



## South African Institute for Non-destructive Testing

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE 48<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It is an honour for me to present the Presidents report to this AGM in terms of the requirements of the current SAINT Constitution. This report details the activities of the SAINT Council for the past term of office.

### 1. Members of Council

The following members served council during the 2015/2016 period:

<b>President</b>	Keith Cain
<b>Vice-President</b>	Harold Jansen
<b>Honorary Treasurer</b>	Johan Gerber
<b>Honorary Secretary</b>	Glenda Molope
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Manfred Johannes
<b>Member</b>	Herman Lourens
<b>Member</b>	Marius Purcell
<b>Member</b>	Zanele Mgika
<b>Member</b>	Ismael Mohommed
<b>SPBNDT Manager</b>	Garth Appel
<b>Administrative Secretary</b>	Robin Marshall

### 2. Activities of the Council and the Institute

#### 2.1 Meetings

A total of six Council meetings were held with four being of the usual council type, 1 that was a Special General Meeting where the new constitution and steering committees were ratified with the last being a full budget meeting.

#### 2.2 Professional Body

In December 2015, the SPBNDT submitted a proposal to the National Skills fund for funding to manage NDT experiential training for NDT Graduate and Students from VUT as the beneficiaries. The proposed budget of R9,300,000 included funding for project management of R846,600. This would have assisted greatly in funding the SPBNDT office. In addition, it would have injected R250,000 into the central certification body and assisted our objective of world harmonisation for NDT. The intended beneficiaries of the project were 50 diploma students seeking experiential training. All of these students are black, both male and female and unemployed.

The specific objectives of the project were:

- To facilitate additional specific knowledge and practical training beyond that gained during the diploma course;
- To facilitate a wide range of on-site experience, by arranging visits to a cross-section of industry in South Africa, particularly SOC's. Eskom, Sasol, Transnet, Petro SA and Scaw will be targeted to allow this experience to be gained under direction of suitable industry experts;
- To provide to the industry a large number of qualified and competent NDT Professionals.

The training would have been managed by SAINT Professional Body for NDT (SPBNDDT) but the proposal was not accepted; however, it is sure that the experience gained will assist us in future attempts to secure funding of this nature. Manfred Johannes is thanked for his valuable contribution to developing this proposal.

A number of roadshows were held around the country to promote the PB, however these seem to have been in vain. Until the end users mandate designations, we will continue to struggle to attract designated members and consequently affiliate members.

Garth Appel and Harold Jansen have been engaging with two primary end users, one showing positive intent and the other showing no intent at all. Unfortunately, the person delegated by the positive end-user has since moved from his post and Garth has started to engage with the new responsible Level 3.

It is important to understand that the PB is not yet self-sufficient in that it is supposed to generate funds to pay for an office and administration staff - something that SAINT has until this point been providing the funding for.

The SPBNDDT endorsed and participated in a one-day conference arranged by NASA Cape Town.

We are still engaged with the MERSETA regarding the NDTT qualification. After many conversations and meetings, the QCTO informed Garth that the finalisation of the qualification is in progress.

An official Certificate confirming the status that Saint is a recognised Professional Body was also received from SAQA.

Full consultations have been held with the Department of Health - Radiation Protection (DOH) regarding the the revision of the current system of NDT radiation worker safety training. A proposal has been submitted whereby the PBNDDT would be responsible for the overseeing of training and approvals with the DOH providing an oversight role. At this point in time, no resolution has been forthcoming.

Our thanks and appreciation are afforded to Garth for all of his hard work towards making the PB successful.

## 2.3 Membership

Regarding membership, we were able to garner an additional 11 new corporate members and 21 new individual members. Their joining is most welcome and after realising the actual benefits, it is hoped that a lot more companies and individuals will join our ranks in the future.

Manfred Johannes was also awarded honorary membership due to his outstanding contribution to SAINT.

