sent out by post earlier this year and reminders again in the last weeks of March. A number of technical hassles and consistent and repeating power failures resulted in some reminders only going out in the first week of April. In the last few weeks of March we had some 9 power failures of many many hours, so all work was stalled. After two weeks of repeated trips we contacted the local DA Councillor and City Power sent out an investigating team instead of a trip re-set man! Thanks to this team, who worked through the night in doing a cable joint and rerouting part of the block on another cable, we now have Electricity! Our grateful thanks to the City Power Teams concentrated effort! We now however do not have any street lights.

To those of you who have forgotten COET's financial year runs from January to December each year. To those of you who enquired when invoices would be sent, we thank you for your diligence.

The normal fees for 2017/2018 are as follows;

Application R110

Student R80

Member R399

Company R1200

Retired R80

Retired and over 70 years of age R Nil.(But the person must apply for this – it's not automatic)!

New Certificates R110

Upgrades R 110.

Invoices were sent out by E mail to those who had valid and working E Mail addresses. Sadly many E mail addresses do not work and result in the messages, Undeliverable, Not authorised to receive, blocked etc. As we have stated many times before, please fix these problems at your end as it's not something we can do at our end.

E Mails.

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 email **INBOXes** 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 the following addresses to your **SAFE SENDERS list**.

engineer@netactive.co.za

Some Companies and Internet Service Providers block E mails when they suspect that these E mails are Spam.

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

This unfortunately also applies to some other firms and consulting engineering 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!

If all else fails get your own private E Mail address please.

Post.

Invoices & Statements have again been posted to members whose E mails don't work and those who do not have E mail addresses. Sadly there are a number of members who have not fully paid previous year's fees, so end up with odd amounts owing that are more than the normal fee for this year.

Political, Economic & Engineering Scene.

Business confidence has been depressed domestically and foreign investors have begun to sell South African assets. The cumulative outflow in equities in 2016 was around US\$9 billion. Although we saw net inflows into South African bonds, on aggregate, there have been portfolio outflows from South Africa. With the latest cabinet padding by the president the economic position for all South Africans, except some politicians, may expect this to worsen! The Rand has already lost some 10% plus of its value!

While SA has many challenges ahead many opportunities will also arise. There will be difficult issues, choices and trade-offs. The call to action must include more and better education and training. The late Nelson Mandela said: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." So, wherever you can, please support education and training, especially in the engineering world.

We praise our members for being the true drivers of the economy and happiness in the country. This they do by offering essential and affordable products and services and jobs. We would like to recommend that wherever possible local products and services be used. This is not to say that foreign products and services should not be used, but intelligent and efficient decisions should be made. Buying the apparent cheapest is often short term gain but medium and long term financial disaster. Do not let the politicians and bean counters, who only see a one year view, make your technical decisions! You do so at your peril.

A provisional list of members that offer their services is available on the Website. Persons interested may download the list as it may assist in networking etc. See www.engineeringchamber.yolasite.com.

We invite readers to air their views on important matters by sending a letter to the editor. Kindly note that content may be edited and shortened and that the publisher reserves the right not to publish if it deems that publication is not in the best interests of the associations etc (T&C's apply).

Editor; Viv Nel

"Don't reinvent the wheel, just realign it."

Anthony D'Angelo



No 4. CPD Courses.

Reminder!! - For professional re-registration with ECSA, at least 5 credits are required per five year cycle from Category 1 (Attendance of structured educational / developmental meetings). Unfortunately, only a maximum of 4 credits per annum can be accumulated each year in category 1.

For the CPD Courses and providers please go to our Web Site and download the CPD Course List PDF File. A full list was published in the December 2016 Newsletter.

Members are reminded that they are entitled to claim of 10 % to 15% discount on the fee from the provider, as this is part of our assessment agreement with them. This applies only to the courses advertised on our Website.

No 5. Policy; Facebook, Twitter, and other Social Networks. All Members Please Note!!

We get suggestions that the Association should be on one or all of the above social networks.

A recent survey found that checking social media and e mails cost 40% of respondents more than an hour each day in lost productivity!

