

Chamber of Eng Tech News. Dec 2021

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Page 1



No 1. Festive Season Greetings.

*To a joyful present
and a well-remembered past.
Best wishes for a Happy Holiday
and a much better New Year all round.
May the force be with you for 2022!*

In this issue

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No 2.

Dear Member,

As the festive season approaches we at COET would like to say thank you for your support and commitment to the engineering profession over the past 12 difficult months.

You are a valued member. We consider you as a friend and extend our warmest wishes for good health, festive cheer and a healthy, wealthy new year.

Our offices will be closing soon and will reopen mid-January 2022.

Happy holidays and Best Wishes from all at COET.

"The Christians called it 'Christmas' and went to church; the Jews called it 'Hanukkah' and went to synagogue; the atheists went to parties and drank. People passing each other on the street would say 'Merry Christmas!' or 'Happy Hanukkah!' or – to the atheists – 'Look out for the wall!'"

Dave Barry

No 3. Special Xmas Appeal.



With the overall unemployment rate of 34.9% but which hits 64.4% in the group of persons aged between 14 and 34 years and beggars standing at many corners we appeal that you consider those that are less fortunate than you. As Christmas is more about children than adults please consider a gift or a donation of even only R100 to a children's charity. There are many to choose from but if in doubt your local church will be able to help you. Anything given will be highly appreciated.

Remember but for the grace of God you could easily be worse off.

If you can lie down at night knowing in your heart that you made someone's day just a little better you know you had a great day.

Bless you

No. 4. Membership Fees Reduced!!

(our gift to you)!

COET annual membership fees for 2022 have been reduced from R500 to R475.

This 5% reduction is done to assist members and new members in these difficult times. As far as we know COET is the only Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) recognised Voluntary Association that has decreased fees.

ECSA registered COET members get an ECSA discounted year fee.

The discount is more than the COET fee, so a COET member then gets both ECSA and COET membership for less than the price of the normal ECSA fee!! And some change!!

So it pays to belong to COET!!

Special offer.

As a COET member if you bring in a new member we will give you next year's COET membership for free!! So assist COET and yourself by getting a new member to join.

All you have to do is to counter sign (and print your name) on the new persons application form.

Application forms can be requested from COET at E Mail engineer@netactive.co.za.

Note T 's & C's apply.

No 5. Annual General Meeting.

The AGM was held on line on the 26th November 2021 at 18h30.

Notes from the AGM are summarised below.

1. Welcome.

The Chairperson, Mr C Boonzaier, welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Read the notice calling for the annual general meeting.

The notice of the meeting was read. It had been distributed by E Mail to all members and was also placed on the COET website.

3. Receive apologies for non-attendance and confirmation of attendance.

Apologies:

P Erasmus	R Ledwaba
K Jacobs	S Swart
S Nxele	A Sommer

Attendance as per register:

C Boonzaier (Chairperson)	P Moncur (Vice Chairperson)
V Nel (Secretary / Treasurer / Administrator)	D Havenga (Vice Boonzaier)
G Oosthuizen	M Relerze (?)
A Tulelo	A Cerff
J Paulo	I Gerrard
G Texeira	E Barendse
G Smith	A Schroder
S Luthuli	

4. Confirm the minutes of the previous AGM held on 21 November 2020.

The minutes of the 2020 AGM were approved.

5. Read the annual financial statements.

The audited financial statements for 2020 were approved and signed at an Executive meeting.

The reports were tabled at the Annual General Meeting and accepted.

6. Receive the Chairman's Report.

The Chairman's report was tabled and is shown below under the title Chairpersons Report.

The Chairman's report was accepted by all with thanks.

7. Appointment of Auditors.

MP McIntyre & Co, Chartered Accountants, P O Box 990, Florida,1710 were re-appointed as auditors.

Unanimous approval.

8. Vote for incoming Council members. The Council shall consist of the following members;

Chairperson;

Two Vice Chairpersons;

Secretary;

Treasurer

The Immediate Past-Chairperson is not voted into office, as the post is automatic by reason of the member's past position.

The above members form the Executive committee.

Extra members to assist;

Company / Patron members representative

Non Corporate members representative

More members than noted above may be elected or co-opted to the Council, but not the Executive.