## 2.4 NDT Training activities

### a. **Vaal University of Technology**

The following information was provided by Dr Ike Sikakana:

- There were 168 enrolments during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester and another 134 during the second.
- Number of students who have completed their subjects (June/July 2016) but require experiential learning (on record) - 7
- Number of Students due to graduate - April 2017 (projection based on practical 2 experiential learning registered students) - 15
- NDT staff members attended and passed the following certificate workshops:
  - Introduction to Standards at SABS - 2 to 4 November, 2015
  - ISO/IEC 17025 Certificate at SANAS - 7 to 9 December, 2015
- A VUT NDT Indaba - for both current and past students, was held in the Vanderbijlpark campus on Saturday, the 6th of February, 2016. Issues raised during the NDT Indaba are currently being addressed internally and externally, particularly with NDT stakeholders and companies.
- Two NDT staff members attended and passed a Radiation Safety Training course on the 18th of February, 2016 in Germiston.
- NDT staff members attended a workshop on NDT Codes and Standards held from the 16th to 20th of May, 2016 in the Vanderbijlpark campus.
- An Ultrasonic Testing Level 2 certification course was held in the Vanderbijlpark campus from the 8th to 19th August, 2016 in collaboration with SANDE.
- A total of 32 students graduated in 2016, with a National Diploma in Non-Destructive Testing - Combined April and September graduation ceremonies.
- In 2017, a new Diploma in Non-Destructive Testing, approved and aligned to the Council on Higher Education (CHE), Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) will be offered.

**b. Southern African ASNT Chapter**

During March and October 2016 the Southern African ASNT Chapter has successfully offered ASNT Level III refresher courses and examinations. ACCP L2 and L3 exams were also facilitated this past year.

**c. Training Centres**

The ANDTC, NASA, SAIW and SANDE still provide valuable training to NDT technicians, and their efforts remain appreciated.

Again only three training centers provided statistics of which, are presented below:

	Total Course Attendees and Levels														
	PT 1	PT 2	MT 1	MT 2	UT 1	UT 2	WT	ET 1	ET 2	RT 1	RT 2	RT S	VT	WI	Other
Nov 2014 - Oct 2015	93	346	162	439	144	151	87	46	31	94	68	103	19	61	
Nov 2015 - Oct 2016	86	246	99	274	120	109	242	3	5	44	31	62	68	33	26

As suspected, it is now clearly visible that course attendance this year dropped considerably when compared with the statistics from last year. The only increase in numbers was for Wall Thickness and Visual Testing.

The process of technician’s converting to an ISO 9712 Personal certification also started to become evident.

**2.5 Website**

With our website, we were able to add more information by means of Q & A’s and articles. Trends in site visits have usually pointed to an increase in visits when an event was being heavily promoted.

Work is currently being undertaken to add a lot more content to the website and we are confident that the changes will start to become noticeable early next year.

**2.6 Technical Evenings**

Two technical evenings were held this year with the first being in Secunda and Dekra is again thanked for their support with sponsoring the venue and refreshments. Phillippe Rubbers from SCM and Jacques Gilmer are also thanked for providing presentations at such short notice.

The second was in a form of an NDT quiz and the ANDTC is also thanked again for their contribution to the success of the event.

## 2.7 Technical Committees

SAINT had a representative that participated at the SAQCC committee meetings held at the SAIW during the past year.

## 2.8 Marketing

This year as part of our marketing campaign, our marketing consultant assisted us in having three articles, with one being published in the African Fusion and the other two in the Engineering News magazines. Press releases after the completion of the yearbook launch and Women in NDT Conference were also compiled and issued.

It is almost certain, that with the creation of the new standing committee, their efforts will soon assist SAINT in achieving the desired results for the marketing of our institute.

## 2.9 Yearbook

The 2<sup>nd</sup> SAINT bi-annual yearbook 'Cornerstone of South African Non-Destructive Testing' was launched with great success on the 13<sup>th</sup> May at the Knowledge Commons, CSIR this year. It is a guide to assist in promoting the South African NDT industry and its importance to the development and growth of many other industry sectors in the country and abroad.

The book is also packed full with information and is intended to be a source of reference for all technicians and other NDT stakeholders and as such, would not have been possible without the diligence and hard work of all involved.

## 2.10 Conferences

There were 4 conferences of note during this past year.

### a. **NDT in Action Combined SAIW Certification - SAQCC NDT Conference**

This conference was held from the 17th to the 21st November last year in partnership with the SAIW. 22 technical papers were presented during the programme with 47 visitors and a total of 7 exhibitors attending.

### b. **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Cape Town NDT Conference**

This was held in February which was hosted by TNT. The conference was also a success with Saint and PB representatives attending and presenting papers.

