



**SANEA**

The South African National Energy Association

Energy People Working Together

Address: c/o Turners Conferences, 37 Margaret Mncadi, Durban 4000 • PO Box 1935, Durban 4001, South Africa

Tel: +27 (0)31 368 8000 • Fax: +27 (0)31 368 6623 • E-mail: [sanea@turnergroup.co.za](mailto:sanea@turnergroup.co.za) • Website: [www.sanea.org.za](http://www.sanea.org.za)

## **SANEA ENERGY AWARDS 2010**

### **2010 Award Winner**

#### SANEA ENERGY EDUCATION CATEGORY

*Highly Commended*

Adrian Vermaak



Mr Vermaak took a bold step in 2007 by transitioning from permanent to contract employment at the Electricity and Energy Directorate in the Nelson Mandela Bay Metro. Mr Vermaak began to communicate the importance of creating a skills development culture and applying the developmental principles necessary to sustain a full staff compliment, increased productivity, growth in technical expertise and motivated staff. The rewards of the above would boost the morale of staff, minimize staff turnover and provide the metro with a quality technical service. Ultimately the above approach would promote and contribute in making the electrical engineering industry attractive.

Mr Vermaak organised and leads a focus group that administers the effective roll out of the abovementioned skills development vehicles. He has provided motivation and has inspired involvement.

A great testimony has been the positive working environment that exists across different race groups and gender. Mr Vermaak has networked well with other institutions like the DME, ECSA, Eskom, National treasury, Waiter Sisulu University and Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in order to maintain a nucleus of trainees and to promote employment opportunities within the industry. It has also been rewarding to see trainees from Waiter Sisulu University in Butterworth progressing and doing great work for the utility. No permanent staff has resigned over the past two years within the technical sections of the Projects Division where high staff turnover had previously been experienced.

Mr Adrian Vermaak was awarded the prestigious AMEU and CIGRE awards for the best paper and presentation from the AMEU Southern Africa at the recent national convention (September 2009). He was awarded the prestigious Port Elizabeth Rotary Club Meritorious Award for outstanding service within ones profession in April 2010.