



24 February 2012

National Communiqué No 002

Dear Members,

May I start off by saying that the ITC-SA is very appreciative of all its members and that we have it in our hearts to serve your needs in a way that will not only satisfy, but will create the environment where others will experience your satisfaction and become envious and so also join the ITC-SA.

May I also apologise for the breakdown in communication due to incorrect contact details that caused a great deal of unhappiness in the ITC-SA family. We have started a process of verifying all our members contact details to ensure that this problem is never again repeated. Mostly, we will be relying on our Regional Representatives to check and confirm current detail, but would like to also invite you to confirm any change in contact detail directly with Amanda or myself.

In my previous communiqué, I confirmed that ITC-SA will have its first Board Meeting for 2012 on the 21st of February 2012, and some interesting agenda items will be discussed and that these will be communicated as Board Resolutions after the meeting. I therefore take pleasure in confirming the following:

1. Policies and Procedures

The ITC-SA Board has approved eighteen Policies and Procedures to guide and measure compliance with Labour Law and the Basic Conditions of Employment Act. These policies are available and can be adopted by you to ensure compliance with said Legal requirements.

We also remain available to research specific industry related challenges that may arise in dealing with staff and will support our members to find the correct and best governance practice to deal with these issues.

2. Review of SANS 10243 and SANS 10163

The ITC-SA is an active member on both SABS Task Teams, where our member's interests are always punted, ensuring that structural integrity is maintained but that excessive engineering requirements do not make timber trusses unaffordable to the public at large. This work entails a lot of research and engineering rationalization, and we remain indebted to the ITC-SA TEAC that spends many hours of professional time in fighting this good cause for our members.

Directors:

R.C. Adams (Chairman)
J. van der Westhuizen (Deputy Chairman)
F.C. Wagenaar (Executive Officer)
E. Piyackis*, N.A. Lawrence, P. de Villiers
M.G. Ferreira, V.R. Booth**, I. Keevey
L.J. Cotton, C.D. Hobson, W.J. Slabbert, S. Auret
R. Hahndiek, F. Smit, J.R. Naik, S.S. Meiklejohn**
*Greek **British

3. ITFB

The ITFB has decided not to go ahead with the merger with ITC-SA. The ITFB will become an Institution with its own branding, but will become Associate Members of the ITC-SA. An agreement is currently being structured to work together on a number of fronts, and specifically in the marketing of the timber industry. Combined Regional Meetings and road shows are also being considered and we will keep you informed of the outcomes.

4. ITC-SA Business Plan

This item may be the most important item that was tabled at the Board Meeting, and will have the biggest impact on current and future business activities of the ITC-SA. The whole proposal will be attached to this communiqué, but for clarity the following is confirmed:

- The Board wanted to develop a business plan that would better serve the needs of all ITC-SA Members.
- The Board wanted to create an even bigger dependency on the industry at large to recognize and support our self regulation.
- The Board wanted to ensure that our costing model was sustainable and could accommodate the additional expenditure that would be required in implementing the new business proposal.

5. Finances

The ITC-SA is totally dependent on its Members to fund all the activities nationally. These include the following:

- Engineering Council of SA meetings and negotiation to establish a recognized professional status for Roof Inspectors.
- The development of training material for SAQA approval and accreditation for Roof Inspectors.
- The development of a Business Plan for Roof Inspection Services.
- The Participation and contribution to NHBRC in repealing the Housing Consumers Protection Measures Act and the re-drafting of the new Act but with specific provision for recognition of ITC-SA members contributions to the industry.
- The participation on a Ministerial Task Team to investigate complaints in the residential housing market and to provide guidance and strategies to overcome same.
- Regulating all activities of ITC-SA Members nationally.
- The marketing and promotion of ITC-SA members at Woodex in JHB, and Buildex in Cape Town. Both advertorial and editorial content will be published in "Timber IQ" and "To Build" publications that will be available at these exhibitions. ***(Gauteng members wanting to attend Woodex can contact Amanda for complimentary tickets).***
- Meetings with the National Regulator of Compulsory Standards to establish an environment where ITC-SA can nationally interact with Building Control Officers.
- Helping the MBA KZN develop training material for carpenters to comply with SANS 10400XA and to register these qualifications so that artisans can receive recognition for further training and development.

6. Marketing

The Board approved a Marketing Strategy that will see the ITC-SA Executive Officer participate nationally with Regional Committees in marketing and promoting the interests of its members to the fullest. The strategy provides for performance measurement in regards to set milestones and will effectively commence in March 2012.

7. Operational Activities

The re-aligned Regional activities are reported on monthly, and same will be made available at Regional Committee Meetings so that all Members will be exposed to the milestones that was set and achieved in serving the Regional needs of the Members. All members are invited to liaise with the appointed Regional Representatives to confirm these mentioned milestones.

8. Promotion to Access of Information Act

The Promotion of Access to Information Act – Act 2 of 2002 was enacted on the 3rd of February 2000, giving effect to the constitutional right to access to any information held by a private or public body that is required for the exercise or protection of any rights.

The Act sets out the requisite procedural issues attached to such a request. We urge all ITC-SA members to ensure that they are in compliance with these statutory requirements.

9. Exempt Micro Enterprise Exemption

ITC-SA has applied and received the above to assist its members in serving their customer needs. EME Certificates are not compulsory but offers the enterprise invaluable credibility and are also powerful marketing tools. In business today, ***BEE South Africa has such a positive impact to business that other businesses will expect you to provide them with an EME Certificate or a BEE Certificate before doing business with you.***

Some of the advantages of having EME certificates are:

- When doing business with larger companies, start up and small businesses can use their EME Certificates as a marketing tool because these larger companies have to spend a certain portion of their expenditure with small businesses.
- Enterprises with EME Certificates are value-adding suppliers and this means that when corporate companies do business with EME's, they gain BEE points for every rand they spend with your business.

10. Appointment of Executive Officer

As you were aware, the Board appointed me on a six month performance based contract. This contract will officially end at the end of February 2012, and the Board unanimously confirmed my permanent appointment as from the 1st of March 2012.

In conclusion:

I want to thank all of you, and specifically the ITC-SA Board of Directors and the Regional Representatives for the hard work over the past year and specifically the last six months. I am looking forward in taking the ITC-SA to the next level in 2012-2013, and leading towards statutory recognition and professional registration of its members.

Yours faithfully

Fred Wagenaar