SOUTHERN AFRICAN EMERGENCY SERVICES INSTITUTE NPC

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SAESI NOTICE – COVID-19 / Corona Virus

Given the current situation nationally regarding the COVID-19 / Corona Virus and announcements of containment measures pronounced from Government, the Southern African Emergency Services Institute are not immune to the situation or naïve to the threat.

However, I want to reassure you that SAESI is taking a proactive approach to business continuation and risk reduction while providing the support required to all members, clients, providers, stakeholders and associates with SAESI in these uncertain times.

1. SAESI Head Office will remain open for business

Precautionary measures of providing sanitisers and allowing staff to wear masks and or gloves are in place when dealing with customers. Regular washing of hands after handling submitted materials, no close contact etc. is also practiced. In the worst-case scenario, equipment for remote work are available and can be implemented. Internal and external communication continue normally through Email or digital platforms and therefore SAESI can be contacted normally through Landline +27 11 660 5672 or info@saesi.com or any other of the secondary email addresses or fax 086 544 0008.

2. Travel and Scheduled Company Meetings

As of now, SAESI has not cancelled any scheduled Company Meetings, but are guided by government (national) guidance and announcements. This has had effects of members being grounded from travel outside their municipal or regional boundaries, however through digital means and systems we can ensure colleagues can either pick up on projects or ensure continuation of projects with minimum disruption.

Entering the digital space have been a strategic vision of Head Office and the Board for some time with significant successes already in place. The opportunity for digital meetings is available and the transition thereto might just be expedited given the circumstances.

3. Development and Training

In a time of alarm, scaremongers and opportunistic criminals feeding off the situation, a steady voice is required. Logically not all business will continue as usual but we are confident in our passion and commitment in keeping SAESI connected and open.

SAESI Member Fire Technology Examinations

The Scheduled SAESI Examinations in Fire Technology have not been cancelled and will continue on the registered dates between 6 and 9 April 2020. Engagements with all venues and invigilators this week have confirmed readiness and commitment to receive students for the examinations.

SAESI however respects its members and as such will credit any request for postponement of the examinations to the next opportunity without prejudice.

IFSAC Accredited Training Courses at Accredited Providers

Although several courses are currently running and have been registered with SAESI, we have already received notification of Training Providers having to interrupt and postpone the training until further notice sending students home.

SAESI will retain all registered Accredited Courses being stopped for completion at a future date without prejudice.

"During a crisis, leaders have the difficult and opposing responsibilities of keeping their constituents and teams informed, while also compelling them to remain calm and focused on solutions."

I would like to take this opportunity though to inform SAESI members and stakeholders alike of successes and opportunities available in this regard that SAESI have been working on;

- Online Fire Technology Examinations will be available shortly with immediate results
- Online RPL is a reality
- Online External Integrated Summative Assessment for National Qualifications is being finalised for National Qualification

..... more to follow, so keep a watchful eye on our website.

4. Caring for our members

As fire fighters and emergency responders, SAESI is very much aware of the personal risk to our members and non-members purely by the very nature of your work. As such I would like to share the following Coronal E-Book with you.

For the E-Book follow the link ; <u>https://www.saesi.com/corona-virus-no-panic-helpguide/</u>

NOTE: THIS IS AN INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATION. ALL CONTACT DETAILS ARE INTERNATIONAL

For local content and contact details follow the link ; <u>https://www.saesi.com/controls-covid19-virus/</u>

We wish you all good health and safety for you and your loved ones during these times.

Salomé van den Berg Chief Executive Officer