9. Announce the new Council and Executive members.

Chairperson	D Havenga
Vice Chairperson	P S Moncur
Vice Chairperson	R Ledwaba
Secretary/ Treasurer	V Nel
Immediate Past Chairperson	C Boonzaier.

The above persons also form the Executive committee.

Extra members to assist where needed.

G Smith.

Company representative;

Position vacant.

Non registered member's representative;

Position vacant.

More members than above may be co-opted onto Council and sub committees but not the Executive.

10. Appointment of Chief Administration Officer.

V Nel.

11. A Brief Information, Questions & Answers Session.

No discussion.

12. Close the formal part of the meeting.

The meeting closed at 19h30.

No 6. Chairpersons report.



C Boonzaier.

It has again been a privilege to serve you as Chairman for this period, which has now come to an end during these challenging times.

I would like to keep my address as short as possible, bearing in mind the time and that the meeting is relayed via a webinar.

The new council nominations have been selected and proxies have been forwarded to members and those in good standing will be eligible to cast their vote.

I trust the situation we find ourselves in with regards to Covid and many who have been retrenched and many who cannot even find positions that they apply for, it appears that we have now crossed the hurdle and are on a road to recovery.

During these challenging times we have kept our fees and courses cost to a minimum.

Volunteers from COET serve ECSA as assessors, reviewers and moderators on most cadres and disciplines including the investigating and feasibility study of specific training requirements. Proudly both councillor's serving at ECSA, are COET registered members.

Members of COET remain in senior positions in the SANS Technical Committees and Task Groups within, increasing our representation with one member elected as chairman TC 110. (Forklifts)

The electronic/digital registration process at ECSA seems to be well entrenched which has reduced the lead time, while we are perturbed by the latest article published in a lifting magazine.

Noting my period of Chairman is almost over and I will not be available for re-election as Chairman, due to Constitutional rules, but will continue to serve on the Committee to the best of my ability.

Please support your new Chairman, support COET. Wherever possible and encourage colleagues to join COET or even our Whatsap group.

The activities of Council Members are entirely voluntary so I would like to say how much I appreciate their efforts.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish you and yours a very blessed Festival Season from me and hoping that 2022 will be a very prosperous year for all of us.

Yours Truly

Clarence Boonzaier

No 7. Introducing the new Executives.



New Chairperson Deon Havenga

Deon qualified as a fitter and turner in 1991 and then worked as a toolmaker for Gear Ratio Sandock Austral for 2 years. He subsequently went to work for Mammoet and Sarens as Safety Manager, 16.2 appointee and LMI doing load testing and inspections from 2001. He has been involved with many crane and rigging projects.

Currently working at Eskom Kusile since 2012 where some 298 cranes were under his responsibility and was part of the load testing and inspections of most of the equipment. This included all lifts and rack and pinion lifts at Kusile. He is the appointed GMR 2(7) for Kusile. He has trained some 53 Department of Labour (DOL) inspectors on cranes and rigging at Kusile..

He has written crane training manuals and trained many safety managers. For his outstanding voluntary work for ECSA he won an award in 2019. He assisted ECSA in reviewing and changing some of the R-05-LMI-SC policies and documents and is part of the task team for strengthening the Specified Categories as well as serving on the SABS TC 96.



Vice Chairperson R Ledwaba.

Rachel is a Practitioner registered in the Specified Category as a Lifting Machinery Inspector since 2010, working for TRANSNET ENGINEERING.

Recently she was appointed on the 6th council and serve on multiple high impact committees, namely Education committee and Training Academy and Development committee and form part of the Identification of Engineering Work (IDoEW) Task Team, also serving on the SABS/TC 1035 (Vehicle hoists, jacks and stands).



Vice Chairperson Pat Moncur.

Pat was born in Pietermaritzburg, educated at Port Shepstone and Pietermaritzburg finishing at what is now called the Durban University of Technology.

Employed by Transnet for all of his working career with exposure to locomotives, rolling stock and specialising in ancillary equipment used by regions for maintaining the rail network.

Worked in many regions, was seconded to Swaziland for two years and retired after several years in the Infrastructure National Head Office as a Senior Engineer (mechanical).

