ETS Emergency Training Solutions: the first South African training entity to gain IFSAC accreditation



TS Emergency Training Solutions is located in the South of Gauteng between Meyerton and Vereeniging in a suburb called Redan. ETS has grown to over 65 personnel and offers at least 74 courses nationally and internationally. The six main offerings at ETS cover

various qualifications and short programmes in fire fighting, rescue, hazardous materials, fire safety, first aid and occupational health and safety. These are managed from initial customer contact to certification by a proficient management team comprising Shaneilyn Ellen (training),

Jahnell Rangwato (quality assurance), Natasha Eberwein (finance and human resources), Pinkie Matjeke (sales and marketing) Pieter Dreyer (facilities) and Percy Motsepe (SHEQ).

In terms of international recognition, ETS is proud to be the first South African training entity to gain International Fire Services Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) accreditation for 15 programmes, with a further five programmes pending the current scope extension submission. "The certification and accreditation of ETS is a validation of our commitment to provide quality services to our clients that will meet and exceed their expectation. We are able to provide services consistently and reliably to national and international standards", said ETS director John Akal.

The IFSAC Quality assurance standards allow ETS to fill a long outstanding gap in the certification of South African fire fighters, who will be able to be certified for the National SAQA registered

Purely mechanical, independent of on-board power supply

The purely mechanical product concept of the proportioners allows an absolutely trouble-free mobile operation. It is totally independent of any on-board power supply and also if installed in a roll-off container or trailer-mounted, no external power supply is needed to run the equipment. What's more, stepless adjustment of the proportioning rate is possible.

Always ready to run

When seconds matter in a rescue operation, the equipment has to work smoothly. After one-time

venting of the proportioning pump, the mobile FireDos proportioners are ready to go and the set proportioning rate is always available, without any limitations of flow rates or pressure changes.

Numerous types and equipment versions

No fire rescue operation is like the other. The mobile FireDos proportioners adapt to the site conditions ideally: numerous types and equipment options are available.

For all foam agent types

The proportioners are designed to

handle all types of foam agents, also for the production of wetting agent.

Compatible with all nozzle types

For maximum flexibility during operation, the proportioners are compatible with all nozzles or discharge devices.

Easy operation

FireDos proportioners are developed specially for fire brigades. We care about what matters: safety and ease of use. Operating the equipment intuitively is no problem also in stressful situations.

www.dosetech.co.za



Training centre profile





Blast from the past, deep-lifting operations from years gone by



Pomp and ceremony from competitions in years gone by

 qualification as well as the associated and aligned NFPA standards.

ETS hold ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 45001:2018 certifications which demonstrates its commitment to the

company's conduct in quality and safety administration.

The training centre has its origins way back in the 1980s when a portion of the old Klip Power Station's grounds were set aside

for fire fighting training and after extensive modernisation the training centre was officially inaugurated in 1990 by Eskom, the original owner.

The training centre was designed by forward-thinking individuals primarily to serve the interests of Eskom and satisfy the organisation's need to provide purpose-built facilities with realistic simulation areas to train its fire fighters and rescue personnel. The design emphasis was on highrisk industrial occupancies, which included power plant hazards. This laid the foundation for expansion and the addition of improved simulation structures that apply not only to industrial fire fighters but also to municipal and aircraft fire fighters. The early NFPA 1402 and 1403 influences can clearly be seen in the design of the training centre.

ETS is a registered Skills Development Provider and has a number of local accreditations, being registered with:

- 1. Primary Sector Education and Training Authority (SETA): Local Government SETA (LG SETA) LGRSv-EMsSR101117
- Qualification ID 57803: Further Education and Training Certificate: Fire and Rescue Operations
- Qualification ID 64390: National Certificate: Emergency Services Supervision: Fire and Rescue Operations
- 2. Quality Council for Trades and Occupation (QCTO) Assessment Centre QCTO/OQAC/17/00070 Occupational Certificate:
- Fire fighter SAQA ID 98991 NQF Level 4; Credits 149
- Safety Health and Quality
 Practitioner SAQA ID 99714; Level
 5; Credits 256
- 3. Education, Training and Development Practices SETA Programme Approval
- Assessor training
- Facilitator training
- Moderator training
- 4. Department of Labour CI 663
- First Aid Level 1
- First Aid Level 2
- First Aid Level 3

- 5. Resuscitation Council of South Africa
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) for family and friends
- AHA courses
- Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers
- 6. Department of Transport Education and Training Authority Approval No: PrDP(D) 2012/88
- 7. Transport Education Training Authority (TETA) Accreditation No: TETA12-228
- Dangerous Goods
- Safety
- First Aid
- Basic Fire Fighting
- 8. Construction Education and Training Authority (CETA) Accreditation No: 5R55079
- Basic FAS/Working at Heights
- FAS/Working at Heights Rescue
- 9. Fibre Processing and Manufacturing (FP&M) SETA FPM17/PRPACC-125
- Oualification 50225 General **Education and Training** Certificate: General Forestry

Conducting courses in the abovementioned fields is achieved by a team of experienced instructors, assessors and moderators ensuring quality training and assessment to the point of certification, not only in South Africa but throughout the continent of Africa and the Middle East.

