ECSA

ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA



E-BULLETIN

Volume 2 of 2026/27

Driving Impact through Effective Regulation









TABLE OF CONTENTS

01	CEO's Note	4
02	ECSA Grows the Number of Certified Training Academies	7
03	Reinstatement is the Way Back	9
04	2027 Annual Billing Cycle	11
05	ECSA Leadership Advances Industry Dialogue Through Key Stakeholder Engagements	14
06	ECSA Joins Global Leaders in Championing Maritime Safety at Cape Town Conference	16
07	Connecting with the Engineering Community	17
08	Contact Us	20

1. CEO's Note

Driving Impact through Effective Regulation



Dear Valued Stakeholder,

We have reached the end of the second quarter of the 2026/27 financial year. As we continue to give effect to our mandate of being an effective regulator, assuring public safety, this is an opportunity to reflect on the impact of our work, the progress achieved during the quarter, and the challenges that continue to require our attention.

Our work remains guided by the values of accountability, agility, integrity, collaboration and customer centricity. These values are reflected in how we regulate the engineering profession, engage with our stakeholders, strengthen governance, advance digital transformation and improve the services we provide to Registered Persons and the public.

Across our regulatory, stakeholder engagement and organisational activities, our focus remains on strengthening the engineering profession, protecting the public and improving how we serve our stakeholders.

Identification of Engineering Work

During the quarter, ECSA heightened its advocacy efforts around the Identification of Engineering Work (IDoEW) Rules and the Rules for the Management of Enforcement Matters. These legislative reforms protect the profession and the public, reinforcing that registration with ECSA is more than a title; it is a commitment to professionalism, accountability, and public safety.

The advocacy efforts included a social media campaign aimed at creating awareness and advocating for behavioural change among the public and those performing engineering work without the necessary registration. ECSA also engaged stakeholders across sectors including mining, local and national government, and the fratenity at large, reinforcing that both Rules are now in effect and providing support to ensure that those practising identified engineering work are registered within the applicable categories of registration.

Draft Built Environment Professions Bill

In September 2026, the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) issued the 2026 Draft Built Environment Professions Bill for industry comment. Among other provisions, the Bill seeks to establish the South African Council for the Built Environment; provide for the registration and backlisting of built environment professional service providers; regulate education, training and registration of professionals within the built environment; establish professional boards and disciplinary hearings; provide for a Guarantee Fund and a Board for the Guarantee Fund; empower the Minister to make regulations and mandatory standards relating to registration, credentialing, categories of registration and

annual application fees; provide for offences and penalties; repeal various Acts; and provide for the affiliation of professional bodies, voluntary associations or organisations whose members are engaged in built environment activities.

ECSA engaged Recognised Voluntary Associations, and Registered Persons on the proposed Bill for comments. Consolidated comments have since been submitted, and ECSA appreciates all comments received and feedback from the Ministry will be shared once received.

Accreditation Visits

During the month of August and September, ECSA conducted two accreditation visits at Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) from 25 August 2026 and Central University of Technology, Free State (CUT) from 30 August to 01 September 2026.

The accreditation of an engineering programme signifies that the programme complies with the criteria regarding the educational requirements the individual needs to achieve to be eligible to apply for registration in a concomitant professional category.

The visits are conducted through a rigorous peer-review and policy-directed process.

The visit to CPUT sought to evaluate engineering programmes recognised under the Sydney Accord for engineering technologists and the Dublin Accord for engineering technicians.

ECSA's participation in international engineering accords helps ensure that South African engineering qualifications are assessed against globally benchmarked standards. This strengthens the international credibility and competitiveness of our qualifications and supports wider recognition of ECSA Registered Persons.

This work enables mechanisms for Registered Persons to gain recognition of their qualifications and professional status in other countries.

Rigorous accreditation is therefore not simply about programmes; it is about quality, international confidence, professional mobility and the future of South Africa's engineering workforce.

Organisational Performance and Governance

A major milestone for ECSA this quarter, relating to the 2025/26 financial year, was the unqualified audit opinion granted by Lunika Chartered Accountants and Auditors Incorporated. The outcome reflects ECSA's governance, satisfactory internal controls, and adherence to accepted financial standards, while also identifying the need for improvement in administrative and compliance processes.

Performance for the 2025/26 financial year decreased from 91% in 2024/25 to 66.67% in 2025/26. Mitigating strategies are already in place as ECSA works to improve performance in the current financial year.