Volunteered to help COET and ECSA in 1980 and is still active. He is registered with ECSA as a Pr Technician and Pr Technologist. He served three terms on ECSA Council and chaired many committees. In early 2000 ECSA was requested by the Department of Labour to assist with the registration of lifting equipment practitioners. Due to his experience at Transnet and assisting with their code 29 safety he was able to get ECSA approval of many regulations and registration outcomes for this cadre.

Secretary / Treasurer / Admin



Viv Nel

Viv was born in the Easter Cape in 1938, went to schools in the Cape and Transvaal and Matriculated at Springs Boys High School. He worked for the South African Air Force for a short while, studied Electrical engineering at Witwatersrand College for Advanced Technical Education (now known as University of Johannesburg) where he graduated with a National Diploma, which was the highest offered at the time.

Employed by the South African Broadcast Corporation (SABC) until around 1996 he worked in studio maintenance, outside broadcasts, FM equipment installation at Brixton tower, a designer at head office, and did TV post production and project management. He also worked for Orbicom (Satellite TV) for a few years before retiring.

He was active in the Association of South African Registered Engineering Technicians (ASARET) which eventually became the Chamber of Engineering Technology (COET). Active on committees in the Board of Control for Engineering Technicians and Technologists which eventually combined to form the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA). He served on three ECSA councils and a number of registration and other ECSA committees over the years. Registered both as a Professional Engineering Technician and Technologist he retired from ECSA tasks some years ago but is active in both COET and the Institute for Professional Engineering Technologists (IPET).

Extra member to assist the Executive committee.



G. Smth.

Born and grew up in Port Elizabeth. Attended Newton Technical high school and studied Motor mechanical and completed an apprenticeship in the mechanical field.

Has been active in the lifting industry for the for the past 15 years, registered for 12 years, being a multi-scoped lifting machinery inspector. He has worked for some of the larger well known lifting entities within South Africa over the years both inside South Africa and in some of the Africa regions inspecting and testing lifting equipment.

No 8. FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

In the past year we have sent short News notices regularly to members by E Mail instead of a quarterly newsletter. Thus you have received COET latest news quite often by E mail instead of a Newsletter that appears only approximately quarterly.

According to our latest website back-office stats, we sent more than 6000 emails to our members last year. As this is a bit heavy it was decided that the COET News, if short, will be sent out by E Mail, but longer News will only be put on the Website. E Mail notifications of these longer News items will however still be sent to members who will have to download them from the Website.

Please visit our Website at least monthly for News!!

www.engineeringchamber.mirrorz.com

I encourage all members, sections and interest groups to send your news articles, comments, any items of interest or ideas to engineer@netactive.co.za.

Best wishes

Editor Viv Nel

No 9. Covid!

A new Covid-19 variant of concern has been detected in South Africa, which may be driving the increase in infections, sparking concerns of a national fourth wave during December 2021.

Upcoming holiday season

During this holiday season, as you prepare to spend some well-deserved time off with your loved ones, be mindful of the escalating risk of infection. As emphasised by President Cyril Ramaphosa last week, it is absolutely critical for everyone to continue to adhere to Covid-19 protocols so that we can reduce infection rates.

Preventing the spread

Vaccinations are our best defence against infection and transmission of the virus. The vaccines are safe and highly effective at protecting us from the devastating complications of the disease.

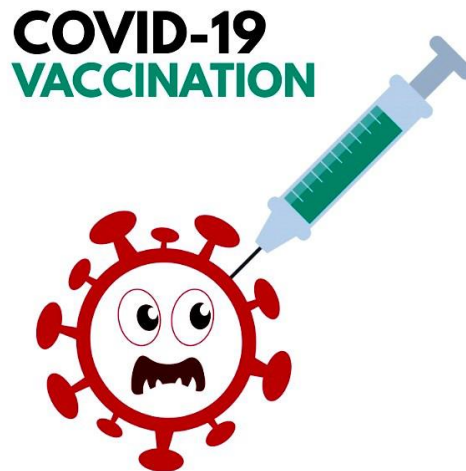
Although this protection is not 100%, there is an abundance of reliable evidence that they significantly reduce your risk of being infected, transmitting the virus and importantly they lessen the severity of the illness, reduce the need for hospitalisation and decrease the chance of dying from Covid.

