



Institute of Mine Surveyors of South Africa

Room 509, Chamber of Mines Building
Corner of Sauer and Marshall Streets
JOHANNESBURG
South Africa

Phone: +27 (0)11 498 7682
Fax: +27 (0)11 498 7681
Fax2Email: +27 (0)86 548 9212

imssa@vodamail.co.za
www.ims.org.za

Office Hours: 09h00 to 15h00; Mondays to Thursdays

41st Presidium Meeting of the International Society for Mine Surveying **September 2013, Aachen, Germany**

Institute of Mine Surveyors of South Africa Report – 2013

The Institute of Mine Surveyors of South Africa (IMSSA), the association representing mine surveyors and allied disciplines in South Africa, will hold its 91st Annual General Meeting on the 11th of October 2013 in Johannesburg, marking 90 years of advancing the knowledge and practice of mine surveying and representation at national level. A special edition publication of the African Mining Brief will be published in celebration of this event. This is a significant achievement and sees IMSSA enjoying a continued strong influence in South Africa on all matters related to mine surveying. The meeting will coincide with a short conference and workshops on mine surveying technology, practice and impact of changing legislation on the profession.

The 90th Annual General Meeting and conference was held in October 2012. The event was a great success with many attendees and sponsors showing support to the Institute.

A positive development in the South African mining industry has been a remarkable 66% reduction in fatal accidents, however this is still short of the targeted 87%. Less positively, foreign mining investment in South Africa is being deterred by factors such as regulatory uncertainty, poor labour relations, labour militancy, reduced productivity and work disruptions. The country is now ranked 64th out of 97 countries as a destination for foreign mining investment vs. Botswana (our neighbour) which is ranked 17th globally and number one in Africa.

Postal Address:
P.O. Box 62339
Marshalltown
2107
South Africa

Branches:
North West
Free State
Mpumalanga

Summary of IMSSA activities October 2012 to September 2013

Legislation

The Geomatics Profession Bill [B4-2013] is currently in the process of being enacted. This bill will replace the Professional and Technical Surveyors Act, Act 40 of 1984, and with it replace the current Council for Professional and Technical Surveyors with a new Geomatics Council. Due to the current wording of the Bill, approximately 150 registered Mine Surveyors and Professional Mine Surveyors may be (unintentionally) impaired in the performance of their duties regarding applications for prospecting and mining rights. They may also lose their recognition as Competent Persons and Competent Valuers in terms of the SAMREC and SAMVAL Codes, as well as equivalent international codes (again, unintentionally). The Institute will continue to engage with the South African Council for Professional and Technical Surveyors and government, to have the Bill amended to ameliorate the concerns of mine surveyors. A presentation by IMSSA to a special portfolio committee of Parliament on the deficiencies of the Bill was positively received.

Certification as Professional Organisation

The South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) certified IMSSA as a Professional Organisation on the 7th November 2012, valid for a period of 5 years. Consequently, all members registered with IMSSA will be registered according to one of the following designations: Professional Mine Surveyor, Mine Surveyor and Associate Mine Surveyor (each linked to specific qualifications and experience).

The Council is currently in the process of registration with the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX) and the Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC) for the purposes of being a Recognised Professional Organisation (RPO). This registration is as a result of deficiencies in the proposed Geomatics Professions Bill and will enable IMSSA retain national and international recognition, irrespective of IMSSA representation on the proposed national Geomatics Council (which will replace the current Council for Professional and Technical Surveyors).

IMSSA Leadership Succession

In terms of succession, the next President of the IMSSA, Mr. Nape George Mojapelo, will take over the leadership of the Institute on the 11th October 2013 from Mr. Donovan Andersen. He studied mine surveying in South Africa and geostatistics at the Paris School of Mines in Fontainebleau, and is highly respected for his commitment and contribution to the profession. He is a past Director of Mine Surveying in the Department of Mineral Resources and will be the first black President of IMSSA

ISM Presidium Succession – South African Representation

In terms of the Statutes of the ISM, Mr Michael Livingstone-Blevins ends his term as Vice President four months after the Members' Assembly to be held on the 19th September 2013, effectively ceasing duties on the 18th of January 2014.

It is planned that he will be succeeded as Presidium Member for South Africa by Mr. Donovan Andersen, the current President of the Institute of Mine Surveyors of South Africa. Mr. Andersen holds MSc and MBA degrees from the University of the Witwatersrand and is currently the group survey manager for Anglo American Platinum. Unfortunately, Mr. Andersen is unable to attend the 41st Presidium meeting in Aachen due to current work priorities. Mr Livingstone-Blevins will continue to support the ISM through IMSSA and will advise Mr Andersen on ISM matters as and when required.

Education and Knowledge Transfer Activities

A series of three Practical Geostatistics textbooks by Dr. Isobel Clark will be sold through the Institute, and royalties paid to Dr. Clark. The universities are currently in the process of making these text books prescribed material for the South African mine surveyor.

The revision of mine surveying qualifications at tertiary education institutions is ongoing, with the support of the Education Committee of IMSSA and the Education Advisory Committee of the Council for Professional and Technical Surveyors. Higher and Advanced Certificates in Mine Surveying are being developed at the University of South Africa. A new Bachelor of Mine Surveying degree has been approved by the Senate of the University of Johannesburg for introduction in 2015, to be followed in 2018 with an Honours degree programme, allowing for direct progression from the Bachelor degree to the Honours degree. Post-graduate programmes (Master and Doctorate) will continue to be offered by the University of the Witwatersrand, as well as certificates of competency in Mine Planning and in Mineral Resource Management.

Work on updating two reference books continues: *Problems and Solutions for Mine Surveyors* and *South African Mine Valuation*. Work is progressing slowly on a comprehensive update of *South African Mine Valuation*, with new chapters and authors of these chapters identified.

The Institute will be publishing its Journal in a digital format, which will be accessible via IOS and Android systems.

South African Mining Commodity Summary

Please see the attached summary which details quantities and revenue (currency shown in ZAR; South African Rands) of minerals mined during the period January 2012 to December 2012.



Michael G Livingstone-Blevins Pr. M.S. (SA), FRICS

South Africa Representative to the ISM

ISM Vice President