

**PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF  
MINE MANAGERS OF SOUTH AFRICA AT THE 109<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH 2004**

Honoured Guests and Members

Over the last 109 years the Association of Mine Managers of South African has played an important and intricate part in the framework of the South African Mining Industry, in amongst others:

- ensuring a knowledge transfer of mining practices between current and future member;
- providing a structure for networking between members, affiliates and with major stakeholders,
- influencing the direction of the Mining Industry with regard to
  - safety and health, education, research legislation and regulation;
- ensuring sharing of best practices to add value to the member and to the business of mining; and
- to provide the vehicle that is the mechanism to social interaction between members.

Council members and members of the Association serve on a variety of committees, amongst other:

- Mines Rescue Services;
- Commission of Examiners;
- Examination sub committees;
- MQA Committees;
- Technikon Moderators;
- ECSA Council;
- Occupational Health and Safety Policy Committee of the Chamber of Mines;
- Self-Contained Self-Rescuers; and
- SIMRAC.

As an Association we structure ourselves into four districts and during the year we structured the Central and Western districts in order to include the Kloof, Randfontein and South Deep mines into the Western district from the Central district.

These districts meet eleven times during the year and provided regular interaction between the Council and members of the Associations through the participation by members at district meetings.

To ensure that the Association share best practices, particularly with junior members, we arrange eleven technical visits to different mines and three General Meetings during the year.

During these General and District meetings many technical papers were presented and provided an excellent vehicle for the communication of best practice in mining.

The Council during the year continued with the thrusts previously identified and the most noteworthy of these initiatives was to interact with tertiary institutions to improve the pass rate for the certificate of competency of mine managers. Although this initiative is still in its infancy I believe that it is something that we need to drive to conclusion through the next Council year.

The other thrust areas that demanded a lot of attention during the past year were deliberations on the certification of engineers. In alliance with the South African Colliery Managers Association, South African Colliery Engineers Association and the Association of Mine Resident Engineers to form a Steering Committee was formed to lobby and interact on our behalf with the Engineering Council of South Africa, the Mine Qualifications Authority, Government Departments and the Chamber of Mines with regard to the registration on the certificated engineer as a recognised qualification.

In the process we have been instrumental in the defining for our industry of a competent and practising person.

We have also been instrumental and will continue to be involved in the reasoning around the issues with regard to the registration and licensing of persons in our Industry both voluntary and mandatory as well as the vexing question of continuing learning. I would like to thank Graham Butler for the role he has played in representing the Association on these matters.

Other initiatives included the Free State golf day and the decision to hold an Association Dinner for the first time during 2004.

The Presidential Technical visit in Northern Natal was also successful, not only did the visit include tours to some excellent technical sites but it also allowed for the opportunity of fellowship amongst members. For those that did not make it, you missed out.

In terms of the financial statements appended to the Annual Report, revenue for the year amounted to R301 400 with expenditure of R326 639. Accumulated funds at the beginning of the year were R263 240 and with the transfer of this year's deficit of R25 199 an amount of R238 041 has been carried forward to the new financial year. The majority of this year's deficit arose from the funding of the Association's share for the Steering Committee on the certificated engineer.

In terms of the powers invested in it by the Constitution and Rules of the Association, the Council resolved to increase the subscriptions level for 2004 to R630 p a for Ordinary

members, R515 p a for Associate members, R175 p a for Student members and R65 p a for retired members.

In conclusion I would like to say that this year has been a rewarding experience for me as your President. I wish to thank the Harmony Management for their understanding and support during the year and for allowing me the time to fulfil my obligations as President of this esteemed Association.

My fellow Council members, you made my task easier. For this I thank you for your committed support during the year.

To my fellow members thank you for giving the opportunity to serve as your President of our Association for 2003.

Finally a word of thanks to the Secretariat of the Mine Professional Associations for their working during the year.

**P W S TEENKAMP  
PRESIDENT – 2003**