Let's keep safe

1. Wear a cloth or disposable mask whenever you leave your home.
2. Continue to observe protocols of hand-washing, sanitising, masking and social distance measures.

Make 2022 better

Let's stay safe and vigilant and protect ourselves and our loved ones so that we can get through the



Help save lives, jobs and the economy get vaccinated!!

“The saddest aspect of life right now is that science gathers knowledge faster than society gathers wisdom.”

Isaac Asimov

No 10. WhatsApp Group.

Join COET’s WhatsApp group (LMI Chat & Discussions). While it is mainly aimed at LMI’s, all are welcome. Kindly note that it is not restricted to COET members at this time.

Moderator is Gerrit Smit etc. Follow the instructions on the attachment.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/IOpzC7V7t6LCNEKyqSww8W>

No 11. Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Certificates.

CPD Certificates were sent out recently by E mail. Some were returned due to various reasons like no such E mail, Box full etc. etc. As a courtesy, we send your CPD certificate by Snail Mail to those with no valid E mail addresses. Your CPD certificate proves your valid membership for the year ending 2021. This entitles you to claim one credit on the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) CPD system (Category 3).

Please note that CPD only applies to individual ECSA registered members and not Company, Sponsor or unregistered members. Also note that you are still required to gain credits in Categories 1 and 2.

If you have not received a CPD Certificate, it is probably due to one or more of the following reasons: -

- You are not listed as being registered with ECSA or you have not advised us of your ECSA registration and ECSA number.
- Your membership account is in arrears. Your address has changed.
- Other.

Please contact us by E Mail if you have any enquiries in this regard.
E Mail. engineer@netactive.co.za.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

Nelson Mandela

No 12. Services Offered By Members.

(Adverts for members)

Please visit our Website

<http://engineersdirectory.co.za/>

For all details.

Wherever possible support your fellow members!

If links don't work please type in the text into your internet browser.

No 13.

Snippets.

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

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

Ed



Extinction of a species.

It seems that in South Africa the person below has become non-existent.

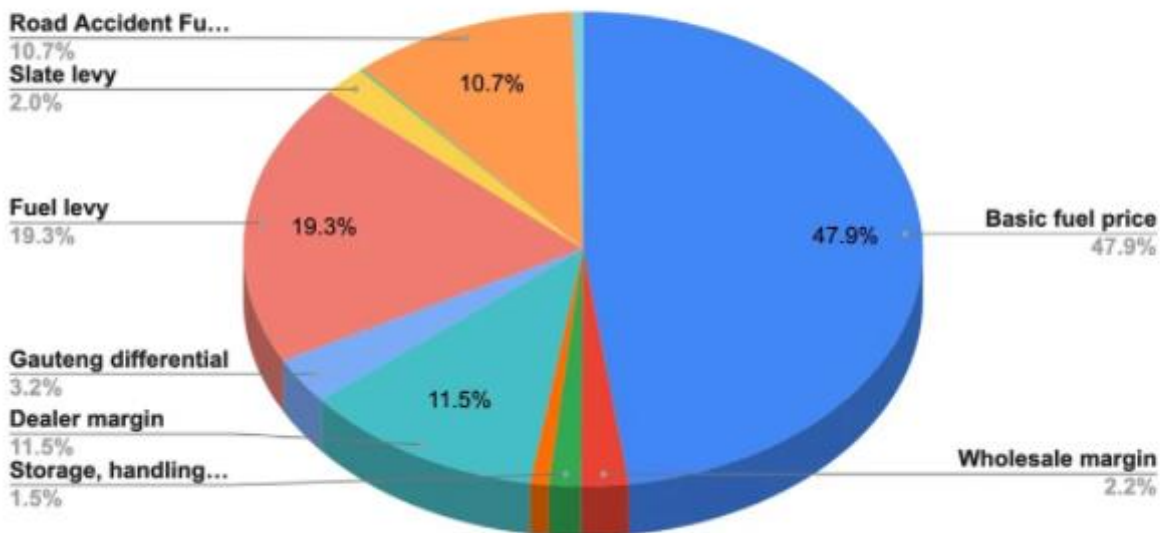


The Post Office has closed more than one hundred post offices!

