

President's report for 2010

President: Andries Lötz

Tel: +27 (011) 688 1483

Cell: 082 550 7789

Fax: +27 (011) 688 1524

E-mail: andries.lotz@jwater.co.za

Home page: <http://www.sastt.org.za>

Introduction

At the end of my first term as president of SASTT it is with pride that I now review some of SASTT's achievements during 2010 - bearing in mind that SASTT is only as strong as its members and can only achieve what its members are capable of. Therefore, this report reflects some of the achievements of SASTT's members that enhanced SASTT's performance. I therefore want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank every member for their contributions to this year's success.

At this stage SASTT has 42 members and membership has only increased slightly over the past few years.

SASTT is a not-for-profit society tasked with the promotion of trenchless technology (TT) in Southern Africa in order to

- minimise or eliminate the need for excavation;
- reduce environmental damage; and
- reduce the social costs of underground work.

Therefore, most of the activities of SASTT are aimed at creating awareness and promoting trenchless technology.

Overview of activities

Board meetings

In 2010, the six bi-monthly board meetings were very well attended. These meetings were held in Pretoria and Bellville - linked by BKS Consulting Engineers' video-conference facilities. The video conference link has brought about a tremendous saving in travel costs and SASTT wishes to thank BKS Consulting Engineers for making available these facilities.

Presentations

At a three-day training course in Muldersdrift during the first quarter of 2010, Vermeer Equipment Suppliers presented a course on horizontal directional drilling. The target audience was client-bodies, contractors and consulting engineers.

In March 2010 ZETA organised a one day seminar on trenchless technology in Johannesburg. Papers were delivered by Mike King from Vela VKE; as well as Peter Wood and Allister Balutto, both from Rare Group.

Craig Burnie from Vermeer Equipment Suppliers did a presentation on trenchless technology in August 2010, at IMESA's Northern Branch's mini seminar, on behalf of SASTT.

Standards

SASTT is in the process of developing standards for trenchless technology and completed the standard for sliplining in May 2010. This standard is available on SASTT's website - www.sastt.org.za. (in pdf).

Standards still to be developed are:

- CCTV inspections
- Cured-in-place pipe linings
- Condition assessment
- Horizontal directional drilling
- Pipe bursting.

In an informal telephonic poll by Sam Efrat of Trenchless Technologies cc, several SASTT members indicated that they were willing to sponsor the development of the abovementioned standards. I would like to thank them in anticipation for their proposed contributions.

The conference of IMESA (Institute of Municipal Engineering of Southern Africa) 2010

SASTT had a great presence at the IMESA conference in October 2010 held in East London. As in the previous year SASTT itself also had a stand at the conference.

Of the 72 exhibition stands 10 were of members of SASTT. They were:

- Aurecon
- BKS
- Camjet
- Goba
- Jetvac South Africa
- Johannesburg Water
- Rare Group
- Sightlines
- TT Innovations
- Vela VKE

Although no papers on trenchless technology were presented, trenchless technology shone in the awards:

- Jetvac won the best large-stand award
- Camjet won the best small-stand award
- The best *IMIESA* magazine article of the year award (by an IMESA member) was won by *The Plumstead Sewer Rehabilitation* by Mike King.

SASTT would like to thank all its members who contributed to make these achievements possible and especially Mike King of Vela VKE for his time and effort in organising, setting up and running the SASTT exhibition stand.

Affiliations/Associations

ISTT (International Society of Trenchless Technology)

All SASTT members are privileged to be affiliated to ISTT and receive ISTT publications and newsletters.

ECSA (Engineering Council of South Africa)

SASTT has been recognised as a voluntary association of ECSA effective for 5 years from 26 August 2010 to 26 August 2015 and received an ECSA certificate of recognition to this effect on 2 November 2010 at the offices of ECSA in Bruma.

Publications

Newsletters

Two newsletters were distributed via e-mail to all members during 2010. SASTT's newsletters are also sent out to various international recipients. In addition to his multiple administrative duties, Joop van Wamelen has done an excellent job with SASTT's newsletters and website.

IMIESA

The January 2011 issue of *IMIESA* magazine featured a review of SASTT along with articles and advertisements by SASTT members. This constituted a total of nine pages on trenchless technology. Congratulations to those who contributed.

IMIESA undertook to publish regular contributions from the members of SASTT - please take note, as this is an ideal opportunity to create awareness for your individual companies as well as for SASTT.

Water and Sanitation Africa

An article on trenchless technology's crucial role in the maintenance and upgrading of South Africa's water and sewer infrastructure was published in the June 2010 edition of *Water & Sanitation Africa*.

African Business Journal

In October 2010 I was interviewed by a journalist from *African Business Journal* and an article on SASTT's involvement in trenchless technology was subsequently published on the *African Business Journal's* website i.e. www.tabj.co.za/associations/sastt.html.

Awards

SASTT Award of Excellence

Customary practice dictates that at the annual general meeting every year the SASTT Award of Excellence will be bestowed on the most worthy project. At the previous annual general meeting, Johann Wessels, SASTT president for 2009, handed this prestigious award to Sam Efrat of Trenchless Technologies cc for his well deserved *Absa Campus sleeves reticulation by horizontal directional drilling* project. Sam Efrat presented this project very effectively at several occasions during 2010. Details of the project were also published in *SASTT News* as well as in international publications.

Recognition

I would like to express my appreciation to all the board members for their participation in the board meetings despite their very busy schedules and for all their contributions during 2010.

On behalf of the board of 2010 I would also like to formally thank Joop van Wamelen not only for his indispensable contribution in the daily administration of SASTT but also for his constructive input in constitutional and other important matters.