



News in Brief

May 2009

FLOOD FUND:

The EPA would like to make a donation on behalf of the Engineering Industry towards the National Emergency Disaster Fund administered by the office of the Prime Minister. The fund assists with the alleviation of the flood victims in the North.

The EPA will arrange an official handing over ceremony with the Minister's office.

All EPA members who wish to contribute towards the flood victims can make payment to the EPA bank account number:

Nedbank, Independence Ave, branch 461-038, Acc 11010004723 and mark your reference: **Flood Fund**. The EPA will then make one payment to the Disaster Fund, giving recognition to all individual contributors. The closing date for donations is before 22 May 2009.

We hope we can count on our members to assist those who are in dire need.

MEMBERSHIP:

It is encouraging to note that the EPA membership is showing positive signs of recovery after some years of gradual decline. While several members were lost due to death, retirement, resignation or termination (for ongoing non-payment of membership fees) during 2008, we are proud to have welcomed 13 new members during the first three months of 2009 alone. It goes without saying that hopes are high for this trend to continue and we invite all members to assist with the recruitment of further new members, especially young and upcoming engineers and technicians, many of whom might not even be aware of EPA's existence and purpose.

The table below reflects the membership by discipline as of 1 April 2009:

Agricultural	Chemical	Civil	Electrical	Mechanical	Other	Total
2	2	88	27	18	1	138

BURASRIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. RA Bursary Fund

The EPA continues to administer the Roads Authority's bursary scheme for mainly civil engineering students. The number of bursary students on this scheme has grown from a

mere four students in 2004 to a current total of 23 studying at various universities in South Africa, at UNAM and the Polytechnic of Namibia. In terms of the RA / EPA agreement the administration of this bursary scheme earns the EPA a welcome income each year.

2. EPA Scholarship Fund

The EPA Scholarship Fund Trust, duly registered as a trust and mainly built on donations from EPA members, has been in existence for several years with the aim of providing financial assistance to aspiring engineering students. This was finally made possible by a substantial and greatly appreciated injection of funds generously donated by the Swedish Government.

Having earmarked four (4) scholarships to the amount of N\$25,000 each for 2009 the EPA Council's scholarships sub-committee had no easy task selecting the most deserving students from an overwhelming sixty applications received. Assessment criteria based on academic performance and financial need were aimed at determining the applicant's prospects of successfully attaining a Bachelor's degree in any one of the engineering disciplines. The four successful candidates were:

Mr. Ndangi lileka – 4th year B.Sc. Engineering (Electrical) at University of Cape Town

Mr. Amutenya Nangolo – 2nd year Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) at Polytechnic of Namibia

Mr. Panduleni Shonena – 2nd year B.Sc. Engineering (Civil) at University of Cape Town

Mr. Kalimba Ntinda – 1st year B.Sc. Engineering (Mechanical) at University of Cape Town.



At this juncture the EPA Council also wishes to sincerely thank Mr. G Steinbach of Steinbach & Associates for yet another generous and much appreciated donation of N\$15,000.00 received for the EPA Scholarship Fund.

UPCOMING COURSES:

The EPA will be facilitating the following courses later this year:

- **2-3 June 09:** *Bituminous Products in Practice* by the **Asphalt Academy (AsAc)**
- **13-16 July 09:** *Euro code Courses* by the **University of Cape Town**
- **27-29 July 09:** *The Preparation of Contract Documentation and Administration of Civil Engineering Contracts* by the **South African Road Federation (SARF)**

- **18-19 August 09: *Delay, Disruption and Extension of Time* by Binnington Copland and Associates**

Invitations with more details on the venue, times, costs, course contents, presenters etc. will follow shortly. Note that EPA-members qualify for huge discounts on above courses, which makes it altogether very lucrative to become a member and for organisations to sponsor the membership-fee for their employees.

