



# SAIT Newsletter

## 2011 Annual General Meeting and Call for Nominations

This year's Annual General Meeting is scheduled for 10 May 2011, at 18:00, at Science Park, 1 Northway, off Marlboro Drive, Kelvin, Sandton.

After the business of the AGM, Wade de Chalain will give a paper entitled, 'Correct Maintenance of Chain Drive Systems Can Reduce Energy Consumption'.

Refreshments will be served after the presentation. For catering purposes, please let Gill or Isabel know that you will be attending and if you wish to bring guests. The SAIT contact details are: Telephone 011 802-5145, or e-mail [secretary@sait.org.za](mailto:secretary@sait.org.za) or [admin@sait.org.za](mailto:admin@sait.org.za).

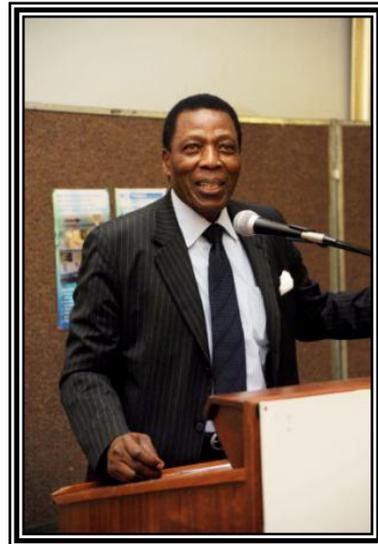
### Urgent Appeal for volunteers and nominations as prospective Executive Committee Members for 2011-2012:

The Executive Committee of the SAIT consists of eight members, nominated and elected by Members of SAIT. As we have had some resignations during this year, we urgently need more people. We know there are many of our Members who would be of great value on the Committee and would ask you to come forward and offer your support. Meetings are held once a month, usually on a Tuesday at 15:30, and duties should not take up much of your time. Please would you seriously consider standing for nomination. A nomination form is on the last page of this newsletter.

## Annual Awards Dinner, 6 April 2011

This year's annual awards dinner was a glittering banquet, held as part of the 10<sup>th</sup> International Tribology Conference in the Reception Hall at the University of Pretoria's Conference Centre.

Enjoyable background music was provided by The Pianoplayer, Mike Stewart. DA Shadow Minister of Energy, Sej Motau, gave an informative and entertaining keynote address.



**Sej Motau,  
Shadow Minister of Energy  
With the D.A.**

The highlight of the evening was the award presentations:

Sadly Arthur Langdon, who was to be awarded Honorary Membership of the SAIT in acknowledgement of his long loyalty to the Institute, died on the day of the Awards. Anton Allner accepted the award on behalf of Arthur and his family. A tribute to Arthur will appear in the next issue.



**Arthur Langdon's Honorary Membership  
Award was accepted on his behalf by Anton  
Allner**

The Louw Alberts Award for 2011 went to Dave Gamble, in recognition of his extensive contribution to, and ongoing support of tribology through the years, passing on to the next generation his knowledge, expertise and experience.



**Dave Gamble receiving the Louw Alberts Award from SAIT President, John Fitton.**

Makhwathana Ntakadzeni - University of the Witwatersrand - was awarded the 2011 SAIT Student Award for his final undergraduate year, BScEng in Metallurgical Engineering 2010, on *'Three body abrasion of annealed WC-17wt%Co HVOF Thermal Spray Coatings'*



**Makhwathana Ntakadzeni winner of the Best Student Award with Natasha Sacks of Wits University.**

The Award for the Best Presentation went to Annalie Lombard of Eskom Enterprises for her paper, 'Transformer Oil Chemistry affecting the South African Market', given at the SAIT Seminar 'Industrial Lubrication' on 6 May 2010.

A team from Sasol was awarded the SAIT's Best Technical Achievement Award for their work on 'fully Synthetic jet Fuel – impact on Wear, Emissions & High Altitude Relight & First Flight in SA.'



**Annalie Lombard accepts the Best Presentation Award from John**



**The Sasol Team with their Award for Best Technical Achievement.**

International delegates from Tribology 2011, the 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the SAIT, attended the Banquet.



**Prof. Bharat Bhushan, and his wife, Sudha, from the USA**



**Prof Christian Tonder & his wife, Aud, from Norway**



**Renno & Kaire Veinthal  
From Estonia**



**Herr Dr Prof Wilfried Bartz  
With student from the University of Pretoria,  
Carl van Dam**



**Wojciech Zurowski from Poland with his South  
African-based sister, Lydia Mon.**

Gill Fuller and Isabel Bradley greatly appreciated the lovely bouquets presented to them as thanks for their work organising the Conference and the Banquet.