Whatcha thinking?

A man paralysed from the neck down is now able to communicate his thoughts into text with a 94% accuracy. He is doing so with the aid of a device developed by BrainGate, which incorporates artificial intelligence to translate neural activity signals typically made when handwriting. In other words, the subject just had to concentrate as if he were writing in order to "write" virtually through the brain-computer interface. If ever you yelled at your "stupid" computer, spare a thought for some of the truly amazing advancements we are making through them.

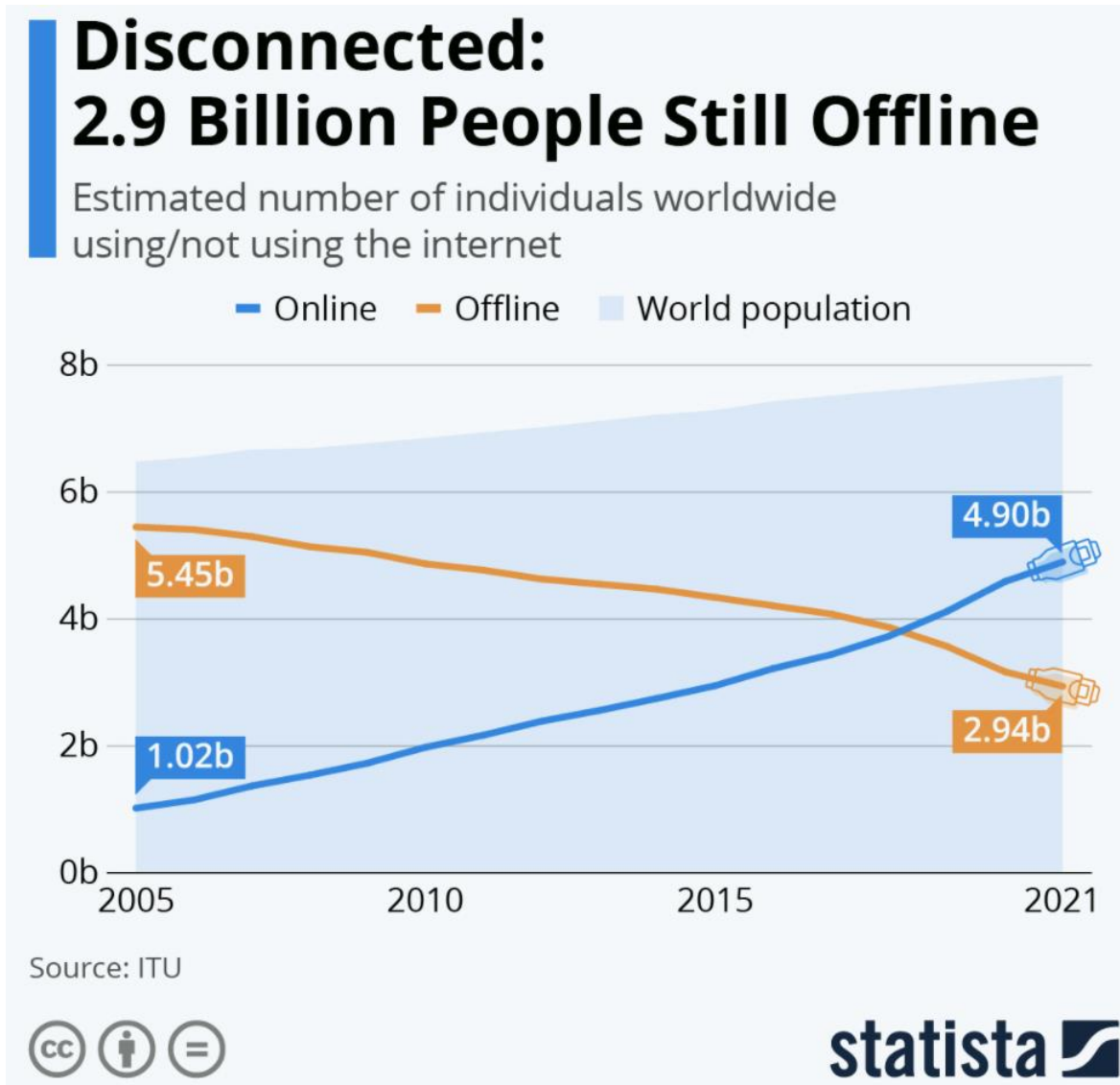
Here is what makes up the petrol price for December.