BRIDGE BUILDING COMPETITION:

This year's Bridge Building Competition will take a slightly different format in that it will culminate the annual *National Science, Technology and Engineering Week* (29 June to 3 July) of the Ministry of Education's Directorate of Research, Science and Technology and will be held on **Friday 3 July 2009 at the Polytechnic of Namibia / Faculty of Engineering in Windhoek**. Invitations have been sent to all secondary schools already and entries are expected to roll in after the school holidays.

Continuing to be ever so popular with grade 11 and 12 pupils from all over Namibia such event (with between 100 and 150 participants) can obviously not be staged without sponsorships and willing helpers. Any assistance from our members will thus be most welcome and appreciated.

FUN DAY: CONCRETE CANOE COMPETITION:

The long promised Concrete Canoe Competition has been scheduled for **17 October 2009**. Please find attached an application form, the competition rules and a paper titled "Enhancing Engineering Education through the Concrete Canoeing Competition".

The event will be combined with a Dragon-Boat race by the Canoe Federation of Namibia. Teams are advised to enter diligently and start with their preparations since the planning and construction (curing) will take time and effort.



BOWLING EVENT:

The bowling event which proved to be a huge success last year has again been scheduled this year at the **Eros Bowls Club on 11 September 2009**. Please diarize this date and rub shoulders with fellow professionals from the whole engineering industry on this fun-day.

NATIONAL ADJUDICATORS LIST:

Based on a proposal submitted to the Engineering Professions Association of Namibia jointly by the City of Windhoek, the Roads Authority, and the NATDAB and DABFORUM Members, dated 27 September 2007 the EPA has established a National Adjudicators' List (NAL). With the National Adjudicators' List the EPA aims to provide the Namibian construction industry with a low-cost, but high quality, alternative dispute resolution system to traditional systems of arbitration and litigation.

The NAL maintains a list of adjudicators, which have been evaluated by major role players in the industry, such as City of Windhoek, Roads Authority, NamPower, NamWater, Municipality of Swakopmund, Municipality of Walvis Bay and alike. The National Adjudicators' List (NAL) can therefore fulfil the role of an impartial nomination body. The NAL further also develops capacity for adjudication in Namibia.

Adjudicators have further been categorized based on their experience in order to provide adjudicators suitably qualified for the project at hand:

- Junior Adjudicator;
- Adjudicator;
- Senior Adjudicator.

Depending on the complexity and value of projects the Employers decide which category of Adjudicator will be suitable for the selection process for the respective project types. This will be fixed in the contract concluded between EPA and the employer organization.

The main milestones of developments can briefly be summarised as follows:

June 2008:	Signing agreements with the first 15 adjudicators
June 2008	Signing agreement with first employer organization (CoW)
October 2008	Appointment of NAL Manager
October 2008 – April 2009:	9 successful Nominations of Adjudicators

The way ahead can be sketched as follows:

May/June 2009	Signing agreements with at additional employer organizations
June 2009	Advertising for additional adjudicators
July 2009	Signing agreements with additional adjudicators

“WHO'S WHO OF ENGINEERING IN NAMIBIA” PUBLICATION

The EPA is proud to announce that a glossy, high quality publication, called the “*Who's Who of Engineering in Namibia*”, will be published towards the end of this year, showcasing the industry and engineering projects in Namibia.

Such a publication has long been on our wish list, but due to time constraints and limited human capacity, it remained just that – a wish. However, after considering various options, we approached the publisher of the leading reference publication, the “*Who’s Who of Namibia*”, and they agreed to publish a similar high quality publication for the engineering industry.

Thea Visser, the founder and executive editor of the *Who’s Who of Namibia*, said she immediately recognised the need for such an industry-specific publication that can provide a complete picture of the engineering industry, as well as showcasing projects in the country.

“I am sure there are impressive engineering projects in various stages of completion that deserve to be showcased and that many people – locally and internationally – would be very interested to read about. This high quality publication will be the ideal platform to showcase what’s happening in Namibia’s engineering industry.”