## **STLE - CLS, OMA & CMFS Exams & “SAIT CLS Study Course”**

### **Further Change of Date**

The South African Institute of Tribology will host the Certified Lubrication Specialist (CLS), the Oil Monitoring Analyst (OMA) and the Certified Metalworking Fluids Specialist (CMFS) examinations of the Society for Tribologists & Lubrication Engineers (STLE) on Friday 18 November 2011. The venue is Science Park and the time from 09:00 to 12:00. **The exam is open to SAIT members in good standing.**

The SAIT will present the two-day **SAIT CLS Study Course** (16 and 17 November) immediately before the exam to help prepare for it. Attendance is strongly advised, especially bearing in mind the imperial measurements that are used and the focus on steel industry lubrication. The course will be facilitated by a current CLS holder, and study modules can be made available before the course dates, if needed. The STLE exam standard is high and the pass mark is 70%. Global pass rates are around 50%. **Registration for the SAIT CLS Study Course closes on 30 September 2011.**

For further information please contact Gill Fuller at phone +27 11 802-5145, or e-mail her at [secretary@sait.org.za](mailto:secretary@sait.org.za).

## **A Tribute to Arthur Langdon**

**By Anton Allner of Engen.**

It is with deep sympathy and sadness that we bring tribute to a humble yet outstanding person, Arthur Langdon. On behalf of all of my colleagues at Engen and the SAIT, I would like to reflect on Arthur's career and the person we got to know and love.

I had the privilege to start working with Arthur 20 years ago when I started in the oil industry. At just over 70, when most people have already retired, Arthur was a man with a passion for lubrication and tribology (the science behind lubrication), but more importantly, a passion and desire to live life to the fullest. His dedication, endurance, commitment and perseverance were true characters of a highly skilled engineer, which set

benchmarks for youngsters in the industry to follow.

To reflect on almost a century of a remarkable career is a huge task, but here are some highlights. Arthur was very proud to have worked for Mobil most of his life. He started way back when Mobil was still called Vacuum oil, it then became Pegasus and eventually Mobil. He also worked in the mining industry (Anglo and Goldfields) and with Iscor where he gained a tremendous amount of experience and application knowledge. He then started a consultation company, Petroleum Technical Services, and working with Samancor and Chemico among many others. It is at Chemico (part of Trek Petroleum) that I engaged with Arthur on a number of projects related to Rock Drill Lubrication.

During this time Engen was formed with the heritage backbone of Mobil. It certainly pleased Arthur to be back in a familiar environment. It pleased him even more when Engen took over Mobil Lubricants as sole distributor. He came through a full circle to end up back in an industry he clearly loved to be part of. This is remarkable as most petroleum people retire and never want to engage with an oil company again.

Arthur is well known as the "father of rock drill grease" or MR ROCKDRILL. He had a passion for understanding the working of these machines and overcame the technology era by staying abreast of the latest innovation and lubrication requirements. As a designer and innovator Arthur gave life to the remarkable Kinair Filter Lubricator and Set Feed Lubricator over the years with a dear friend Brian Rose, who produces these lubricators at Filtration & Transmission Services. Many proto-types and adaptations were made to suit various customers and potential new users.

Arthur's ability to adapt to a changing market was outstanding, always looking for a new angle to overcome the issues that needed to be resolved. This included changing from Rock Drill Oil in the 1950's to a grease based lubricant to overcome the mist created around the machine and make it safer for rock drill operators. Arthur's continued research made him a valuable asset to the development team in Engen and his analytical mind-set helped us design products of superior performance. During this time Arthur was exposed to organisational changes and had to deal with life realities that the local grease plant was closed and our research continued but from a distant Sweden and a new grease supply partner. During the last years with Arthur's help we have developed a biodegradable grease, which shows a different side of Arthur that of caring for nature, the environment and most importantly, for people.

People mattered to Arthur. His unselfish ability to mentor, train and teach with absolute patience and repetitive practical testing makes his contribution to society remarkable. Arthur did not only train laboratory technicians, chemists and engineers in the art of rock drilling, he taught technical field advisors, sales engineers and sales reps. With a state of the art investment by Engen both at the former Chemico and then relocated to Engen Isando DC, Arthur imparted his knowledge to customers, end users and even buyers.



**Arthur Langdon Accepting a Merit Award from Alan Grodner, SAIT President, in 1995, on the Occasion of the SAIT's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

There were humorous times as well, especially as Arthur got older and the mines refused to allow him underground, hearing his reasoning how silly they are, or when he would sit in meetings and tell all present that they need to speak up, a little louder, as the "damn machine" makes me deaf just like Quasimodo said about the bells at Notre dame."

