



SAIRAC

The South African Institute of
Refrigeration and Air Conditioning

FOUNDING

On 17 July 1951, the South African Institute of Refrigeration was founded at a meeting of refrigeration engineers and food scientists held at the Bordeaux Hotel in Cape Town. The founding membership of 41 elected Dr Guido Dreosti as the Institute's first President, an office that he held for the next 5 years and again in 1957 and in 1962.

In 1962, the Institute widened its scope to include air conditioning and became the South African Institute of refrigeration and Air Conditioning (SAIRAC).

In 1961 SAIRAC started establishing Centres in the other major cities of South Africa. Port Elizabeth was established in 1961, followed by Durban in 1963 and Johannesburg in 1964.

MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 34132, Newton Park, 6055, South Africa

CONTACT DETAILS

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|
| Cape Town | Gino Demaio | 082 559 7584 | gdemaio@xsinet.co.za |
| Durban | Steve Aburn | 083 259 8130 | steveab@iafrica.com |
| Johannesburg | Vicky Jeremiah | 011 392 6630 | mr.goodtower@evapco.co.za |
| Port Elizabeth /East London | Celia Blignault | 041 453 4407 | elmarb@absamail.co.za |

WEBSITE

www.sairac.co.za

PRESIDENT

The SAIRAC President for the 2009/2010 period is Mr. Piet le Roux.

CHIEF STAFF PERSON

Position vacant.

AASA REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Bennie du Toit

NUMBER OF MEMBERS AND GRADES OF MEMBERSHIP

The total membership at 25/11/2009 was 915.

Membership of SAIRAC is categorized in the following grades:

- Student
- Associate
- Member
- Fellow
- Honorary Fellow

PURPOSE

SAIRAC serves the Environmental Control Industry. The purpose of the Environmental Control Industry is to implement environmental control measures to ensure:

- The health, safety and comfort of people.
- The preservation of perishables.
- The protection of the environment.

The environmental control measures include:

- Control of airflow
- Control of air quality
- Temperature control
- Humidity control and
- Noise control

The purpose of SAIRAC within the Environmental Control Industry is to:

- The generation, management and dissemination of information and knowledge related to the science and technology of Environmental Control.
- The Enhancement of professionalism in the Environmental Control Industry.

MISSION

The mission of SAIRAC is to offer our membership the following:

- Regular Technical Meetings, in each of the Centres.
- Site visits and plant tours.
- Enrichment courses.
- Feedback related to the revision of SANS/NCRS codes of practice.
- Feedback on the HCFC phase-out programme.
- The SAIRAC Technical Data Manual in CD format.
- The Dreosti Memorial Lecture.
- FRIGAIR exhibitions, conferences and workshops.

- The creation of a culture of learning and improvement by means of:
 - The recognition of the achievements of SAIRAC members, in their working environments and professional capacities, in the Environmental Control Industry.
 - The recognition of the achievements of students at tertiary educational institutions.
 - The recognition of the achievements of learners in the Industry.

OBJECTIVES: TECHNICAL MEETINGS

Each of the geographic Centres convenes monthly Technical Meetings which are addressed by knowledgeable persons on scientific and technological developments, and other topical issues, related to the Environmental Control Industry.

OBJECTIVES: ENRICHMENT COURSES

SAIRAC offers enrichment courses related to environmental control. Enrichment courses are usually presented as one day seminars, or a series of evening lectures. Courses are presented by members who have in-depth knowledge and experience in the subject presented. SAIRAC enrichment courses cover the following topics:

- Air conditioning
- Refrigeration
- Sound control

SAIRAC enrichment courses are registered with the Engineering Council of South Africa for CPD purposes.

SAIRAC enrichment courses do not compete with courses offered by training service providers or educational institutions

OBJECTIVES: DATA MANUAL IN CD FORMAT

The data manual has been written in the form of a disk-based website that starts with a dynamic index. This makes it very easy to find information on any topic just by clicking on the hot links. We have developed the content from the basics much like a text book, the object is not to teach refrigeration and air conditioning. Rather, it is to provide a rich source of reference material. Some of the information is better handled by software and where appropriate, we have included a number of software programs. Some of these are: a psychrometric chart generator, refrigerant properties, heat transfer coefficient calculator and a world locations database. The contents cover a broad range of subjects highly relevant to HVAC & R.

