

SAATCA NEWS

PO Box 41 Perseus Park • BRUMMERIA 0020 • SOUTH AFRICA • Tel: +27(0)12 349-2763 • Fax: +27(0)86 516 2966 • E-mail: admin@saatca.co.za • www.saatca.co.za

Highlights of 2009

By Chairman Roy Ramphal

For SAATCA, 2009 was a year of consolidation culminating in our 12th International Auditor Convention in September at the CSIR International Conference Centre in Pretoria. Some 150 delegates attended to listen to 20 speakers address them on the theme of Auditing and Governance in a Changing Economy. We are already preparing for the **2010 SAATCA conference**. Other highlights of 2009 were:



SAATCA OPERATIONAL MANAGER APPOINTED



Johann Venter joined SAATCA in 2009 and has now been appointed as Operations Manager by the Board. He brings a wealth of experience to the job from working as a diploma mechanical engineer for 10 years at a Foundry and at Everite, 20 years of farming in the Limpopo Province and a further 4 years at a brick manufacturing plant. For the past 15 years he has been lecturing at the former Vista University and lately the University of Johannesburg in the field of Business Management.

Johann's appointment as Operations Manager will fill a great gap in SAATCA's daily operations and management. The members will have a point of reference and our projects and training will be professionally co-ordinated.

Everyone at SAATCA looks forward to working with him and we wish him much success in the road ahead.

Email: jventer@saatca.co.za

SAATCA accreditation by SANAS

In October 2008 SAATCA received its accreditation from **SANAS** (the South African National Accreditation System), the national accreditation body recognised by Government. This means SAATCA meets the rigorous accreditation requirements set by SANAS to ensure that as a Certification Body we met the requirements as a management systems auditor trainer, and that the certificates we issue to auditors are credible and internationally recognised.

Introduction of new schemes

Product Certification Auditor Scheme:

This certification scheme is being developed to provide confidence to regulatory authorities, accreditation bodies and certification bodies, to business and industry, and directly to the public at large that an auditor is competent to conduct product certification audits.

The SAATCA Product Certification Auditor scheme will not identify any area of technical competence that an individual may have. Auditors who are certified by SAATCA in accordance with the requirements of this scheme have demonstrated that they have the required competencies to effectively perform audits in accordance with their grade and sector registration(s).

Reprocessors of Previously Certified Packaging Scheme

In response to the requirements of SANS 10229 - Packaging of Dangerous Goods for Road and Rail Transportation in South Africa, SANS 10406: Transport of DG - the reprocessing of previously certified packaging and the *IMDG - International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (compliance with which is essential to all who ship coastwise or export) an audit protocol was put in place by the Responsible Packaging Management Association of Southern Africa (RPMASA) to support these requirements, to satisfy other government department and industry needs, and to prevent multiple audits.

Auditor criteria and a Code of Conduct have been prepared by the SAATCA to provide a common basis for the certification of auditors who are involved with auditing reprocessors of previously certified packaging and aims to launch this scheme during the next quarter. The Auditors, through use of the Audit Protocol, will assess and verify the capability and compliance of the reprocessors so as to recommend Registration category to the SABS who will keep a register of reprocessors and issue a "unique" mark to be applied to each unit reprocessed similar to schemes in other countries.

The purpose is to encourage the return of chemical packaging for safe reprocess and re-use, to improve standards and compliance as per Road Traffic Act and give greater confidence to Industry users.

The Waste Act requires re-use or recycle of packaging and EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) by the product fillers.

*adopted from the 16th edition UN Model Regulations for Transport of Dangerous Goods.

Technical Management Board

During 2009, the **Technical Management Board** (TMB) of SAATCA was constituted, reporting to the SAATCA Board through ex-officio member, Wendy Da Cruz. This TMB is responsible for the overall management of technical matters, including overall management of Scheme Committees, Ad Hoc Technical Committees, strategic technical advisory groups, etc.

Membership of the TMB is made up of representatives from each of the Scheme Committees, which in turn represent each of the auditor schemes operated by SAATCA.

The functions of the Technical Management Board, together with the supporting Scheme Committees relate to providing technical input advise and monitoring, including the following:

- New schemes of auditors, for new fields of SAATCA technical activity
- Continual review of existing schemes and their improvement to align to changes, for example changes to the international standards on which schemes are based.
- To report to and, when relevant, advise the SAATCA Board on matters concerning the technical work of SAATCA.



Multi-Scheme Registrations

With the development of increasing number of management system standards to which organisations ascribe to comply, there is ever increasing pressure for auditors to conduct "integrated" audit covering more than one standard.

The most popular combination has been SHEQ, being safety, health, environment and quality management, and SAATCA has been approached consider an auditor registration scheme to address this need.

After review by the Technical Management Board and the Board of Directors, SAATCA is pleased to announce that the concept of multi-registration has been approved and will not be limited to SHEQ.

It has been agreed that management system auditors who qualify for more than one SAATCA scheme can now be issued with one card which indicates all the schemes.

Looking ahead

We believe 2010 will bring us further growth in the development of Auditors particularly through our upcoming **Conference** in September 2010 as well as a series of specialist training programmes that we have in the pipeline.

SAATCA Board Exams

The SAATCA Board of Directors has recently decided to institute exams that candidates will have to sit and pass in the future to become Certified. These will be called the SAATCA Board Exams. The purpose this exam is to give more credibility and structure with the accompanying validity to the SAATCA certification process. Much still has to be developed to get the exams operational, and members will be kept informed as we go along.

Website

Website upgrade: At SAATCA we recognise that our website (www.saatca.co.za) is a key platform for keeping our members and the business community informed and up to date with the development, training and certification of auditors. We are in the process of refreshing and upgrading our website and the publication of this newsletter twice a year is the first step towards that.

We have also added a section to our website entitled **articles**. In this section you will find some essential reading for Auditors such as:

- How can business be sure of its Audits - by Iain Muir, SAATCA Board director and Senior Manager Accreditation Management SABS Commercial (Pty) Ltd
- Can we stop with Audits during a financial crisis? - by Rod Duarte, Eng. Tech, CMC SAATCA BoD Advisor and CEO ABI
- The importance of Auditors - by SAATCA

Please submit any Auditor - related articles and/or news items suitable for publication to admin@saatca.co.za

Misuse of SAATCA brand

We are appealing to all auditors and course providers to partner SAATCA by reporting any misrepresentation or misuse of the SAATCA logo.

Send details to SAATCA Secretary at admin@saatca.co.za

SAATCA
Southern African Auditor &
Training Certification Association