



Interpreting the Environment &
Pioneering Change

Forum

THE SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS

SAACE ENGINEERS IN PRACTICE KICKS OFF 2007

The second series of the South African Association of Consulting Engineers' (SAACE) Engineers in Practice kicked off in 2007 with the February programme entitled "Construction Industry Development Board – Spreading the Sunshine", which provided the industry with an update on the activities of the CIDB in particular examining progress with the contractor register, the projects register and the proposed consultants register. The 2007 CPD series will earn participating registered engineers one credit in Category One of ECSA's CPD requirements, while all tests for the 2006 series completed after February 28, 2007 will now earn Category Three points.

Says Johan van Schalkwyk, Manager of SAACE's School of Consulting Engineering (SCE): "This is due to the fact that we deal with topical issues in the programmes and once programmes are more than a year old, they are considered to fall in the category of self study." As a result, this also means that late-joiners to this multimedia CPD training initiative will not be able to earn more than one compulsory Category One credit per year from the series.

SAACE's CPD series is available to all organization's, like the SAIEE, for training and communication. Almost 1 000 engineers participated in SAACE's 2006 series earning one compulsory credit in Category One. However, with ECSA's register of professionals approaching 12 000 countrywide, there are still many engineers who may not be participating in suitable activities to keep their skills and knowledge up to date. Says van Schalkwyk: "This really is an easy and convenient way for engineers to keep themselves up to date on industry developments. There is no easier way to participate and record your hours spent on CPD activities. In an effort to make continued participation as easy as possible for our subscribed learners, we will automatically renew their subscriptions. New subscribed learners for 2007 can also opt to purchase the full 2006 series on DVD."

Says van Schalkwyk: "You are now able to complete your CPD tests online on the Life Long Learning Solutions (LLLS) website, as well as by cell phone. This is of particular benefit to our overseas subscribers, which include South African engineers as far a field as the UK and the Middle East!

"In addition, LLLS has incorporated facilities for subscribers to log activities in all three categories. Please remember that while you can log activities yourself as an electronic record, you may still be required by ECSA to provide proof of these activities. The advantage of this is that from your individual user profile on the LLLS website, you can now print off all your ECSA requirements in a report, sign it and submit it."

As part of the new functionality of the website, HR managers of companies with a number of subscribers, now have full administrator access to review individual employee progress and assist their staff to manage their CPD activities.

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