On Monday, the DMRE announced that from Wednesday the petrol price at the pump would rise by 81 cents per litre.

Eleven hours after that price change the department issued a statement:

“The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy regrets to announce that the adjustment of petrol price announced on Monday 29 November was erroneous... the accurate petrol price for December 2021 will be adjusted as follows: Petrol (both 93 and 95 ULP & LRP): seventy-five cents per litre (75.00 c/l) increase”.



How Safe Is Your Password?

Time it would take a computer to crack a password with the following parameters

	Lowercase letters only	At least one uppercase letter	At least one uppercase letter +number	At least one uppercase letter +number+symbol
1	Instantly	Instantly	-	-
2	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	-
3	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
4	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
5	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
6	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
7	Instantly	Instantly	1 min	6 min
8	Instantly	22 min	1 hrs	8 hrs
9	2 min	19 hrs	3 days	3 wks
10	1 hrs	1 mths	7 mths	5 yrs
11	1 day	5 yrs	41 yrs	400 yrs
12	3 wks	300 yrs	2,000 yrs	34,000 yrs

Source: Security.org



No 14.



The Joke Column.

Warning / Disclaimer.

Sensitive readers are warned that the following may erroneously and unintentionally 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 140 and 161 years of age. A further requirement is you must have a sense of humour. No Persons or animals are intended to be harmed in any way by this column. No trees were endangered in producing this column.



#

- # *What's the difference between the Mafia and the Government.
The former is properly organised!*
- # *Did you know the Mafia send their candidates to South Africa to learn how to do it!
(Always learn from the experts)!*
- # *What do you get when you mix a Christmas tree and an iPad? A pineapple!*
- # *What did one Christmas tree say to another? Lighten up!*
- # *What month does a Christmas tree hate the most? Sep-timber.*
- # *How do you make an Octopus laugh? With ten-tickles, Merry Christmas and happy holidays!*
- # *"The only function of political promises is to make forecasting of astrology look respectable."*

Viv Nel

No 15.

Unsubscribe Option.

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

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

No 16.

O. & O. E.

The Chamber of Engineering Technology (COET), its agents, volunteers, workers and members cannot be held responsible for errors in, amendments to, or any damages whatsoever arising from information published in good faith. Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily shared by COET.

No. 17. Annual Information Update.

We no longer post items. Post only used in special cases. Please get an E Mail address so we can communicate with you.

Your E mail, if you have one, does not always work! Please complete & return this form for updates.

Note that E mail addresses that end in Spoornet, Transnet, Eskom and Gov (Government) are usually blocked at your end.

E Mails to some Consulting firms are also blocked.

Aurecon & ones ending in
Telkomsa.net included!

You have to fix this at the/your receiving end as we cannot solve this for you.

We recommend members use private individual E Mail addresses instead of Company addresses.

Provide us with your E mail address so we can send our regular News etc to you. Thank you for co-operation.

Thanks from E Mail. engineer@netactive.co.za

SEE FORM BELOW.

Form for Individual Members

Last name				Initials	
First Names					
Your Preferred Postal Address				Postal code	
Alternate or Work Postal address				Postal code	
Name of Employer / Company					
Your or your Companies main field of engineering					
Work Tel (include area codes for all numbers)				Work Fax	
Home Tel				E Mail	
Cell No				Alternate E Mail	
Membership Number					
Engineering Council of SA Registration Number (If applicable)					
I D Number		Birthday, Year, Month, Day			
Race (For statistical purposes only)		Asian (Indian etc) = A Black = B		Coloured = C White = W	

Together We can Achieve more in engineering
 CoetUpdate2021
 Visit our Web site <http://engineeringchamber.mirrorz.com>