

Note from the editor

“Science is a rising force - it is creating a new world about us. It needs to be watched and pressed into service, and in any case, it would be courting disaster to ignore it.”

*~Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya
(1860-1962)*

The quote above embodies the work represented in this edition of the *South African Journal of Industrial Engineering* - science being pressed into service for the improvement of our world. Given recent events around the globe, the feature article on disaster relief and the potential role of industrial engineering in such events, is particularly appropriate.

In the general section of the Journal, seven articles are included that represent the diverse interests of industrial engineers not only in South Africa, but also much further afield. The articles address topics such as technology management, project management, the concept of shared services, robotics, as well as various mathematical models solving a wide range of problems specifically including applications in the financial sector.

No fewer than eight case studies are included in this edition of the Journal. The topics vary from service-oriented architecture, project success in the nuclear engineering environment, project quality in the design phase, long supply chain competition in the aerospace sector, modular manufacturing in the clothing industry, layout and design in a furniture manufacturing plant, as well as poka-yoke methods used where intellectually disabled workers are employed. This section confirms not only the wide scope of interest of industrial engineers, but also demonstrates the incredibly varied application possibilities.

In this edition, 16 articles have been included. It is important to report that the Council of the *Southern African Institute of Industrial Engineering* (publisher of this Journal) has taken a decision reflecting its mandate with regard to the Journal. In future, no more than half of the articles included in a specific edition will be from countries not part of Southern Africa. It is important not to lose track of the mandate to serve the Southern African community of industrial engineers. It is also important to note that two articles in this edition relate to Botswana - evidence of the Journal serving not only the South African community, but also encompassing Southern Africa.

Finally, authors should take note of the revised editorial policy and instructions to authors. The changes were necessitated by recent instances of attempted plagiarism and as well as the quality of manuscripts submitted to the Journal.

Susan Adendorff
Editor