Recognition for Digital Transformation

This quarter, the South African Institute of Industrial Engineers (SAIIE) recognised ECSA with the Best Industrial Engineering Work award for "Digital Transformation and Operational Optimisation of Engineering Registration and Compliance Processes". The award recognises ECSA's ongoing digital transformation

> *"Registration with ECSA is more than a title; it is a commitment to professionalism, accountability and public safety."*



work to streamline registration pathways and provide a more user-friendly process for engineering practitioners.

The Council is proud of the achievement and acknowledges the efforts of every person involved in the project.

Mentor–Mentee Programme

In August 2026, ECSA issued a call for mentors to participate in the Mentor–Mentee Programme. The programme is designed to convert registered engineering Candidates to professionally Registered Persons and to provide structured guidance, mentorship and application support to engineering practitioners placed on abeyance.

Following the call, over 300 Registered Persons who met the criteria have since received mentorship training, additional training sessions will be held in October 2026 and following this, mentors will be vetted before being paired with their respective mentees.

Looking Ahead

As we close off this quarter we bid farewell to the Executive Statutory Services: Dr Franciska Bothma, and Senior Manager: Registration and Compliance Dr Theresa Hattingh Pr Eng.

We express our heartfelt appreciation for their leadership, unwavering commitment to the mandate of the Council and more specifically for their contribution, the reforms they spearheaded and for their impact over their tenure at ECSA.

Looking ahead, our focus remains on improving organisational performance, meeting the agreed service level of responding to queries within 72 hours, and giving effect to the values that guide our work: being accountable, agile, of integrity, collaborative and customer centric.

What to expect in this edition, we cover the recently launched reinstatement campaign, Training Academies, stakeholder engagements, and important information for Registered Persons who are members of Voluntary Associations as ECSA prepares for the 2027 Annual Billing Cycle.

Enjoy the read!

Ms Tabisa Mtati

Acting Chief Executive Officer



Unqualified

audit opinion for the 2025/26 financial year

2 visits

accreditation visits: CPUT and CUT, Aug–Sept 2026

2026 SAIIE Award for Best Industrial Engineering Work Conducted in Industry





2. ECSA Grows the Number of Certified Training Academies

Five certified Training Academies are supporting structured Candidacy Mentoring and Training programmes designed to strengthen the pathway from candidacy to professional registration.

The Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) has increased the number of certified Training Academies to five, strengthening structured training and mentorship opportunities available to engineering Candidates working towards professional registration.

Since the initiative was introduced in 2021, ECSA has certified the following Training Academies:

- Rand Water
- NECSA – South African Nuclear Energy Corporation
- Bosch Ulwazi
- KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport
- M&N Enginuity Academy

Training Academies are designed specifically to support an increased conversion rate from candidacy to professional status in Council-approved professional registration categories. They provide ECSA Candidates with opportunities to enhance their practical engineering experience and levels of competence, with the ultimate objective of meeting ECSA's requirements for professional registration.

Certification as a Training Academy is directly associated with substantiated evidence of a public or private entity's ability to provide high-quality, structured engineering Candidacy Mentoring and Training programmes.

From Certification to Accreditation

Public and private entities interested in participating in the initiative undergo two review and approval stages: Certification as a Training Academy, followed by Accreditation of their Candidacy and Mentoring Programmes.

The continued growth of certified Training Academies and accredited Training Academy programmes supports the conversion of Candidates to professional status. As the initiative expands, it has the potential to contribute to the development of the critical engineering skills pipeline and the continued professionalisation of the engineering sector.

Interested in becoming a Training Academy?
Public and private entities can contact ECSA at **academies@ecsa.co.za.**

What does ECSA consider when certifying a Training Academy?

01
Clear competency outcomes
Clear competency outcomes against which Candidate performance can be measured.

02
Appropriate work horizon
An appropriate work horizon to support a clear training programme.

03
Qualified mentors
Mentors who are qualified and professionally registered with ECSA in the appropriate category and discipline.

04
Sufficient resources
Resources that support the sustainability of the training programme.

05
Quality assurance
Quality assurance processes, including accreditation, in line with ECSA accreditation policies and standards.





3. Reinstatement is the Way Back

ECSA's reinstatement campaign provides a pathway for cancelled Registered Persons to return to the Register and practise identified engineering work within the applicable regulatory requirements.

