

### PIESA Board Changes: AMEU

Mr Alex Kabata Okien, who represented the Soci t  Nationale d'Electricit  (SNEL) on the PIESA Board, retired from SNEL at the end of April 2007. We extend our deep appreciation for his support and wish him great enjoyment of his well-earned leisure.



We welcome Mr Pascal Kunda Paka who represented SNEL during 1998-2004 and has resumed that role from April 2007.



Integrity Control Systems' total focus is on the marketing and distribution of tamper evident security seals, tamper proof labels and re-usable sealing solutions for specific logistics applications.

Being the sole distributor for four leading manufacturers in the global sealing arena, ICS has access to the right products and the subsequent support to service customers throughout the region.

ICS is a member of the AMEU and SARPA, and is an advisory participant in a sealing work group coordinated by Eskom and various local municipalities.



Based in Windhoek, Namibia, EMCON's core group of specialists and its regional and international associates develop innovative approaches that consider local realities and economic circumstances, using sophisticated computer systems and specialist software - including computer aided design (CAD) tools, state-of-the-art Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment, and Geographical Information System (GIS) applications.

EMCON's experience includes:

- Development of indicators for trend monitoring in the energy sector;
- Electricity supply industry restructuring;
- Commercialization of electricity distribution services;
- Electricity market development;
- Electricity tariff determination and development of appropriate pricing principles;
- Electricity distribution master planning;
- Urban and rural electrification projects;
- Off-grid energy service implementation strategies;
- Renewable energy studies and projects;
- Energy audits; and
- Electricity distribution management from a utility perspective.

### New Affiliate Members:



**NU-LEC INDUSTRIES**

Already in October 2005 Nu-Lec expressed interest in Affiliate membership, and this was formalised during July 2007.

Nu-Lec Industries specialises in medium voltage overhead switchgear, providing advanced solutions and quality products for electricity network operators around the world. Their products incorporate leading-edge technology to support networks' evolving needs.

Nu-Lec has a strong customer-service focus including the flexibility to adapt products for operators' needs and a commitment to fast delivery times.

## PIESA Working Groups News:

### **Power System Analysis**

On 15 May 2007, ZESCO notified the Secretariat that Mr Custom Nthara, Principal Engineer Transmission Development in ZESCO, will replace Mr Julius Kampamba as Convenor of the Power System Analysis Working Group. He can be contacted at [custom@zesco.co.zm](mailto:custom@zesco.co.zm).



The Secretariat was informed on 1 July 2007 that Ms Jacqueline (Jackie) Chauke from Ekurhuleni Metro Electricity Department was nominated and approved by the Association of Municipal Electricity Undertakings (AMEU) as its representative in the Power System Analysis Working Group.

On 24 July 2007 the Secretariat was informed that Mr Vusi Sithole has left Eskom, and Dr Clinton Carter-Brown has been appointed as the new Eskom representative in the Power System Analysis Working Group.

### **Environmental Management**

On 2 July 2007 the Secretariat was informed that Mrs Mats'eliso (T'seli) Tshlo-Moremoholo is the Lesotho Electricity Company (LEC)'s new representative in the Environmental Management Working Group.

On 2 July 2007 the Secretariat was informed that Mr Dave Lucas is the new Eskom representative in the Environmental Management Working Group, replacing Ms Wendy Poulton. Mr Troy Govender remains the Alternate member representing Eskom.

### **Standardisation**

The Standardisation Working Group held its meeting on 16–17 April 2007 in Maseru, and was hosted by the Lesotho Electricity Company (LEC).

Members reviewed the standardization strategy for PIESA and the current programme of work/activities. The preferred strategy for adopting existing standards as harmonized regional standards (through SADCSTAN and EAC wherever practicable) was elaborated.

The following were dealt with:

- Review of ERID Eskom research report *Options for circumventing oil theft from transformers*;
- Draft PIESA 1006-2: *Distribution transformer application guide*;
- Proposed amendments to PIESA 1006-1: *Distribution transformers*; and

- Reassessment of Draft under development PIESA 1008-1: *MV cables* in light of progress made with the revision of the reference standards NRS 013 and SANS 1399.
- Draft standard: PIESA 1048, *Quality of supply*: communication with the Regional Energy Regulators Association (RERA), with a view to RERA recognition of PIESA 1048 as a regional regulatory standard. This interaction has delayed formal approval of the standard in PIESA.