The *Who’s Who of Namibia* was first published five years ago and it grew rapidly from a 100-page publication to the current (2009) edition of 300 pages. For the past five years they also assist Rössing Uranium with their annual Stakeholder Report and have gained extensive experience in the marketing and publishing industry. Thus, the *Who’s Who* team is well suited to assist the EPA in our endeavors to have an engineering publication for the whole industry.

Several target audiences will be addressed with this publication, amongst others:

- Members and non-members of the EPA, ACEN
- All registered engineers (with the Engineering Council of Namibia)
- Government: central, regional and local levels
- Building industry: architects, quantity surveyors, contractors, suppliers, etc.
- Parastatals, i.e. Telkom, Roads Authority, Nampower, Namwater, etc.
- Business community
- Embassies
- NGO and donor community
- Students: secondary and tertiary levels
- General public.

The publication will include all engineering bodies and associations, i.e. the Engineering Council of Namibia, ACEN and EPA, and will provide a complete picture of the engineering industry in the country. It is envisaged that a steering committee, consisting of representatives of these bodies and associations and the publishers, will be formed to assist with the impartial selection of featured projects and to monitor progress.

It is envisaged that the “*Who’s Who of Engineering* will be published annually and the first edition will be between 84 and 100 pages. Depending on the income generated from advertising support, we will print a minimum of 2,500 copies, although ideally we would want it to be closer to 10,000 copies – bearing in mind that there are more than 5,000 schools in the country and that every school library would be grateful to receive a copy to inspire future engineers!

The distribution is a vital part of the success of our publication. After considering the pros and cons of free versus paid for distribution, it was decided that the “*Who’s Who of Engineering*” will be distributed free of charge – relying completely on advertising support to make this publication financially viable and sustainable.

We will compile a comprehensive database of individuals in our various target markets and the publication will be posted to each and every person in our database. Not only is this personalised distribution strategy cost effective and not wasteful, but more importantly, we will be assured that the publication will not lie around in store rooms, but indeed land on the desk of the right person – a very important consideration for an advertiser whom we will ask to invest his money in our publication.

Since we are 100% reliant on advertising support for the success of our publication, we call on all our members, our suppliers in the engineering and construction fields, and any business such as financial institutions that want to reach the engineering professionals, to support us with advertising. The rate for a full page advertisement is only N\$9,750 with a guaranteed print-run of 2,500 – and potentially even as high as 10,000. With our personalised distribution strategy as mentioned above, you as an advertiser will be assured that your message will be seen by the right person.

Below is the action plan for the next seven months – from the planning phase to the final distribution of our own publication.

EPA PRESIDENT
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ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY	SUGGESTED STARTING & COMPLETION DATES
GENERAL		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform members via newsletter of the publication and get buy-in from potential advertisers 	EPA	Begin May – 1 st week of May
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning and initial groundwork (start with compilation of distribution list; compile letters/emails for requesting submissions, etc.) 	EPA	Begin May, on-going
ADVERTISING:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List all potential advertisers and make allocation of who will contact whom to open doors for WW advertising recruitment team 	EPA	2 nd week of May
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact potential advertisers telephonically or personally; get 45 – 50 committed advertisers 	EPA	2 nd week until last week of May
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up with advertisers to get completed booking forms & advert material; develop advertisements if final material is not available, etc. 	WW team	1 st week of June – end of June
CONTENT:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request submissions of projects to be featured 	EPA & WW	Begin June – middle June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compile and sort submissions 	WW	3 rd week until end June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate submissions 	Steering committee	1 st week of July
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit selected submissions for more information & photographs 	WW	Middle July – end July
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write/compile all articles (including interviewing selected specialists and students) 	WW	1 st until 3 rd week of Aug
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text editing of all articles 	WW	4 th week Aug – end 1 st week Sept
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and layout 	WW	2 nd week Sept – end Sept
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proofreading & getting publication print ready 	WW	1 st week of Oct
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final approval 	Steering committee	End of 1 st week of Oct
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Printing & transport 	WW	2 nd week of Oct – end of 3 rd week of Oct
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication available 		last week of October
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribution – individual postage 	WW	November
COMPLETION DATE		Middle of November