On 17 September 2026, the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) launched its reinstatement campaign, an initiative aimed at enabling cancelled Registered Persons to return to the Register and practise identified engineering work within the prescripts of the recently gazetted Identification of Engineering Work (IDoEW) Rules.

The IDoEW Rules identify the engineering work applicable to Council-approved categories of registration. Against this regulatory backdrop, reinstatement provides an important route for cancelled Registered Persons seeking to return to the Register and continue their professional journey within ECSA's regulatory framework.

The campaign is further aligned with ECSA's Rules on Cancellation of Registration and Renewals, which allow cancelled professional engineering practitioners to apply for reinstatement within 60 months (five years) of the cancellation date. Reinstatement for Candidates is currently available to those who have been cancelled for between 0–6 years.

What is required?

For both Candidates and Professionals, reinstatement requires payment of annual fee arrears due before cancellation, together with the R500 reinstatement administration fee.

The 2026/27 Annual Fees are not included in the reinstatement amount. Following a successful reinstatement application, ECSA will issue a separate invoice for the 2026/27 Annual Fees.

For Professionals, additional requirements may apply depending on the period of cancellation. These include addressing outstanding Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements in accordance with the applicable CPD Rules, submitting a Referee Report, submitting a Training and Experience Report (TER) and, where applicable, attending an interview to assess competence and professional practice.

The reinstatement process is supported through the ECSA Self-Service Portal, where applicants can submit and track their applications and respond to requests for additional information.

The six-step reinstatement journey is set out on the facing page. →

YOUR REINSTATEMENT JOURNEY

A clear path back to the Register

01

UPDATE & APPLY

Log in to the ECSA Self-Service Portal, update your profile and billing address, review your cancellation details and submit the Professional Reinstatement Application.

02

ADDRESS OUTSTANDING REQUIREMENTS

Applicable to cancelled Professionals.

Meet outstanding CPD requirements and submit supporting documentation, including a Referee Report or Training and Experience Report (TER), where applicable.

03

RECEIVE INVOICE & PAY

Your reinstatement invoice will be emailed within 72 hours. Payment must be made within three months of the issue date.

04

UPLOAD PROOF OF PAYMENT

Upload your Proof of Payment (POP) through the ECSA Self-Service Portal. Processing begins once the POP has been received and payment has cleared.

05

TRACK YOUR APPLICATION

Monitor your application through the portal and respond promptly to requests for additional information.

06

RECEIVE YOUR OUTCOME

ECSA assesses the completed application and communicates the outcome.

KNOW YOUR TIMELINE

Professionals: 0–4 years

10 working days

Professionals: 4–5 years

8 weeks

Candidates

5 days after payment has cleared

READY TO BEGIN?

Reinstatement resources:
engineeringcouncilsa.microsoftcrmportals.com/reinstatement-list/
Queries: **retentions@ecsa.co.za**





4. 2027 Annual Billing Cycle: Is Your VA Membership Up to Date?

Registered Persons who are members of ECSA Recognised Voluntary Associations should ensure that their membership records are up to date ahead of the 2027 Annual Billing Cycle.

For the 2027 Annual Billing Cycle, ECSA will process applicable annual fee discounts and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) credits using membership lists submitted directly by ECSA Recognised Voluntary Associations (VAs).

Registered Persons do not submit this information directly to ECSA. Recognised VAs are responsible for submitting complete membership lists to ECSA by Monday, 2 November 2026.

Registered Persons should therefore ensure that their membership records are correctly updated and recorded with their respective VAs for the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027.

Why does this matter?

Registered Persons who are not in good standing according to the membership report submitted by their VA will forfeit the applicable annual fee discount and may only become eligible again from April 2028, subject to Governing Council approval.

Failure by a VA to submit its membership list will also affect its members. They may be disqualified from receiving one CPD credit for VA membership and from receiving applicable annual fee discounts from 1 April 2027, subject to Governing Council approval.

MONDAY
2
NOV 2026

KEY DATE

Deadline for Recognised VAs to submit complete membership lists to ECSA.

What Registered Persons Need to Do

01

CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Confirm your membership status with your ECSA Recognised Voluntary Association (VA).

02

UPDATE YOUR RECORDS

Ensure your membership records are correctly updated and recorded with your VA for 1 April 2026 – 31 March 2027.

