



SAIRAC
The South African Institute of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning®
www.sairac.co.za

Dear SAIRAC members

You are invited to our Johannesburg Centre **Online** Technical Talk on Thursday 17 September 2026.

Synopsis:

There has been rapid movement of late with regard to the implementation of the new industry occupational qualifications and trade test discussed by Grant Laidlaw from ACRA.



Grant Laidlaw is currently the owner of the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Academy (ACRA) in Johannesburg, Durban, and Kimberley. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration and an associate degree in educational administration, a National Technical Diploma and completed an apprenticeship. He has dual-trades status: refrigeration and electrical. He has been involved with SAIRAC for three decades, has been honoured with several awards. Grant served on the Johannesburg committee as chairman and was president between 2015 and 2018. Currently he holds the SAIRAC national treasurer and education portfolios.

Synopsis:

Grant will discuss the newly implemented national Refrigeration Occupational Qualifications: Refrigeration Mechanic with three contexts: ammonia, fluorinated and hydrocarbon refrigerants and carbon dioxide. In addition, he will discuss the new air conditioning and refrigeration qualification. Grant will look at the status quo for current apprenticeships and the registration of new apprentices.

Part qualifications and skills programs will be additional focus areas.

In addition, he will look at the new national occupational trade tests, now called EISA (External Internal Summative Assessment), which are currently being implemented.

Date: 17 September 2026

Time: 18h30

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/VcUkkashR2Oy8QUWSBwLKw>

There will be a 0.1 CPD credit/point for this talk.

Kind Regards,

Mariet Pieterse
Johannesburg Secretary



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