On 23 July the Secretariat was informed that Mr Masini M'Bick has been appointed as the new member representing SNEL in the Standardisation Working Group. Mr Masini M'back is replacing Mr Rene Kalundi N'goie who is retiring from SNEL.

On 24 July 2007 the Secretariat was informed that Ms. Thandiwe Nkambule has been appointed as the Alternate member representing Eskom in the Standardisation Working Group.

### **Non-Technical Loss Reduction**

In response to requests from several members of the Working Group, the Convenor – Mr Wiseman Kabwazi – arranged for the meeting to take place during 28-29 May 2007 in the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), South Africa, to coincide with 'African Utility Week' held in the same venue.



The Working Group members reported progress in their utilities to enhance service entry and meter security, and presented recommendations on technologies and practical solutions to make the service and metering less vulnerable to tampering / by passing. They shared experiences concerning meter reading, meter management, faulty meters, billing and electricity accounts, non payment and bad debts, and identified practical short and long term strategies and solutions. Lack of public awareness and civic education was identified as one of the main causes for non-technical losses. The Working Group developed practical strategies for customer education and increased public awareness / information with a view to greater community involvement.

In particular, the WG discussed members' experiences with the impact of new technologies on reducing non-technical and revenue losses: prepayment meters, prepayment split meters, remote metering/

Automatic Meter Reading, real time metering, time-of-use meters, size of meter, etc.

Members identified the benefits of participation in the WG by Affiliate members and also discussed the possibility of setting up of regional training centres for staff for enhanced loss detection and prevention and techniques.

The Working Group's meeting also coincided with the UPDEA<sup>1</sup> Electrotechnical Standardization Colloquium and the Customer Service Colloquium which were also held in the CTICC in conjunction with the 'African Utility Week' conference and exhibition. As a result, many of the UPDEA delegates also joined in the deliberations of the PIESA Non-Technical Loss Reduction Working Group – to the benefit of all participants!



### **Electrification**

Hosted by the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA), the Electrification Working Group held its meeting on 27-29 June 2007 in Harare, Zimbabwe.



Mr Bukhosi Siso, PIESA Board member representing ZESA, expressed his appreciation to the Board Members for their support in facilitating the good turnout to the fruitful meeting. In addition to the Working Group's members, other participants included a representative of Zimbabwe's Rural Electrification Agency (REA), invited engineers from ZESA's five Regions as well as all ZESA's representatives from the other PIESA Working Groups.

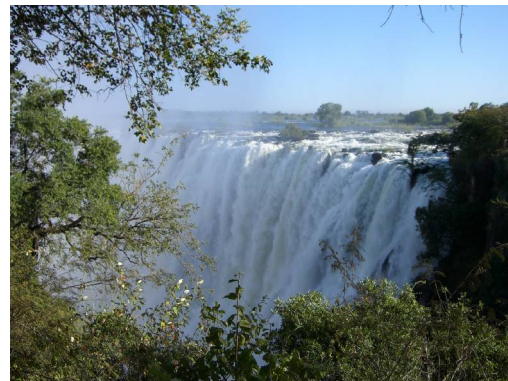
The Working Group has requested that a course be conducted in Single Wire Earth Return (SWER) application in order that those

members who have an interest in the SWER technology should be in a position to make an informed decision whether to adopt the technology. It was proposed that the course be conducted by the Working Group's Eskom member, Dr Hendri Geldenhuys, at a SWER site in East London, South Africa.

The proposal will be tabled for a decision by the PIESA Board at its next meeting.

### **Important PIESA Meetings: September 2007:**

The PIESA Board decided at its meeting held in October 2006 that the PIESA Annual General Meeting (AGM) as well as meetings by all Working Groups should also be held Victoria Falls, during the days preceding the IERE General Meeting and the PIESA-IERE "Africa Forum".



Consequently, provision has been made for all five Working Groups to meet over one-and-a-half days: Sunday 23 September 2007 and on Monday 24 September 2007 following the conclusion of the PIESA AGM which will be held on Monday 24 September 2007 from 08:30 to 10:30. It is suggested that Working Group members plan to arrive at Victoria Falls on Saturday 22 September 2007.