03

YOUR VA SUBMITS TO ECSA

You do not submit your membership information directly to ECSA. Recognised VAs submit complete membership lists to ECSA.

WHY IT MATTERS

VA membership information is used by ECSA to process applicable annual fee discounts and CPD credits.





5. ECSA Leadership Advances Industry Dialogue Through Key Stakeholder Engagements



The Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) continues to strengthen its role as a leading voice in the engineering profession through active participation in industry engagements that promote professional excellence, regulatory awareness, and sector development.

During the quarter, ECSA President Mr TC Madikane Pr Eng and Vice President Ms Marcia Maidi Pr Eng represented the Council at two prominent events hosted by recognised Voluntary Associations, providing valuable insights on professional registration, leadership, and the future of the engineering profession.

Championing Professional Standards at the COET Conference 2026

On 10 September 2026, ECSA President Mr TC Madikane Pr Eng addressed delegates at the Chamber of Engineering Technologies (COET) Conference 2026, held under the theme ***"Setting Standards for a Better Future."***

The conference, attended by approximately 140 engineering professionals and industry stakeholders, focused on matters relating to Lifting Machinery Inspectors (LMI) and Lift Inspectors (LI), while also exploring broader issues affecting the engineering profession.

In his address, Mr Madikane reaffirmed the importance of professional registration in safeguarding the public, upholding professional standards, and advancing career growth within the engineering sector. He outlined the various registration pathways available through ECSA, and highlighted collaborative initiatives aimed at expanding and strengthening the pool of registered engineering practitioners in South Africa.

The conference brought together leaders from across the industry, creating an important platform for dialogue on professional regulation, skills development, and the future of engineering practice.







Inspiring the Next Generation of Engineering Leaders

ECSA Vice President Ms Marcia Maidi Pr Eng represented the Council as a panellist at the annual SAICE "More than a Woman" Breakfast, held on 7 August 2026 in Bloemfontein under the theme "Breaking Barriers by Redefining Influence".

The event celebrated leadership, resilience, and the growing influence of women within the engineering profession. Joining a distinguished panel of industry leaders and professionals, Ms Maidi shared reflections on her personal and professional journey, highlighting how embracing opportunities throughout her career enabled her to build meaningful influence and contribute to the advancement of the profession.

Addressing attendees, she encouraged engineering practitioners to pursue professional registration and continuous development, emphasising the value of specialisation and lifelong learning. She further underscored the importance of recognising and addressing knowledge gaps as a critical component of professional growth and effective leadership.

Strengthening ECSA's Presence in the Profession

Through its participation on platforms created by the profession such as the COET Conference and the SAICE "More than a Woman" Breakfast, ECSA continues to engage with stakeholders across the engineering landscape, advocate for professional registration, and contribute meaningfully to conversations shaping the future of the profession.

These engagements reinforce ECSA's commitment to building a capable, ethical, and globally recognised engineering profession that serves the interests of both practitioners and society.







6. ECSA Joins Global Leaders in Championing Maritime Safety at Cape Town Conference

ECSA was proud to be among the participants at the 16th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion, held from 1- 4 September 2026 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre.

The gathering brought together experts, organisations, and stakeholders from around the world to advance safety and prevent injuries across all sectors.

At the conference, ECSA added its voice to the urgent global conversation on maritime safety, which took centre stage thanks to the Lloyd's Register Foundation.

The Foundation's World Risk Poll - first conducted in 2019 - has provided unprecedented insight into the risks faced by seafarers, including captains, engineers, deckhands, and fishermen, who too often are the sole breadwinners foAr their families.

The figures presented were stark: over 300,000 preventable deaths annually in high-risk maritime environments - a tragedy ECSA described as "a stain on our collective conscience." As a participant, ECSA underscored that data alone is insufficient without the will to act.

Central to ECSA's regulatory philosophy is enforcement - clear, consistent, and credible. Robust enforcement acts as a powerful deterrent against negligence, cost-cutting, and deliberate non-compliance.

The higher the cost of non-compliance, the stronger the deterrent, and the fewer lives lost.