Arthur often spoke about his family, making his love for them very clear. We felt his pain when his dear wife passed away many years ago and yet Arthur kept going. Servicing his own cars, driving himself, living at his own house.... I recall the love for golf and how much Arthur enjoyed the game, and sadness when he realized he could not play anymore. I remember the excitement when he extended and renovated his house, almost as excited as a young man of 20 moving into his first property....

A well respected man's life ended last month. As our physical bodies grow older our spirits are young and forever living in God's kingdom. Arthur followed Jesus to his new home, the newest and youngest member of the eternal Kingdom and I am sure he was welcomed with open arms and true love only God can give. He must be smiling at us as he had a good innings. Our prayers go to Arthur's wonderful family, who I know will miss

him dearly and I trust these fond memories will go a long way to pay tribute to a humble man.

Arthur has raised the bar, he was a true legend and his contribution will go on into the future.

An Honorary Membership from the SAIT was awarded to Arthur during April and this was handed to his son Tim.

We are thankful that we as an industry had the privilege to know Arthur.

## SAIT Training Courses, 2011

The next **Lubrication Engineering Course (72)** will be held in **Durban** from **23 – 27 May**.

A split **Lubrication Engineering Course (73)** will be held in **Johannesburg** on **26, 27 & 28 July** and **2 & 3 August**, and **Lubrication Engineering (74)** will take place in **Cape Town** from **15 – 19 August**.

For information and registration, please contact Gill or Isabel on either [secretary@sait.org.za](mailto:secretary@sait.org.za) or [admin@sait.org.za](mailto:admin@sait.org.za), or on 011 802-5145.

## Members' Case Study Competition

Over the next 12 months, members are invited to submit tribological case studies to be considered for publication in the SAIT Newsletter. Entries should be no more than 1 page.

Those which are published will receive R400-00 in acknowledgement.



After 12 months a winning case study will be selected and the author will receive a voucher to attend the next SAIT Seminar free of charge.

Entries can be sent to [secretary@sait.org.za](mailto:secretary@sait.org.za). Submissions should be approximately 400 words or a page in length.

## Tribology in Action

**The friction of wind turns the sails of the turbines, which run smoothly on well-lubricated bearings, sending electrical power through underwater cables to light the world.**



The **SAIMechE** offers training courses in many fields of Mechanical Engineering. Their website is [www.saimeche.org.za](http://www.saimeche.org.za).

## International Tribology-Related Events, 2011

**STLE 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exhibition:** May 15 – 19, 2011, Atlanta, Georgia. Go to [www.stle.org](http://www.stle.org) for further information.

**Ecotrib 2011, Vienna, Austria:** 7 – 9 June 2011. Go to [www.oetg.at/ecotrib2011](http://www.oetg.at/ecotrib2011) for more information.

**Education for Sustainability - International Greening Education Event 2011, Karlsruhe – Germany.** 19 to 21 October 2011. for further information, go to event details at <http://www.etechgermany.com/IGEE2011.pdf>

**International Tribology Conference, Hiroshima 2011:** 31 October – 3 November 2011. E-mail [nagamura@mec.hiroshima-u.ac.jp](mailto:nagamura@mec.hiroshima-u.ac.jp) for further information.

**VII International Conference, Lubricants Russia 2011:** November 9 – 10 2011, Renaissance Moscow Hotel. To register contact Elena Konstantinova at [Konstantinova.Elena@rpi-inc.com](mailto:Konstantinova.Elena@rpi-inc.com) or go to <http://www.rpi-conferences.com>.

**TAE 18<sup>th</sup> International Colloquium Tribology, Industrial and Automotive Lubrication:** 10 – 12 January, 2012 in Stuttgart/Ostfildern, Germany. E-mail [info@tae.de](mailto:info@tae.de) for further information; visit website [www.tae.de/tribology/](http://www.tae.de/tribology/); phone +49 71-34008-0 or fax +49 711 34008-65

### Nomination Form for SAIT Executive Committee, 2011/2012

Please complete this form and fax it to The Secretary at 086 719-2261, by 30 April 2011. All SAIT Members will be given the opportunity to exercise their voting rights, once all nominations have been received.

**\*\*\* Please ensure that the nominee signs acceptance on this form \*\*\***

\*\*\*\*\*

I hereby nominate .....

of Company ..... Tel No.....

to stand for election to the 2011/2012 Executive Committee

Nominated by Name .....  
(Please print)

Company .....

Signed ..... Date .....

\*\*\*\*\*

**\*\*\* I hereby accept this nomination, confirm my availability to stand on the 2011/2012 SAIT Executive Committee, undertake to regularly attend the Executive Committee meetings and to fulfil my portfolio responsibilities.**

Name .....

Tel & Fax .....

Signed ..... Date .....

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