So to all members (and others) who have asked us to join their group or circle we will not be doing so at present as we just do not have enough time available or volunteers to handle this task.

The above also applies to the Editor and Admin Officer.

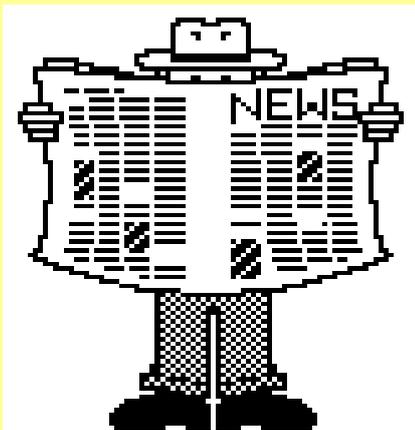
Ed.

No 6. Snippets.

The following mini articles, notices and news follow the trend of interesting scientific, engineering developments and general interest items that we come across. Read and enjoy!

Please feel free to contribute by sending your articles to share with our members!

Ed.



Polar ice hits record lows

Polar ice cover on both sides of the world has hit record lows. The smallest in 38 years of satellite monitoring, 2017 saw 37,000 square miles less polar ice compared to the last record low in 2015.

0

The number of life insurance policies available to Apollo 11's astronauts. Instead, they autographed photos which their family would have been able to auction off in the event of their death(s).

Only 1,419 of the 4,256 satellites orbiting the planet are operational.

18 The percentage of Americans who can drive manual car (not automatic).

We cannot co-create success by hurling chairs and water bottles at each other. We all know that when we don't listen to each other, our universities will burn.

Jay Naidoo.

Wind Energy vs. Nuclear.

The global race of wind and solar power against nuclear energy as alternatives to fossil fuels entered a new phase in 2015 when total wind power generation capacity reached 432.42 gigawatts (GW) with 63.01 GW added last year. These numbers are tracked and were reported by the Global Wind Energy Council. Global nuclear power generation stood at 382.55 GW according to the World Nuclear Association.

China leads the world in wind energy with a total capacity of 145.10 GW, followed by the United States with 74.47 GW, India at 25.09 GW, and Spain at 23.03 GW.

However it must be noted that Wind Leads in Capacity, Not Output

Note that the 382.55 GW output for nuclear power is the net generation capacity. For wind turbines, the capacity does not equal output because the wind is intermittent and the plans do not produce 100% energy, 100% of the time. For the 432.4 GW of wind energy capacity installed, the output is estimated to be in the neighbourhood of 20% or 86.48 GW.

Clearly, wind power is catching up to nuclear, but there are additional issues like the fact that the lifetime of a nuclear plant is 60 years while that of current wind farms is around 20 years.

Source www.gereports.com

China solar power capacity almost doubled in 2016

In the last decade, the Chinese economy has been one of the most fast-growing ones around the world. The country's energy needs were mainly covered by coal burning, resulting in heavy air pollution. The government took notice and began to find ways to combat pollution, principally by investing in renewables like wind and solar power. The results are impressive: in 2016, China installed more solar panels than any other nation, becoming the world's biggest producer of solar energy by capacity, according to the National Energy Administration (NEA). The country almost doubled its solar energy capacity in just one year! 34.54 GW were installed, reaching a total of 77.42 GW installed solar capacity.

No matter how impressive that sounds, however, the generated energy from the solar plants last year - 66.2 billion kWh-, accounts for only 1% of the country's total power generation.

Source: Reuters and others

The aviation industry's all accident rate, measured in accidents per one-million flights, improved to 1.61 in 2016, from 1.79 in 2015.

The latest data published by the International Air Transport Association (Iata), further showed that the major jet accident rate, measured in hull losses per one-million flights, was 0.39 in 2016, which was equivalent to one major accident for every 2.56-million flights.

This was slightly worse than the rate of 0.32 achieved in 2015, as well as the five-year rate of 0.36.

There were ten fatal accidents involving a total of 268 fatalities in 2016, compared with an average of 13.4 fatal accidents and 371 fatalities per year in the previous five-year period.

Some 3.8-billion travellers flew safely on 40.4-million flights last year. The number of total accidents, fatal accidents and fatalities all declined versus the five-year average, showing that aviation continues to become safer according to Iata.

