



SAESI Conference and plenaries 2017

The SAESI Conference and plenary sessions ran concurrent with the SAESI Conference, Expo and Training Challenges 2017 at NASREC, Gauteng. The plenary session topics were industry-specific and provided a wealth of information as well as opportunity for open discussion. Topics included wildfire/urban interface, technical rescue, airport rescue and fire fighting (ARFF), fire safety and industrial fires. The plenary sessions ran over two days and finished at lunchtime in order for delegates to visit the exhibition and challenges.

The wildfire/urban interface plenary was championed by Lee Raath-Brownie and included presentations on 'Challenges of wildfire and climate change on forestry industry' by Churchill Mkwalo of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry (DAFF); 'Wildfires in the urban interface: ICS challenges' by CFO Ian Schnetler of the City of Cape Town Fire and Rescue; 'Pre-season planning' by Malcolm Procter of DAFF; 'Wildfire courses and training' by Braam du Preez of the Nelson Mandela University (NMU); 'Fire protection association (FPA) strategies and lessons learned' by Stephen Devine of Mpumalanga

Umbrella FPA; 'Wildfire awareness toolkit' by Etienne du Toit of Western Cape Government; 'Forensic wildfire investigations in the light of climate change' by Rob Erasmus of Enviro Wildfire Services and 'Knysna: a case study' by Colin Deiner of the Western Cape Province.

The technical rescue plenary, championed by Colin Deiner, included presentations on 'Technical rescue, an international perspective and trends' by Alan Pellowe of 112 Solutions, UK; 'Trench rescue' by Charles Mbaso of City of Tshwane Fire and Rescue; 'The rhythm of technical rescue' by Colin Deiner; 'Combat search and rescue (CSAR)' by Peter van der Spuy of ER24; 'A journey through Africa's largest NGO' by Ahmed Bahm of Gift of the Givers and 'Off road rescue' by Ivor Rimmer.

The ARFF plenary was championed by CFO Clive Naidoo of OR Tambo International Airport (ORTIA) and topics included 'Aerodromes categorisation, audits and licensing requirements' by Nomusa Mkhize of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA); 'Importance of brand and reputation' by Clive Naidoo of ORTIA; 'Training standards' by Rudi Swanepoel of Lanseria International Airport; 'A pilot's perspective' by David Chandler

of Avex Air; 'Fleet and equipment maintenance' by Jo Niemann of Aerodrome Rescue and Fire Fighting and 'Search and rescue' by Santjie White of the Aeronautical Search and Rescue Coordination Centre.

The fire safety plenary was championed by Lee Raath-Brownie, assisted by Johan Breytenbach of City of Tshwane EMS and included 'Fire safety in South Africa: challenges' by Dr Moses Kghangale of the NDMC; 'SA Fire statistics' by Moshema Mosia of FPASA; 'Enforcement of fire safety on high-jacked buildings' by January Molo of the City of Johannesburg EMS; 'Pre-incident planning' by Anthony Bruno of Midvaal Fire and Rescue; 'Fire service industry, where to from here?' by Tony Belanco of JASCO; 'Johannesburg safety kits' by Synock Matobako of CoJEMS and the 'Smoke alarm campaign' by JJ Pretorius of Breede Valley Fire Department.

André Tomlinson headed up the industrial fires workshop with topics such as 'International incidents and trends', 'Tank farm fires', 'Fixed systems vs response', 'Water supply and relay' and 'Emerging and future technologies'. Sasol Secunda's CFO, André Labuschagne, discussed the 'Importance of training in industrial fires'. 