Ultimately, ECSA envisions a cultural shift where safety is embedded in every decision - from boardroom to deck. Until that culture is universal, regulation and enforcement must remain steadfast. South Africa is committed to global partnership, and ECSA stands ready to ensure that

> *"No worker goes to sea and fails to return home."*







7. Connecting with the Engineering Community

From schools and universities to young professionals and industry platforms, ECSA's stakeholder engagements during the quarter created opportunities to share information, strengthen professional development and engage the next generation of engineering professionals.

Taking Engineering Careers to Rural Learners

ECSA joined industry role players for the Council for the Built Environment (CBE) Rural Schools Awareness Programme at Ditsepu High School in Ga-Maja, Limpopo.

The programme brought together approximately 1,000 Grade 10 –12 learners from selected schools in Ga-Maja, with a focus on bridging the information gap experienced by learners in remote communities.



Learners received information on career opportunities, higher education requirements and admissions, funding opportunities and skills development pathways.

Through presentations and direct interaction with teachers, professionals, higher education institutions, professional and funding bodies and other stakeholders, learners were able to explore opportunities available beyond school.

For ECSA, the engagement supported its strategic priority of promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education and careers.

Supporting Women and Girls in Engineering and STEMI



On 5 August 2026, ECSA Women in Engineering (WiE) Ambassadors participated in the Wits Beyond the Degree initiative, created by students under the University of the Witwatersrand's Students Representative Assistance (SRA). The initiative focused on bridging the gap between academic achievement and career readiness for senior undergraduate and postgraduate students. ECSA's Women in Engineering Ambassadors shared their professional journeys and insights into the world of work, professional development and life after graduation, including the competencies and interpersonal skills required as young professionals enter the workplace.

On 19 August 2026, ECSA participated in the Vaal University of Technology (VUT) Women and Girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Innovation (STEMI) Seminar in Vanderbijlpark. Approximately 400 Grade 9 –11 learners participated in talks, presentations, quizzes and activities focused on STEMI, subject choices, career pathways and opportunities after matric. ECSA also participated in an exhibition alongside Eskom and Randwater, providing learners with information on the engineering profession, eligibility and subject requirements, professional pathways and Council standards. The programme concluded with laboratory visits conducted by the school's chemistry department.







Engaging the Next Generation of Professionals

At the Leaderex Career Summit, held on 31 August 2026 at the Sandton Convention Centre, ECSA engaged graduates and professionals on professional development, career transitions and planning, mentorship and continuous learning. ECSA was represented by Mr Siya Dywili and its Women in Engineering Ambassadors, with workshops covering registration competencies and requirements, Continuing Professional Development (CPD), Identification of Engineering Work (IDoEW), mentorship and engineering excellence in Africa. The platform also created opportunities for networking and possible future collaboration with professional bodies, academia and other industries.





> *"Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Transformation & Capacity Building."*

ECSA Future Leaders Ambassadors Ms Ayanda Mafunda and Takalani Ms Netshipale also represented the Council at the Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA) 14th Young Professionals Sustainability Imbizo, held from 19 – 20 August 2026 in Midrand, Johannesburg.

The Imbizo brought together young professionals from the public and private sectors to engage on critical industry issues, including leadership, objectivity, community participation and activism, professionalism and engineering principles. Ms Netshipale participated in a discussion on "Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Transformation & Capacity Building."

ECSA

ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA

NEED HELP?
CONTACT ECSA DIRECTLY

GENERAL QUERIES

engineer@ecsa.co.za

All queries, including general enquiries on: portal access & password resets, CPD uploads, finance/accounts, registration requirements, cancellations & reinstatements

CPD SUPPORT

cpd@ecsa.co.za

Use for CPD queries, audit enquiries, and upload issues

REGISTRATION QUERIES

registration@ecsa.co.za

Registration outcomes, status questions, portal issues on the registration module, peer review sign-up etc

EDUCATION EVALUATION

evaluation@ecsa.co.za

All queries related to foreign and local qualification evaluations

TRAINING ACADEMIES

academies@ecsa.co.za

All queries from entities interested in establishing a Workplace Training Academy for Registered Candidates

IMPROPER CONDUCT

improperconduct@ecsa.co.za

For any allegations of improper conduct involving Registered Persons

VUVUZELA HOTLINE

ecsa@thehotline.co.za

To report fraud, corruption, or unethical behaviour involving ECSA employees, service providers, or representatives.

Please follow the engineering discourse and become a role player.
Please contact us with feedback on improving our communication. Feedback and comments may be emailed to ecsa-comms@ecsa.co.za.