The typical profile of the trainees ranges from those seeking to fulfil



Modern training techniques prioritise personal protective equipment

their legal appointment obligations in the pursuit of compliance, to private students seeking to make themselves more appealing in the job market, to on-site responders assisting organisations in emergency and crisis management and to professional full time emergency services personnel in the municipal and metropolitan environment.

ETS is a Level 1 B-BBEE contributor and they assist many black individuals and businesses each year to overcome the legacies of the past. Being a Level 1 contributor means that client companies can claim 135 percent of their spend towards their own BEE scorecard.

Thousands of students have received training not only at the training centre in Redan when it was affectionately known as KLIP but more recently in the past 18 years while under private ownership.

"Students do not only learn valuable life skills but they are also enabled to meet job performance requirements either as volunteers, on-site responders or full-time emergency services personnel. At ETS we provide an experience over and above the training component that results in team building, self-discovery, mind-broadening and healthy doses of adrenalin in many cases. At the turn of the century the training centre was the biggest facility of its kind in South Africa. (Mooivaal Media Pg 18 1999/2000 edition)", said ETS director, Dirk Moller.

"ETS is committed to facilitating learnerships and subsequent assistance to successful graduates in obtaining employment. We believe in the principle of newly qualified individuals having a reasonable expectation of finding employment when their studies are complete and so we constantly consult with employers. The learnerships are fully accredited with the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations and the LG SETA. ETS can assist organisations who are committed to supporting learnerships financially and we invite such organisations to discuss the various learnership opportunities and workplace experience exposure", added Moller.



SkillsTrain Distribution expands its offering

killsTrain Distribution is a specialised niche market importer and distributor for global publishers and digital platforms. The company has its own e-learning platform run by Dave Augustyn and has put most higher educational platforms in place for various varsities and colleges.

SkillsTrain Distribution was founded by Linda Botha who has been in the importing and distribution arena for many years. She is an entrepreneur and member of the Women President's Organisation who has been nominated against some of the top women in business at the Women in Business Awards and National Business Award she has recently over the past two years won three international awards.

Botha's focus is drive and passion for education and assisting learners,

colleges and private institutions in being the best that they can be and assisting all to achieve the success and excellence in all fields. She is passionate about the fire and EMS services ensuring her market is made aware of the latest products and training opportunities to learn and grow whether it be an E-pub, print book, digital contract or life-saving products.

The Flaim training unit is cutting edge technology and allows students through the real life experience of virtual reality to learn through all the simulations the actual skills required, so when it comes to a real life emergency they are prepared and the clean green mission value statement is what the Flaim Trainer and the Portable Virtual Reality Training units are all about.

Flaim Trainer was developed by Professor James Mullins a Deakin



University professor and is backed by Darley USA. "We currently have over 40 real life scenarios on each of the units from aviation, mining, highrise, size-up, incident command, domestic as in kitchen fires to maritime and constantly adding to the list", said Botha.

"We can structure an enterprise licence of accredited courses to these specialised sectors. Another example is that of the agri-sector

➤ ETS is staying relevant by continuously introducing selfstudy programmes, supported by instructors and an online preparation system. The online/self-study option is aimed at employed emergency response practitioners with workplace experience. Candidates have the opportunity to prepare and study at their own pace and select a date for assessment. IFSAC certification follows a process of in-person theoretical and skills assessments thereafter.

ETS provides the services of trained and experienced emergency response personnel

ETS also provides the services of qualified and experienced on-site emergency responders. "Our emergency response teams have worked at various sites in Mpumalanga and Gauteng, into Africa as far as Mauritania," said John Akal, "Clients should contact us if they require assistance integrating training programmes into their emergency planning and preparedness strategy."

ETS also looks forward to hosting the fourth Industrial Emergency Response Team Competition on the 27 October 2022. Not only will the challenging competition events culminate in some great prizes and trophies being won, but each and every competitor will receive recognition for having participated in realistic simulated emergency drills, which is at least an annual requirement for response teams.