Information concerning flights, accommodation options and booking details, airport transfers, registration for the Africa Forum, exhibition facilities, etc, is provided in the joint PIESA-IERE First Announcement. The Announcement was sent to all PIESA Board members and Working Group members, together with formal invitations to the meetings. The First Announcement has also been posted on the website: <http://www.piesa.com>.

Please note the important **deadline 3 August 2007** for:

- Submission of Registration form for IERE General Meeting and PIESA-IERE "Africa Forum"; and
- Submission of hotel accommodation booking form (discount rate).

<sup>1</sup> Union of Producers, Conveyors and Distributors of Electrical Energy in Africa.

Booking forms are in the First Announcement sent to you (and on the website).

As a reminder, the summary schedule of meetings and associated activities during 22-28 September 2007 is the following:

<b>Saturday 22 September 2007</b>	Working Group members arrive / check in at Vic Falls  (Hotels: Zambezi Sun or The Royal Livingstone)
<b>Sunday 23 September 2007</b>  8:30-17:00	Individual Working Groups' Meetings: Day 1
<b>Monday 24 September 2007</b>  8:30-10:30  11:00-17:00  11:00-12:30  14:00-17:00  17:00-18:00  18:00-20:00  19:00-21:00	PIESA Annual General Meeting (AGM)  Individual Working Groups' Meetings: Day 2  PIESA Board Meeting ( <i>PIESA Board Members only</i> )  IERE Board Meeting ( <i>IERE Board Members only</i> )  Registration for Seventh IERE General Meeting and PIEASA-IERE Africa Forum  Welcome by ZESCO and Reception/Cocktail  Joint IERE-PIESA Boards Dinner in David Livingstone Room
<b>Tuesday 25 September 2007</b>  9:00-17:00  18:30-20:30	The Seventh IERE General Meeting  Dinner
<b>Wednesday 26 September 2007</b>  8:30-17:00  19:00-21:00	PIESA-IERE Africa Region Forum (Day 1)  Dinner
<b>Thursday 27 September 2007</b>  8:30-15:30  16:00-18:30  19:00-22:00	PIESA-IERE Africa Region Forum (Day 2)  Sunset Cruise on the African Queen  Dinner
<b>Friday 28 September 2007</b>  09:00-12:00  13:30-16:00	<b>Optional Tours:</b>  Victoria Falls Power Station  Mukumi Village

All venues - including meeting rooms for the Working Groups, have been booked by the Secretariat:



### ***PIESA-IERE Africa Forum***

#### **Speakers**

The Abstracts received in response to the Call for Papers for the PIEASA-IERE Africa Forum have been processed by the Organising Committee and speakers have been advised accordingly. General information for speakers is provided in the First Announcement (page 18).

Speakers are reminded that the **deadline for submission of papers is 10 August 2007**. At the same time, please also submit their completed Speaker's Information Sheets and Copyright Permission. The forms are provided in the First Announcement (page 19 and 20).

#### **Sunset Cruise**

The maximum capacity of the African Queen, booked for the sunset cruise on 27 September 2007, is 120 persons. This will be the experience of a lifetime!



To follow the sunset cruise, the dinner in the Boma will be a traditional feast under the stars



***Make your travel arrangements as soon as possible, as flights between Johannesburg and Livingstone are filling up already!***

## **Other Important Events:**

### ***iPAD Central Africa: 9-12 October 2007, Kinshasa, DRC***

The third edition Infrastructure Partnerships for African Development (iPAD) Central Africa takes place from 9-12 October 2007 at the Grand Hotel, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

This year, the event offers a two day infrastructure exhibition, an open conference and Executive Insider Briefings (an exclusive round-table forum) as well as a site-visit to the Inga hydropower project with SNEL, the host power utility.

For more information, visit: [www.ipad-africa.com/central](http://www.ipad-africa.com/central). To register, contact Rue Limekhaya: [rue@spintelligent.com](mailto:rue@spintelligent.com) or telephone: +27 21 7003500 or fax: +27 21 7003501.

## **PIESA Secretariat News:**

### ***Annual Report 2007***

The Secretariat is in the process of finalising the 2007 Annual Report. However, some members have not yet provided specific information requested, hence the target date for publication has been revised to end-August 2007.

### ***Newsletters***

Please forward your contributions to: Judi Koncz - PIEASA Secretariat, E-mail: [judi.k@telkomsa.net](mailto:judi.k@telkomsa.net).