

Engineers need to act now

Professional registration:

The *Minister for the Built Environment* has published draft policy document Notice 337 of 2008 indicating that ECSA would be converted into a professional board that will report to the South African Council for Built Environment (**SACBE**) who in turn will report to the Minister for the Built Environment. This has **serious implications** for all registered professionals since the **International Engineering Alliance, EC (UK) and FIPENZ (New Zealand) have all indicated that under the proposed legislation it is not clear that ECSA's membership of EMF and other professional recognition agreements would be allowed to continue.** These bodies are of the opinion that the proposed changes are so fundamental that **the new South African organisation could not automatically be accepted as a direct successor to ECSA.** The impact of this is that the **qualifications of engineers, technologists and technicians who register in South Africa after the policy has been enacted may no longer be recognised or accepted outside** South Africa. In the opinion of the **SAIMC** it is imperative that these professionals **register immediately with ECSA**, prior to the changes coming into effect, **to ensure the international recognition of their professional status.** Alternatives for international professional recognition are being investigated by the SAIMC.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD):

- Professionals who registered in the following years need to have accumulated 10 CPD points by the end of 2008: 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998 and 2003.
- Professionals who registered during the following years should have registered last year with 5 CPD points: 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997 and 2002.

The relevant documents have been attached to this email for your convenience, alternatively for more information on the proposed changes in professional registration visit http://www.publicworks.gov.za/attachments/Policy_document.pdf and for more information on CPD visit <http://www.instrumentation.co.za/papers/C8622A.pdf>.

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