

welding empowers



The Southern African Institute of Welding. The custodian of the welding industry.
Contact us for all your training requirements and technical support.

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SAIW and SAIW Certification

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Jim's comment



After a little more than 60 years we have decided to introduce a new SAIW logo. Though we are all extremely attached to our crest - which remains registered with the Institute - and what it has come to mean in the South African welding industry, it was felt by many people that its time had come. So, after a long process, we decided on a new logo, which is modern and dynamic, represents the spark created by the welding operation, the brightness of our industry and our country and emphasises 'SAIW', the term which has become synonymous with this Institute and its work.

Part of this work is acting as custodian of the quality of the welding industry in southern Africa and, in this regard, I am delighted to report that Group Five Oil and Gas has become the first site-based welding and fabrication company to be certified to ISO 3834 in accordance with the SAIW/IIW Certification Welding Fabrication Certification Scheme. The Certification was awarded based on their site work at the Chevron Refinery in Cape Town. It is gratifying that prestigious companies like Group Five take ISO 3834 as seriously as it should be taken. It is a universally recognised standard and I implore more companies, large and small, to take the plunge and get certified.

This month the Institute was privileged to receive a visit from Nigeria's Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) which came on a reconnaissance visit to the Institute. The PTDF is a Nigerian government agency responsible for the funding the 'training of the trainers' programme which the SAIW is undertaking in Nigeria in cooperation with the Nigerian Institute of Welding (NIW). We were able to show the PTDF what we are capable of and what sort of facilities we have and I have no doubt that our relationship with them and the NIW will grow from strength to strength in the future.

Finally, we had an outstanding Awards dinner, which will be reported in our next issue, and I am pleased to say that the standard of award recipient remains as high as ever. Congratulations to AFSA's Tony Patterson who won the Institute's Gold Medal Award. Very gratifying was the continued high-level contribution being made by women in our industry. Earlier this year was the outstanding performance of young women in the Young Welder Competition, then a plethora of female graduates in various welder training programmes and now we have Emily van der Schyf winning the prestigious Phil Santilano Award for the best student on our Inspector courses and Louise Petrick co-authoring the paper that won the Harvey Shacklock Gold Medal. Congratulations to you all. You are proof that welding is a career for all!

Jim Guild