In 2016, sub Shara African had its best performance of the last decade, with zero passenger fatalities and zero jet hull losses.

The all accident rate for the region was 2.30 per one-million departures, compared with an average of 9.73 per one-million departures a year for the previous five years.

Electric Bus re-charge cycle will take just three to six minutes!

Recently, Ville de Luxembourg inaugurated two fast-chargers for the electric hybrid buses at the city's central station. The city owns 5 such buses made by Volvo, which will be fully charged in three to six minutes, during the layover times at the end point of the bus route. Their current charging power is 150kW, but in case bigger future batteries require more power, charging can easily be increased to 300kW or 450kW, as the charger's modular design allows for this.

Luxembourg City aims to cut overall carbon dioxide emissions by at least 20% by 2020, investing in sustainable transport. The chargers were installed by ABB, which has sold approximately 5,000 fast chargers around the world for passenger cars since 2010

Unit 2 of Koeberg Power station recently achieved 485 days of continuous operation since its last outage. CEO M Koko sais this proves how reliable nuclear power is.

Ants.

Millions of years before humans put seeds into the ground, ants were cultivating crops in subterranean tunnels. Scientists believe that the fungal crops have been cultivated for so long and so meticulously that they can no longer survive outside of their agricultural "tunnel". Ants, in other words, have genetically modified their farms. In addition, no anti-GMO ant lobby groups were discovered during the study!

No 7. New Members.

We welcome the following new members.

SURNAME	INITIALS
Japani	P
Coli	SC
Boonzaier	CM
Venter	CC

No 8. Lost Members.

The following is a list of members whose post is returned unknown, unclaimed, gone away or no longer interested in remaining a member etc.

Please check the list and advise us and the member if you know him/her accordingly.

Use the Information Update Form at the end of the newsletter if needed.

Schwan	M A
Siboyi	MS
Singh	R
Titan Equipment cc	
Toprope	

Twaddle	GR
van der Walt	CJ
van Der Westhuizen	P J
van Schalkwyk	D
Webster	W D
Zhou	A

No 9 Certificates.

Membership Certificates have been posted by registered mail to the following members.

SURNAME	INITIALS
Boonzaier	CM
Christian	C
Clarke	DC
Coli	SC
Engelbrecht	M
Hinrichsen	CP
Japani	P
Joubert	CB
Leaman	RO
Makhado	M
Matang	WM
Ntobela	GT
Ntyikwe	MM
Odendaal	CD
Ontong	NT
Roux	CJ
Silangwe	MC
Singh	R
Van Biljon	JJ
van Biljon	JJ
van der Berg	FJJ
Welgro Engineering	

No 10.

Failed E mail Addresses and Lost Members List.

It's absolutely amazing at the number of incorrect, out of date or blocked E mail addresses members have given us over the past year!

Please see the lists on our Websites. These are updated from time to time.

If your name appears on the list kindly supply our office with your latest contact information.

Please do so in writing by E Mail or post but not telephonically.

Thanks

See www.engineeringchamber.yolasite.com

No11. Unsubscribe.

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

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

Number 12. E. & O. E.

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**The Chamber of Engineering
Technology**

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To All Members**

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E Mail engineer@netactive.co.za**

If you have not sent us an update in the last 12 months and details have changed please complete this form in large black font.

Return the completed form to us by POST or E mail. Faxes not recommended due to poor quality.

You are strongly advised to provide us with your E mail address.

This will allow us to send you our regular E Newsletter. We have discontinued sending hardcopy newsletters at this time.

Form for Individual Members

Last name		Initials	
First Names			
Your Preferred Postal Address		Postal code	
Work Postal address		Postal code	
Name of Employer / Company			
Your or your Company's main field of engineering			
Work Tel (include area codes for all numbers)	Work Fax		
Home Tel	Home Fax		
Cell No	E Mail This is important!		
Membership Number			
Engineering Council of SA Registration Number (If applicable)			
ID Number			
Race (For statistical purposes only) Government often asks for this info.	Asian (Indian etc) = A Black = B	Coloured = C	White = W

