PROFESSIONAL BODY FOR NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING

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SAINT Presidents Report – 2025 – 57th Annual General Meeting 15 April 2026

1. Welcome

It is my honour to present this President's Report at the 57th Annual General Meeting of SAINT Professional Body for Non-Destructive Testing. This is my first report as President, and it covers a year of real achievement.

I say that with intention. 2025 was not simply a year of activity – it was a year in which SAINT PB delivered on commitments that had been years in the making. We restructured, we secured our regulatory standing, we expanded our SETA footprint, and we raised our voice where it mattered most. I am proud to report on each of these milestones to you today.

2. Council 2025 / 2026

We had a lot of changes in the Board and on Council in 2025. The following members served will be serving on the SAINT and SPBNDT combined Council Board during the 2025 term:

Role	Member
President	Joy Barnard
Vice-President / Chair	Dr Manfred Johannes
Honorary Treasurer	Graham Duk
Honorary Secretary	Devonne Appollis
Board Member	Philipe Rubbers
Board Member	Kgotso Sepokotele

My sincere thanks to Natasha van der Walt and to Manfred Johannes, who presented last year's report on her behalf. Their stewardship through a demanding period laid the groundwork for what we have been able to accomplish.

3. Key Achievements in 2025

The following four achievements stand out as the defining milestones of the year. Each one strengthens the foundation of SAINT PB as the recognised professional home for NDT in South Africa.

3.1 The Merger and Restructuring of SAINT PB

✓	**SAINT and SPBNDT officially merged into a single unified entity: SAINT Professional Body for Non-Destructive Testing (SAINT PB)**

The merger of SAINT – the South African Institute for Non-Destructive Testing – and SPBNDT – the SAINT Professional Body for NDT – into one consolidated entity is the most structurally significant change in the organisation's history. The combined entity is officially named SAINT Professional Body for Non-Destructive Testing and referred to as "SAINT PB" to avoid confusion with its predecessor bodies.

This consolidation eliminates the duplication of governance, financial, and administrative structures that had existed for years. It gives our members a single point of engagement, a single professional voice, and a single regulatory

identity. It also gives our sector's external stakeholders – SAQA, SAHPRA, the SETAs, and ICNDT – one clear, authoritative counterpart.

The combined entity closes 2025 with a total cash position of approximately R 224,000 and a positive financial trajectory heading into 2026. The first combined budget covering 2026 and 2027 is presented at today's AGM.

3.2 Re-Registration with SAQA as Professional Body for NDT until 2031

✓	**SAINT PB has been successfully re-registered by SAQA as the recognised Professional Body for NDT in South Africa, with registration extended to 2031**

SAINT PB's recognition as a SAQA-registered Professional Body is not merely a formality – it is the legal and regulatory basis for everything we do: designating NDT practitioners, overseeing qualifications on the National Qualifications Framework, and representing the profession in South Africa's governance structures.

Securing this re-registration through the merger transition, and extending it to 2031, gives the organisation a six-year runway to implement our strategic priorities with certainty and credibility. It also firmly settles any ambiguity about SAINT PB's standing, including in the context of recent attempts by other parties to challenge or circumvent our status as the only SAQA-recognised Professional Body for NDT in South Africa.

3.3 Registration as Skills Development Partner – MerSETA

✓	**SAINT PB has been approved on the MerSETA NSDMS system and registered as a Skills Development Partner**

Two significant skills development milestones were achieved in close succession:

- SAINT PB received formal approval from MerSETA on the National Skills Development Management System (NSDMS) on 10 April 2026, confirmed by MerSETA directly to our Skills Development Facilitator.

These registrations open direct pathways to SETA funding, levy grant access, and formal collaboration on learnership and skills programmes within the NDT sector. They also broaden SAINT PB's reach into the radiation sciences community, complementing our existing mandate under SAHPRA for the radiation safety competency of industrial radiographers.

I want to extend particular thanks to Fabian Hartnick of FAH Trading Services, whose expertise as an independent Skills Development Facilitator, Accredited Assessor and Moderator was instrumental in navigating the SETA registration processes. Fabian's commitment to this work – and his dedication to "driving artisan recognition and shaping national skills development" – is exactly the kind of specialist partnership that SAINT PB needs to fulfil its mandate. We are grateful for your invaluable contribution, Fabian.

The next priority is to expedite the implementation of the existing NDT occupational qualification now that the SETA registration infrastructure is in place. Council will engage MerSETA on next steps in this regard as a matter of urgency.