### c. **19<sup>th</sup> World NDT Conference - Munich, Germany**

This was held during the second week of June. Seven members of Team SA presented papers and various meetings such as the General Assembly, ISO TC 135, PGP and Condition Monitoring to name a few, were attended. Saint and the African Federation of NDT had society booths that were professionally manned by Garth and the gentlemen from the SAIW.

Due to Team SA's reception in Germany, it was heartening to note that South Africa's footprint in the international NDT fraternity is now starting to become quite visible. The next world conference will be in South Korea in 2020 with Argentina winning the bid for 2024.

See Activity report SAR19 for additional information regarding the proceedings.

d. **Women in NDT**

This conference was held last month on the 14<sup>th</sup> October. It was of the inclusive sort.... for women only, where more than a 100 attended in fact. It is believed to be the first Women in NDT conference of this type ever to be held in the world.

The success of this event can only be attributed to the resilience of our South African women who find themselves involved in our unique industry as well as that of the support of the generous sponsors.

2.10 ICNDT

Two ICNDT Journals were published with the latest containing an article about Saint and more specifically, the Professional Body.

Harold Jansen is now the Chairman of the International Certification Executive committee and remains a member of WG1. The new ICNDT Chairman is now Sajeesh Babu with David Gilbert taking over the post of General Secretary.

2.11 AFNDT

At the mini conference in Middelburg an action plan for the development of the AFNDT was established where it was agreed for the region to be divided into sub-regions.

Harold Jansen and I are due to attend the official AFNDT Conference in Algeria at the end of this month and it is anticipated that further fruitful discussions will take place at the scheduled meetings.

2.12 Social Events

No social events were organised this past year but it is hoped that at least two can be planned and scheduled for next year.

2.13 Social Media

The social media manager has kept SAINT's Twitter and Facebook account quite busy with regular additions being 'liked' and 'shared'. Council are constantly looking for ways to reach out to all people involved in NDT with the correct message that SAINT wants to convey.

## 2.14 Awards

SAINT Council decided on creating new awards in addition to the current H. Rohloff Trophy and Dr. H Reisener Award.

The awards as well as the respective winners are:

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| • The <b>H. Rohloff Trophy</b> for the Best Research Project | Frikkie de Beer |
| • The <b>Dr. H Reisener Award</b> for the Best Lecture       | Wayne Claassens |
| • The <b>Lew Wells Trophy</b> for the Best Instructor        | Mark Digby      |
| • The <b>Marco Smit Trophy</b> for the Best Technician       | Henco Dickason  |
| • The <b>SPBNDT Trophy</b> for the Best Student              | Mpho Phaahla    |

Congratulations to all of the prize winners. We as Council are extremely pleased with the efforts of the winners as well as that of all of the other nominees. May their achievements be an inspiration to all of us.

### 3. **Acknowledgments**

I would like to thank everybody for their contributions during the past year, including all of the council members who diligently fulfilled their various responsibilities as well as the taking on of additional responsibilities, sometimes when under very difficult time constraints. Your efforts are sincerely appreciated.

My thanks and appreciation goes to the departing council members who also assisted in the work and the provision of guidance and wisdom towards the achievement of SAINT's goals.

I thank you for this opportunity, and ensure you of our commitment as council in the coming year to further improve the functioning of the Institute to the benefit of all stakeholders, as members of the Southern African Institute for Non-destructive Testing.

### 4. **Incoming Council**

The following people were nominated to serve on council for the next year. I thank you for accepting your nominations as well as that of your appointment to the specific positions.

<b>President</b>	Keith Cain
<b>Vice-President</b>	Harold Jansen
<b>Honorary Treasurer</b>	Hennie Fourie
<b>Honorary Secretary</b>	Wayne Claassens
<b>Immediate Past President/SC Ethics</b>	Manfred Johannes
<b>SC Chair - Training &amp; Qualifications</b>	TBD
<b>SC Chair - Quality Audit</b>	Ben Buys
<b>SC Chair - Finances and &amp; Marketing</b>	Thea Wagner
<b>SC Chair - Members, Service Providers, Suppliers</b>	Chris Georgiou
<b>SC Chair - Technical Committee</b>	Grant Meredith
<b>SPBNDT Manager</b>	Garth Appel
<b>Administrative Secretary</b>	Robin Marshall

This is an opportunity for you all to be instrumental in writing a new but another extremely important chapter in the illustrious saga of SAINT.

Yours sincerely,



Keith Cain  
SAINT President  
17 November 2016