



## No-Dig South Africa 2014: Registration is now open

by Caroline Prescott, Westrade Group Ltd



**29-30 July 2014**

CSIR International Convention Centre  
Pretoria, South Africa

### Conference and Exhibition on Trenchless Technology

Registration is now open for the second NO-DIG SOUTH AFRICA 2014 Conference which is taking place in Pretoria, 29 - 30 July this year. Delegates are now invited to sign up through the event website [www.nodigsouthafrica.com](http://www.nodigsouthafrica.com)

NO-DIG SOUTH AFRICA is the only event in the region to focus on trenchless technology and is an unrivalled forum for gathering information on the very latest techniques and for sharing experience of engineering projects which have been successfully completed using environmentally friendly methods.

Headlining the conference programme is the **Trenchless Masterclass**, to be presented by Sam Ariaratnam and Dec Downey, both past chairmen of the International Society for Trenchless Technology (ISTT). The Masterclass series has recently been presented in several countries including India, Thailand, Manila and Vietnam. The first day of the NO-DIG SOUTH AFRICA programme will focus on new construction and day two will feature rehabilitation methods. The presenters will provide detailed information on the various technologies and will also discuss selection methods and design.

Complementing the Masterclass presentations will be a number of case study presentations by clients and contractors who will highlight various projects using trenchless techniques.

“I am delighted that SASTT is once again taking the initiative to present this important forum on trenchless technologies in Pretoria,” comments Sam Efrat, President of SASTT.

“The industry is facing significant challenges to maintain and refurbish its underground infrastructure by using the most efficient and cost effective methods and trenchless techniques certainly have a major and important role to play in this process. We have a long road ahead to spread the awareness of the huge benefits achieved through these modern technologies and I would urge our country’s engineers to join us at NO-DIG SOUTH AFRICA 2014 to enrich their education and knowledge at this event.”

An integral element of NO-DIG SOUTH AFRICA is the exhibition of products and services that will be on display. Southern African companies are joined by several suppliers from overseas who will combine to provide a comprehensive display of products available for

trenchless works. Included in the line up of exhibitors are Platinum Sponsors Vermeer, who will display HDD equipment and ancillary projects. In addition, Bronze Sponsors Reef Trenchless Technology and Trenchless Technologies will show a range of their market leading products and services.

The exhibition is already more than 50 % sold and a full house is expected with many active enquiries for space from local and international companies.

Registration is now open at the event website [www.nodigsouthafrica.com](http://www.nodigsouthafrica.com) where special rates are on offer for members of the Southern African Society for Trenchless Technology (SASTT). Southern African professionals attending the Conference will also be awarded CPD points. Visitors wishing to attend the exhibition only, may also register at the website.

NO-DIG SOUTH AFRICA 2014 is organised on behalf of SASTT and ISTT by UK based Westrade Group Ltd who are specialists in organising international trenchless technology events.

Potential exhibitors are invited to contact Paul Harwood for information on space availability.

E-mail [pharwood@westrade.co.uk](mailto:pharwood@westrade.co.uk), or:

Tel: +44 (0) 845 094 8066

## **The evaluation of seminars, conferences or training events for CPD points**

by Joop van Wamelen

### **Introduction**

On behalf of the board of SASTT I consulted members of SASTT who are registered with the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA), regarding procedures followed by other learned societies or voluntary associations, of which they are also members.

The board was looking for guidance on how to assure the validity of CPD points accorded to delegates attending events offered by SASTT.

Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA), the Institute of Municipal Engineering of Southern Africa (IMESA) and the South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE), for instance, routinely evaluate conference papers or training material for CPD points.

It also transpired that ECSA requires that competent persons undertake the evaluations, which for ECSA would probably mean persons with professional registrations.

The board concluded from my report that if SASTT were to undertake such evaluations, it would need to appeal to such persons from among its membership. Since SASTT is more a technical society than an engineering institution, persons with professional registration are likely to be in the minority within SASTT.

### **The immediate issue: *No-Dig South Africa 2014***

The board resolved that it would invite its members to volunteer for the evaluations of the papers for NDSA 2014. Such evaluations would be recognised at the NDSA.

In addition, since an opinion poll regarding the past event is always taken following No-Dig events, the NDSA 2014 questionnaire should gauge the interest of delegates to undertake evaluations for future SASTT events, such as seminars and training courses.

In this manner it is hoped to build capacity for CPD evaluations within SASTT.

### **Your feed-back is requested please**

Members wishing to offer their services to SASTT to perform CPD evaluations are requested to provide a very brief curriculum vitae - two or three sentences are fine - to the writer at:

- Tel 012 567 4026
- Fax 086 668 4026, or
- *director@ sastt.org.za*

### **The annual general meeting of 2014**

#### **Introduction**

This year's annual general meeting of SASTT was held on 18 February 2014. Once again, it was well attended. Which was good because it sported a number of special features. The meeting was conducted smartly and ended early. It was concluded by a convivial braai which had been generously arranged and sponsored by Lyners Consulting Engineers and WBHO Pipelines.

The sponsors had something to celebrate: together with the Overstrand Municipality, they were the winners of the SASTT *Award of Excellence* for 2013!

The braai ended late...

#### **The minutes of the AGM**

The minutes of the meeting can be read at [http://www.sastt.org.za/agm\\_minutes\\_2014.pdf](http://www.sastt.org.za/agm_minutes_2014.pdf)

#### **The president's report for 2013**

The president's report can be read at [http://www.sastt.org.za/presidents\\_report\\_18feb2014.pdf](http://www.sastt.org.za/presidents_report_18feb2014.pdf)