3.4 Engaging SAHPRA as a Collective Voice for the NDT Sector

✓	**SAINT PB stepped forward as the collective representative for NDT companies experiencing SAHPRA licence renewal delays in 2026**

Companies performing industrial radiography in South Africa are required to hold a valid SAHPRA licence to operate legally. In early 2026, a significant number of NDT companies – whose licences expire annually in April – began experiencing serious delays in the renewal process, placing them at risk of conducting work outside the law.

Rather than leaving individual companies to navigate this alone, SAINT PB took deliberate action: we wrote formally to SAHPRA on behalf of the sector, mobilised a WhatsApp communication group for affected RPOs and decision-makers, and committed to securing a structural engagement with SAHPRA – not just a quick fix for 2026, but a permanent solution to prevent this recurring year after year.

SAHPRA has acknowledged our correspondence and committed to engaging internally and reverting. This engagement is ongoing. What it demonstrates, however, is exactly what SAINT PB is for: to be the professional body that shows up when the sector faces a systemic problem and uses its recognised status to open doors that individual companies cannot.

This also reflects the broader opportunity in our relationship with SAHPRA. SAINT PB's mandate in radiation safety – rooted in the 2017 agreement with the Directorate of Radiation Control under the Hazardous Substances Act – gives us a unique platform to represent NDT professionals in radiation safety matters at a national level. We intend to build on this relationship purposefully in 2026 and beyond.

4. Other Matters

4.1 SAQCC NDT

The relationship between SAINT PB and SAQCC NDT remains complex. SAQCC NDT – the personnel registration body mandated by the Department of Employment and Labour under the OHS Act – has since September 2025 formally requested that SAINT PB initiate a SAQA derecognition process to allow SAQCC NDT to apply for Professional Body status. SAINT PB has not agreed to this request.

We have proposed an alternative collaborative model that we believe better serves the NDT community, and we have kept the Department of Employment and Labour informed throughout. The matter remains unresolved, but our position is clear: SAINT PB is the SAQA-recognised Professional Body for NDT. That status has been re-confirmed until 2031. It is not for another body to determine what becomes of it.

4.2 ICNDT & International Representation

SAINT PB remains South Africa's Full Member of ICNDT. During 2025, SAQCC NDT made representations to ICNDT claiming to be the sole professional body for NDT in South Africa. SAINT PB engaged ICNDT directly and provided the factual basis for our position. We are grateful for ICNDT's careful approach to this matter.

We are working to formalise SAINT PB's ICNDT affiliation arrangements post-merger and to restore active participation in ICNDT and AFNDT structures. South Africa's voice in the international NDT community matters, and SAINT PB intends to use it.

Dr Manfred Johannes will be attending the ICNDT/EFNDT International NDT Conference in Verona, Italy in June to represent SAINT. We look forward to his report after the events.

4.3 Financial Performance

SAINT returned to surplus in 2025, recording a profit of R 104,444 (2024: loss of R 14,498). Membership subscription revenue grew by 61% to R 198,626. The SPBNDT entity recorded a loss of R 10,306 primarily due to lower RAD Safety exam volumes, but the combined position entering 2026 is R 224,000 in cash. The combined 2026–2027 budget tabled today targets a surplus of R 113,700 in 2026.

5. Priorities for 2026

- Implement the SETA qualification pathway – expedite the NDT occupational qualification through MerSETA with urgency.
- Resolve the SAHPRA engagement – secure a structural solution to annual licence renewal delays, and expand SAINT PB's radiation safety representation mandate.
- Complete the merger integration – consolidated bank account, single governance framework, and unified member communications platform.
- Grow membership – 10% individual membership growth target to unlock SAQA billing incentives; focused corporate membership drive.
- Formalise ICNDT affiliation and restore active South African participation in international NDT governance.
- Launch the CPD programme and Development Fund as tangible member benefits of the restructured SAINT PB.

6. Acknowledgements

None of what is reported here happens without people. My thanks go to:

- Fabian Hartnick – for going above and beyond in securing our SETA registrations. Your expertise and patience made a material difference.
- Garth Appel – for his unwavering commitment to the day-to-day operations of SAINT PB and his relentless attention to SAQA compliance.
- Dr Manfred Johannes – for wise counsel, institutional memory, and for being a steadying presence throughout the merger transition.
- Mo (Abdur Rahman Mahomed) of Africa NDTC – for his support on Council and his continued advocacy for NDT training in Africa and beyond.
- Gamma Tec – for generously carrying the cost of the SAINT website and maintenance. This contribution is invaluable and deeply appreciated.
- All corporate and individual members – your continued membership is both a vote of confidence and the resource that makes SAINT PB's work possible.

2025 was a year of building. The foundations are strong. 2026 is a year for delivering on them.



Joy Barnard
President – SAINT Professional Body for Non-Destructive Testing
15 April 2026