OBJECTIVES: DREOSTI MEMORIAL LECTURE

The Dreosti Memorial lecture gives honour and recognition to the outstanding academic and research achievements of the founder of SAIRAC and his exemplary service to the Institute. From time to time, SAIRAC invites a world-renowned expert in the field of air conditioning and refrigeration to present the Dreosti Memorial Lecture in each of the regional Centres. The objective with these lectures is to provide information that is not only topical and interesting, but useful and constructive to individuals working in our Industry.

Previous SAIRAC DREOSTI MEMORIAL LECTURES include:

- 1998: **“Global Warming - Considerations for the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industry”** presented by **Mr. Robert Heap** from the UK.
- 2001: **“Ammonia, The Natural Refrigerant for Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Beyond the 21st Century”** presented by **Prof. Wilbert (Will) Stoecker** of the USA.
- 2004: **“Carbon Dioxide as a Natural Refrigerant for the Future”** presented by **Mr. Andy Pearson** from the UK.

2009: **“Cutting Energy Bills with Natural Refrigerants is Not that Costly”** presented by **Ms. Monika Witt** from Germany.

OBJECTIVES: FRIGAIR EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE

FRIGAIR Exhibitions and FRIGAIR Conferences or Workshops takes place at regular intervals. These exhibitions and conferences/workshops showcase for the latest technological developments and trends related to the Environmental Control Industry.

The last FRIGAIR Exhibition and Workshop was held at Gallagher Estate, Johannesburg, during July 2007.

The next FRIGAIR Exhibition and Workshop will be held at NASREC, Johannesburg, during September 2010.

OBJECTIVES: AWARDS

- **Gold Medal Award**

The SAIRAC Gold Medal honours those that make outstanding contributions towards research and development in the refrigeration and air conditioning industry, both nationally and internationally.

- **Meritorious Award**

Awarded to any person within the air conditioning or refrigeration industries whom Council wishes to honour for outstanding service to the industry.

- **Honorary Fellow Membership**

The granting of Honorary Fellow Membership gives recognition to those who attained outstanding achievements in the Industry.

- **Life Vice President**

The granting of Life Vice President status gives recognition to those that have given outstanding service to the Institute.

OBJECTIVES: EDUCATIONAL PRIZES

In keeping with the objective to promote education and the dissemination of knowledge in the industry, SAIRAC offers the following prizes and student grants:

- **Dreosti Prize**

Awarded on a national basis to the author of the Best Paper presented at a SAIRAC Meeting during any calendar year and published in the SAIRAC journal.

- **Centre Prize**

Awarded by each Centre for the Best Paper of the year presented at that Centre. The recipient does not have to be a member of SAIRAC.

- **Most Diligent PE Centre Member Prize**

- **SAIRAC Prize**

Awarded on a national basis to the author of best thesis presented by a final year student studying refrigeration and air conditioning subjects at any university in South Africa.

- **Best University Student Award**

Awarded annually to the best final year student in subjects related to air conditioning and refrigeration.

- **Best Student Award**

Awarded annually to the best student studying air conditioning or refrigeration at a University of Technology or Technical College.

- **Best Learner Award**

Awarded annually by each Centre to the to the best learner in NQF level 2 and NQF level 3, studying air conditioning and refrigeration.

PUBLICATION

SAIRAC uses the RACA Journal as its mouthpiece.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- The next FRIGAIR Exhibition and Workshop will take place during September 2010.
- The next DREOSTI MEMORIAL LECTURE will be presented in 2011.
- Technical meetings take place on a monthly basis in each of the Centres.
- Enrichment courses take place on an ongoing basis in all the Centres.
- Awards and educational prizes are presented on an ongoing basis.

STRUCTURES

SAIRAC is active in the following geographic Centres:

- Cape Town
- Durban
- East London
- Johannesburg
- Port Elizabeth

The affairs of SAIRAC in each centre are managed by an elected committee, consisting of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and representatives of each grade of membership.

National control and management of SAIRAC is vested in a Council, headed by the President, who is elected by the Members. Council members include the Chairman of each centre, a Vice-President, immediate Past President and Treasurer.

Secretarial duties are performed by part-time secretaries and a national secretary.

AFFILIATION

SAIRAC is affiliated as an international associate of:

- ASHRAE
- International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR)

